REPUBLIC OF KENYA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF LAIKIPIA

THE HANSARD

Tuesday, 15th March, 2022

The House met at the Assembly Chambers at 2.30 p.m.

[The Speaker (Hon. Patrick Waigwa) in the Chair]

PRAYERS

QUORUM CALL

Speaker: Clerk confirm whether we have quorum.

(Lack of quorum confirmed)

Speaker: Serjeant at Arms kindly ring the bell for 10 minutes.

(The quorum bell was rung for 2 minutes)

Speaker: Clerk confirm whether we have quorum.

(Quorum confirmed)

PAPERS LAID

QUARTERLY REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS BY LABOUR, SOCIAL WELFARE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Hon. Chris Mark: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I beg to lay the following papers;

Quarterly report and financial Statement for the period ended 30th September, 2020 by the Sectoral Committee on Labour, social Welfare and Community Services dated 10th March, 2022.

(Hon. Chris Mark laid the paper on the table)

QUARTERLY REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Hon. Joseph Kiguru: Thank you Hon. Speaker. I have a paper to lay;

Quarterly Report and Financial Statement for the period ended 30th September, 2020 for the Department of Education and Social Services by the Sectoral Committee on education, Vocational Training and ICT dated 14th March, 2022.

(Hon. Joseph Kiguru laid the paper on the table)

QUARTERLY REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF COUNTY ADMINISTRATION, PUBLIC SERVICE AND OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Hon. Catherine Nyawira: Hon. Speaker, I have a Paper to lay;

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The financial statements for the period ended 30th September, 2020 for the department of County Administration, Public Service and Office of the Governor by the Sectoral Committee on Cohesion, Justice and Legal Matters dated 10th March, 2022.

Speaker: Together with the quarterly report, eh?

Hon. Catherine Nyawira: Yes, it is a quarterly report.

(Hon. Catherine Nyawira laid the Paper on the Table)

NOTICES OF MOTIONS

QUARTERLY REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Hon. Joseph Kiguru: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. On behalf of the Chair of the Education, Vocational Training and ICT Committee, I beg to give notice of the following motion;

THAT, this Assembly adapts the quarterly report and financial statements for the period ended 30th September, 2020 for the department of Education and Social Services by the Sectoral Committee on Education, Vocational Training and ICT dated 14th March, 2022.

Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

QUARTERLY REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF COUNTY ADMINISTRATION, PUBLIC SERVICE AND OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Hon. Catherine Nyawira: Hon. Speaker, I beg to give notice of the following motion;

THAT, this Assembly adopts the quarterly report and financial statements for the period ended 30th September, 2020 for the department of County Administration, Public Service and Office of the Governor by the Sectoral Committee on County Cohesion, Justice and Legal Matters dated 10th March, 2022.

QUARTERLY REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS BY LABOUR, SOCIAL WELFARE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Hon. Chris Mark: Mr. Speaker, Sir, on behalf of the Chair of the Labour, Social Welfare and Community Services Committee, I beg to give notice of the following motion;

THAT, this Assembly adopts the quarterly report and financial statements for the period ended 30th September, 2020 by the Sectoral Committee on Labour, Social Welfare and Community Services dated 10th March, 2022.

MOTIONS

[Resumption of the previous debate dated 10/03/2022]

QUARTERLY REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF MEDICAL SERVICES AND PUBLIC HEALTH

Speaker: So, this motion was moved, seconded and Members were making their contribution. Hon. Salma Hussein had contributed. This is an opportunity for other Members to make their contributions.

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(Silence)

Speaker: If there are no more contributions, I then call the Mover to give a reply.

Hon. Veronica Ikunyua: Thank you, Mr. Speaker for giving me another chance to reply to this motion. I want to thank Hon. Members who were there last week for their valuable contributions. Let us continue supporting all our departments so that we can take this County forward. Thank you.

(Question put and agreed to)

QUARTERLY REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS BY LABOUR, SOCIAL WELFARE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Speaker: Who is doing that, is it Hon. Chris Mark? Anytime you find you are doing business on behalf of Chair Labour, kindly be generous enough. You may continue.

Hon. Chris Mark: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Maybe I might consult my colleague in one minute. I was just enquiring where my motion is because I have only one for notice. Mr. Speaker, Sir. I beg to move the following motion;

> THAT, this Assembly adopts the Quarterly report and Financial Statements for the period ended 30th September, 2020 by the Sectoral Committee on Labour, Social Welfare and Community Services dated 10th March, 2022.

The committee is headed by Headed by;

1. Hon. Patricia Muthoni - Chairperson
2. Hon. Christopher Mark - Vice Chairperson
3. Hon. Irene Wachuka - Member
4. Hon. Joseph Suge - Member
5. Hon. Lochimidi J Esokon - Member
6. Hon. Robert Maina - Member
7. Hon. Simon Kanyutu - Member

When I look at the floor of the House, I can only see myself. Today you know there are a lot of activities, we hope the Members have not gone to those activities while not being here to contribute to their report. This report puts together issues of the first quarter that ended in September 2020.

While it says the figure there which is the total expenditure was Kshs. 513,073,320 against a total approved budget of Kshs. 6,356,411,460 for the financial year 2020/2021. From the table which is on page 5 we can see item by item. How all of them have been detailed, how it was utilized, where there were gaps and variances are also indicated there.

I know Members get these reports a day before, our debates. I would not tire them by taking them through every bit of word. If Mr. Speaker you can allow, I can go direct to the observations.

1. There is an increase in the compensation to employees vote. This vote encompasses the Basic salaries of permanent employees, Basic Wages of temporary employees, personal allowances paid as part of salary and pension and other social security contributions.

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2. There were no payments done under the subprogram of Talent Development Service, Sports Facility Development, Sports promotion Services, HQ Administrative Services and Alcohol Control Committee.
3. There was no payment done under the Enhanced Staff Welfare Program.

Therefore, the committee's recommendation was as this, the department should ensure that optimal staffing levels are maintained so as keep the current wage bill at manageable levels. The issues of wage bills have always risen, even the way to monitory falls under our committee.

When you put such an observation and recommendation is something we have observed. The conclusion is this House adopts the Committees report on County Government of Laikipia (County Executive) Quarterly report and Financial Statements for the period ended 30th September 2020. Mr. Speaker. The report is well detailed, I will not say much. I will call upon Hon. Catherine Nyawira to second this report.

(Hon. Catherine Nyawira seconded)

(Question put and agreed to)

Speaker: Hon. Catherine Nyawira.

Hon. Catherine Nyawira: Hon. Speaker and Members of this House, I rise because when I look at this report for the Labour, Social Welfare and Community Services committee, I note that some things in this report are issues that are directly oversighted by the cohesion Committee and that is okay. However, I feel that issues of County Administration lie squarely on the Cohesion Committee. Therefore, an overlap of activities between the labour committee and Cohesion Committee while each Committee has its own department in the Executive.

This being the case, I would like to make one more recommendation be added to this report that the rules and procedure Committee quickly sit down as a team, take time away so that they can demarcate and separate this activities that overlap within the Committees to avoid conflict.

Mr Speaker, it is also important that the whole House sits because issues that are in the Labour and Cohesion Committees, issues that are in other departments also overlap so that Committees are clearly able to oversight the roles and bring better reports where they have oversighted and they are able to explain reports well.

I also note with a lot of Sadness that an item called Talent Development Services and Sports Facility Development was not utilised at all, knowing the number of Youths in this County and the number of the young people who need to be developed their talent because they have just left school. Others are sports and they would be able to energise their bodies and be able to engage their minds in other activities.

In that light, it is also very important that this House has another Committee which will encompass that kind of issue so that it takes care of sports squarely so that when it is formed it deals with groups of Football, Netball and all other Games together and ensure that this money is utilised in every other quarter. Sports are not a day you wake up play and tomorrow you go and compete, it is a practise and therefore it takes time hence there must be a program.

If this program is not given a follow up or time, then we end up not developing anything. It is just a recommendation and I hope that this House takes it into Account. Thank You.

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Hon. Veronica Ikunyua: Thank you for once again for giving me another chance to contribute on this Report on Labour, Social Welfare and Community Services committee. First of all, I want to thank Hon. Chris Mark for being here for the report. It is very sad when the departments are bringing their reports here and not being here to defend them and deliberate on them so that we can get what is written.

Therefore, on our behalf, Hon. Chris Mark receive our gratitude. I would wish to say that it is very unfair while people do hard work without pay. Some of the staff in this county are very busy especially the drivers and the subordinate staff. Sometimes they get allowances but they are never paid. So we are urging the Executive to be keen because even if the money is little, it is always good that they pay. We urge them also to consider the junior staff because if it were not for them, some work can get stuck. While they are there they are also adding value to this county.

Not only to be paying those who usually get a lot of money in this county but also those who earn little should always be paid and be paid on time. Therefore, the committee should keep on pushing the Executive because that is our work of oversight and representation. Therefore, we represent them well without fear or contradiction.

Speaker: May I now call upon the mover to give a reply.

Hon. Chris Mark: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank all those who made their contributions both verbally and also in the spirit. To echo what my colleague, Hon. Nyawira said about overlaps, it is some few fortnights ago that a committee was a bit notorious by encroaching into other people's mandate during the vetting of the municipal board, something until now I have never forgotten. That was supposed to be a task for example committee (a) but committee (b) took it and when we tried to see who was on the wrong, we realized that it was unclear. So, it is good as she has said that the Rules and Procedures Committee sits and solves that issue so that the new coming Assembly and most of us will be back because that is my prayer, they do not have such tension. If there is, there is at least some mediation system.

The issues of administration and maybe why the Labour Committee would feel inclined to be over-sighting administration, I think it is the aspect of the office of the head of Public Service that is the County Secretary who usually has the pleasure of actually being vetted with his deputy. It is good to look for the overlaps because I believe they are three and should be sorted. It does not mean that because we are at the tail end of our term, we cannot be handling such issues because it is never too late.

On the issue of talents, it is good that it has been talked about. On the issue of allocating money for sports, at times you find that what has been allocated can only buy sports kit for one game session for example, when they are doing the inter-county games. All that alone goes to the sports kit and not even allowances. So that talent development is something that is key and needs to be improved. Especially Laikipia West is known to produce high attitude runners and even very good tug of war players. So, it is good and as a committee member, I support and urge my fellow Members to support this report. Thank you.

(The question put and agreed to)

ADJOURNMENT

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Speaker: This House now stands adjourned until tomorrow Wednesday, 16th March, 2022 at 9.00 a.m.

The House rose at 2.56 p.m.

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