REPUBLIC OF KENYA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF LAIKIPIA

THE HANSARD

Tuesday, 27th April, 2021

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

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

PRAYERS

PAPERS LAID

VETTING REPORTS ON GOVERNOR'S NOMINEES

Hon Joseph Kiguru: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I have Papers to lay;

Report by the Committee on Appointment on the vetting of Hon. Peter Matunge for the County Executive Committee Nominee Member for Water and Natural Resources Department dated 26th April, 2021.

Report by the Committee on Appointment on the vetting of Mrs. Ann Wangari Wachira for the County Executive Committee Nominee Member for Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Department dated 26th April, 2021.

Hon. Mary Samken: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I have a Paper to lay;

Report by the Finance and County Planning Committee on the vetting of Mr. Paul Njenga for Chief Officer Nominee Member for the department of Finance, Economic Planning and County Development dated 27th April, 2021.

Hon. Judy Lukio: Mr. Speaker, I have a Paper to lay;

Report by the Trade, Tourism and Cooperatives Committee on the vetting of Ms. Winnie Gathoni Mwangi for Chief Officer Nominee Member for Innovation and Enterprise Development dated 26th April, 2021.

(The Members laid the Papers on the table)

NOTICES OF MOTIONS

VETTING OF HON. PETER MATUNGE, CECM NOMINEE FOR WATER & NATURAL RESOURCES

Hon. Joseph Kiguru: Thank you Mr. Speaker, Sir. I beg to give notices of the following motions;

THAT this Assembly adopts the report by the Committee on Appointments on the vetting of Hon. Peter Matunge for the County Executive Committee Nominee Member for Water and Natural Resources Department dated, 26th April, 2021.

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VETTING OF MS. ANNE WANGARI WACHIRA, CECM NOMINEE FOR AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND FISHERIES

THAT this Assembly adopts the report by the Committee on Appointments on the vetting of Ms. Anne Wangari Wachira for the County Executive Committee Nominee Member for Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Department dated, 26th April, 2021.

VETTING OF MR. PAUL NJENGA WAWERU, CHIEF OFFICER NOMINEE FOR FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Hon. Mary Samken: Thank you Mr. Speaker, Sir. I beg to give notice of the following motion;

THAT this Assembly adopts a report by the Finance and County Planning Committee on the vetting of Mr. Paul Njenga Waweru for Chief Officer Nominee Member for the Department of Finance, Economic Planning and County Development dated 27th April, 2021.

VETTING OF MS. WINNIE GATHONI MWANGI, CHIEF OFFICER NOMINEE FOR INNOVATION AND ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT

Hon. Judy Lukio: Thank you Mr. Speaker, Sir. I beg to give notice of the following motion;

THAT this Assembly adopts a report by the Trade, Tourism and Cooperatives Committee on the vetting of Ms. Winnie Gathoni Mwangi for Chief Officer Nominee Member for Innovation and Enterprise Development dated 26th April, 2021.

MOTIONS

Speaker: Hon. Leader of Majority sit down. What is the issue Hon. Mutahi?

Hon. Mutahi Muritu: Bwana Spika, kupitia kiti chako tukufu, naomba kupitia kifungu 52(h) cha Kanuni za Bunge. Ikikumbukwa katika katiba yetu ya Kenya, haki za kibinadamu naomba kifungu cha 18 naomba kuwasilisha mswada ambao umeainishwa katika kifungu cha 52. Bwana Spika, kifungu cha 52(e), na nukuu kama kilivyoandikwa;

Motions which may be moved without a Notice:

e. Motion for the suspension of a Member;

h. Motion raising a question of privilege;

Speaker: Hon. Mutahi, what motion are you discussing about?

Hon. Mutahi Muritu: Mheshimiwa Spika, nina haki katika katiba ya Kenya na kulingana na Kanuni za Bunge ya kwamba kuna mswada ambao ningetaka kuwasilisha ukihusiana na kwamba biashara iliyoko katika Bunge hili ni muhimu sana. Ukiangalia katika katiba yetu ya Kenya swala tunalojadili ni nyeti sana. Linahusiana na maisha ya wanalaikipia na Bunge hili.

Speaker: The vetting of CECM's?

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Hon. Mutahi Muritu: Mimi binafsi, kisheria, nilivyo sasa hivi swara linaloendelea kwa sababu tumefanya kuwapitia hao wanachama waliochaguliwa. Ni muhimu sana tunapojadili swala lolote hapa liwe chini ya utaratibu wa kisheria.

Speaker: What is the issue? You have said the issue of privileges. What is it?

Hon. Mutahi Muritu: Haki zangu ni kutokana na chama kilichoniweka hapa niko na malalamiko ambayo imepitia kwa taratibu zote za kisheria na najua wewe kwa umakini zaidi uko nalo.

Speaker: You said you are complaining to this House. What is the complaint?

Hon. Mutahi Muritu: Shida yangu ni kwamba wahusika waliohusika katika swala hili, liko na swali. Sina shida na walioteuliwa. Swala ni kwamba kama Bunge, swala tutakalo lichukuwa, ikiwezekana uweze kuahirisha kusije kukatokea matukio mengine ya kisheria kutokana na utaratibu tulioupitia. Sina shida na niko asilimia mia kwa mia. Naamini waliofanya kazi hii nawaamini. Lakini tufuate utaratibu.

Speaker: Hon. Mutahi what you needed to say was there is a problem here because of this and this. We cannot deal with issues that are not clear. If something lacks clarity, even the business in the Order Paper is very clear; we cannot say we want to pass a certain nominee. We include their names so for the clarity of Members. We need to get what you are talking about.

Hon. Mutahi Muritu: Bwana Spika, narudia tena. Kulingana na Kanuni za Sheria na kulingana na katiba ya Jamhuri ya Kenya katika kifungu cha 18, cha Katiba ya Kenya kinasema lazima tufuate sheria zote. Swala linalokuja katika biashara hii, sio ya kwamba nasimamisha biashara lakini nataka ingine katika kumbukumbu…

Speaker: What is it that we have not followed the law?

Hon. Mutahi Muritu: Kuna mgogoro katika Bunge hili. Mgogoro ulioko unawahusisha wengine wanaohusika…

Speaker: Let's be specific.

Hon. Mutahi Muritu: Katika uongozi wa Bunge hili kuna shida. Bunge hili limeundwa na chama kinachotawala.

Speaker: Are you referring to the issues we were talking about last week, on the issue of Leader of Majority?

Hon. Mutahi Muritu: Ndio. Yule kiongozi wa wengi ni mhusika na mshika dau katika biashara yoyote inayofanyika kwenye Bunge hii.

Speaker: I did rule on that. The Majority Chief Whip is the one who communicates the decision of the party to the Speaker. Once that is done, I am also informed that the Members of Jubilee Party have been invited for a party meeting where you will go and sort out a number of issues. I am informed one of the agenda is issues to do with the leadership. That one you can as well solve it in the party.

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Otherwise we want to be on track as a House. We want to be on track as a House. We have very important business as you have said and it is important that we go ahead. The decision that removed the majority leader also brought in another Majority Leader and therefore the seat is not vacant.

As far as I'm concerned the current Majority Leader can also if at all he has to be removed or ousted from that position or any solution, it is within the party then the communication is done through the Speaker by the Leader of Majority Party. I beg not to dilly dally on that. Hon. Leader of Majority Kindly continue.

VETTING OF HON. PETER MATUNGE, CECM NOMINEE FOR WATER & NATURAL RESOURCES

Hon. Joseph Kiguru: Thank you Mr. Speaker, Sir. As a mover of the Government agenda in this House, being the Majority Leader…

(Applause)

I beg to move the following motion;

THAT this Assembly adopts the report by the Committee on Appointments on the vetting of Hon. Peter Matunge for the County Executive Committee Nominee Member for Water and Natural Resources Department dated, 26th April, 2021.

Mr. Speaker, I'm happy as I move this motion. As Appointment Committee we have gone through the vetting process according to the procedure and rules which we must follow as a House. I would like to go direct to the Committee's mandate;

Pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order No. 184 (4) the Committee on Appointments shall consider for approval by the Assembly, Appointments under Articles, 179 (2) of the Constitution Members of County Executive Committees. These are the Members;

1. Hon. Patrick Waigwa - Chairman
2. Hon. Joseph Kiguru - Member
3. Hon. Judy Lukio - Member
4. Hon. Jacob Edom - Member
5. Hon. Patricia Muthoni - Member
6. Hon. Joseph Suge - Member

The Committee held two Sittings; one to prepare for the vetting and a second meeting in which the nominee appeared and was vetted in accordance with the Public Appointments (County Assemblies Approval) Act, 2017 for Appointment to the position of County Executive Committee Member for Water and Natural Resources department.

Let me go to acknowledgement; I take this opportunity to thank all Members of the Committee for their input and valuable contributions during the deliberations and vetting exercise. The Committee also takes this opportunity to thank the Offices of the Speaker and

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the Clerk of the County Assembly for the logistical support accorded to it during the vetting exercise.

On behalf of the Committee on Appointments and pursuant to Article 124(4) (b) of the Constitution, Section 9(1) of the Public Appointments (County Assemblies Approval) Act, 2017, and the provisions of Standing Order No. 184, it is my pleasure and duty to present to the House, the Committee's report on the vetting of Hon. Peter Lemerian Matunge, nominee for Appointments to the position of County Executive Committee Member for Water and Natural Resources.

Submission of Memoranda; Section 8 of the Public Appointments (County Assemblies Approval) Act, 2017 provides that the issues for consideration by the relevant House in relation to any nomination shall be:-

a) The procedure used to arrive at the nominee;

b) Any constitutional or statutory requirements relating to the office in question; and

c) The suitability of the nominee for Appointment proposed having regard to whether the nominee's credentials, abilities, experience and qualities meet the needs of the body to which nomination is being made.

Pursuant to Section 7(10) of the said Act, the Committee invited submissions from the public on the suitability or otherwise of the nominee for Appointment to the position of County Executive Committee Member. The Committee did not receive any submission or memorandum on the suitability or otherwise of the nominee.

In conducting the vetting process, the Committee on Appointments examined the nominee against the following criteria, amongst others, in accordance with the Constitution of Kenya, the County Governments Act and the Public Appointments (County Assemblies Approval) Act, 2017.

i. Academic qualifications

ii. Employment record

iii. Professional affiliations

iv. Potential conflict of interest

v. Knowledge of the relevant subject

vi. Overall suitability for the position

vii. Tax compliance

viii. Integrity

Hon. Peter Lemerian Matunge appeared before the Committee on Monday 26th April, 2021 and was informed by the Chairperson that, pursuant to Section 7(10) of the Public Appointments (County Assemblies Approval) Act, 2017, the Committee invited submissions from the public on his suitability or otherwise for Appointment to the position of County

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Executive Committee Member. Let me go direct to the Committee's findings. The Committee having considered his curriculum vitae and his oral submissions during the vetting exercise, made the following observations:

Personal background; the nominee stated that He was born in 16/4/1986 and is married. On his Education background;

1. 2007/2011-He holds a Master's Degree in Wildlife Management - Moi University
2. 2017-Induction programme for Members of the County Assembly
3. 2016- Training programme on Human dimension of fish and wildlife management and conservation by Colorado State University.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the work experience, September, 2017 up to date, Member County Assembly of Laikipia. Mr. Speaker, allow me to go directly to the committee observations;

1. He had duly complied with the Chapter Six requirements of the Constitution of Kenya, was tax compliant and had a clearance certificate from the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC).
2. He had been cleared by the Criminal Investigation Department (CID), Kenya Revenue Authority on tax compliance, Higher Education Loans Board (HELB) and the Credit Reference Bureau.
3. He had never been dismissed from office for contravention of the provisions of Article 75 of the Constitution which deals with conduct of state officers.
4. He had not been adversely mentioned in any investigatory report of County Assembly or any commission of inquiry.
5. He was articulate on the interview questions, confident and has good communication skills.
6. He was conversant with his expected mandate/roles.
7. He would ensure that he would formulate water harvesting policies to conserve water.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, allow me to go directly to the Committee's recommendations;

Pursuant to Article 179(2) (b) of the Constitution, Section 9 of the Public Appointments…

Speaker: Hon. Leader of the Majority you have read only a few among others. You have mentioned a few on experience among others. When you finish it is good to put "among others" so that it is understandable even in the HANSARD that there was a long list but you did not need to read it all.

Hon. Joseph Kiguru: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As you have said, Hon. Peter Matunge in all aspects has a lot of qualifications that the committee did not have doubts. If he is given this position he will automatically do what is required of him. Mr. Speaker, Sir, allow me to go directly to the committee recommendations.

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Pursuant to Article 179(2) (b) of the Constitution, Section 9 of the Public Appointments (County Assemblies Approval) Act, 2017 and Standing Order No. 184 (4), the Committee recommends that the County Assembly **APPROVES** the nomination of Hon. Peter Lemerian Matunge for appointment by H.E the Governor as County Executive Committee Member for Water and Natural Resources Department.

Mheshimiwa Spika, sitaki kuongeza mambo mengi kwa sababu nimepatiana vile tulifuatilia. Niko na hakika kwamba huyu muungwana amehitimu katika kila eneo na ningetaka kuchukua hii nafasi kumkaribisha naibu Kiongozi wa Walio Wengi ili aafiki hii ripoti. Asante Mheshimiwa Spika.

Hon. Veronica Ikunyua: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to second this report of Hon. Lemarian. First of all, I congratulate him, his reaping is not in vain. We thank God for him. He is a knowledgeable young man and we have seen that in my committee. He is one of my good supporters in the committee. He was very hardworking and I am sure when he goes to that department as a CECM, he will do the same and maybe better than what he was doing. Therefore, we wish him success.

He is not nominated because he is young but because his papers are explaining. Therefore, I support him. I will miss him in my committee but because we have Hon. Nyawira who is supportive, she will join me and we will continue fighting for Health Department. This Assembly appreciates Hon. Peter Matunge because he is committed to his work and when he was attending Assembly's sessions he could not miss. That one tells us he is committed and he is ready to serve Laikipians.

When he goes there we believe he is going to bring changes and he is going to make that department better than it was. I second.

(Question proposed)

Hon. Chalumbo Ole Kaparo: Asante sana, Mheshimiwa Spika. Nashukuru kwa kunipea nafasi nisimame hapa. Kwanza nampongeza na nashukuru Gavana wa Kaunti ya Laikipia kwa kufanya jambo mwafaka. Pili, nampongeza kijana ambaye amesoma Mheshimiwa Matunge kwa kupatiwa nafasi na Gavana na jina lake kuletwa katika Bunge la Laikipia. Naunga mkono uchaguzi...*(Interruption)*

Mheshimiwa Spika, ni hali ya kawaida wakati kuna mvua, stima kupotea. Nampongeza Mheshimiwa Matunge na naunga mkono Gavana kuteua Mheshimiwa Matunge kwa nafasi ya waziri. Mheshimiwa Matunge anaelewa shida ya Laikipia hasa maji. Nasema hivyo kwa sababu mahali Mheshimiwa Matunge amezaliwa kuna shida ya maji. Yeye mwenyewe anaelewa na atafanyia watu wa Laikipia kazi ambayo ameteuliwa kufanya.

Naomba Waheshimiwa waunge mkono Mheshimiwa Matunge kwa sababu ni kijana ambaye anajua shida ya watu wa Laikipia kuhusiana na shida ya maji. Ni kijana ambaye yuko na bidii na anafanya kazi na kila mtu na anajua kuendeleza kazi kwa sababu tumeona katika Bunge hili yuko sawa. Naunga mkono.

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Speaker: Hon. Members, I wish to request we be brief now that we have issues with the rain and considering the number of reports that we have. It is important we be brief because we all want to contribute to this business.

Hon. Simon Kanyutu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I stand to contribute on the nomination of Hon. Matunge and I am lucky because during vetting I went to the committee as an Amicus and I was happy because of the way he portrayed his bravery. He is one of the best. I have worked with Hon. Matunge in the committee of Agriculture and Water as a Member and he has been very instrumental. I am happy as he exits to the Executive, there are pending bills that he had brought in the floor of this House.

One of it was fought for in the floor of this House but I am sure because he has good will for the department, he had the Sand Harvest Bill…

Speaker: Continue.

Hon. Simon Kanyutu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In Naivasha we had an incidence whereby people were taking illicit brews and when they lost their eyes, they said that they will continue taking even if the lights are off. So we will continue with the debate even if the lights are off. Hon. Matunge is equal to the task. He has two pending bills he had brought in the floor of this House and we will ensure that those two bills are passed.

We have the Sand Harvesting Bill and the Conservancies Bill. Him being in the Executive he will not be in the floor of this House to present the bills but the honour we can give him as a present once he exits is passing the bills. Mr. Speaker, I support him and being the Chairperson for Agriculture and Water, I will support we work together for the development of our county. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Catherine Kibue: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is with honour and privilege to be counted as one of the Members of this Honourable House who has supported this report by Appointment Committee on Vetting of Hon. Matunge as CECM for Water, Environmental and Natural Resources. First I congratulate H.E the Governor for nominating Hon. Matunge for this post.

Secondly, the nominee is energetic and brilliant. He has shown excellent performance there before and I am sure he is going to transfer this to his new position. Lastly, Hon. Matunge is a youth with wealth of Knowledge pertaining the department he has been nominated to hold. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I support.

Hon. Chris Mark: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to support this nominee and feel the loss. Mr. Speaker, there are elected Members in the Assembly and the specially elected. In the specially elected, we are only two men. Now he has left me with the ladies which is not a bad thing. He was a very brilliant person; I would like to say it is a win-win for the minority community in Laikipia. This fellow nominee comes from the minority of the minorities.

Within the minorities, there are further minorities. It is a win that someone can come from a small tribe and ascend to such a position where he can become the next CECM if this House passes him and articulates issues. The other win is for the devolution and BBI. One of

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the proposals in the BBI is that we have members who are MCAs becoming CECM's so that they can be able to articulate and balance the politics and the technocracy that is needed to perform in a ministry.

I believe Laikipia is leading with everything. It is also leading by starting to practise what the BBI is envisioned. This Hon. Member brought two bills here and the bills shows how he cares for the issues of conservancies. Laikipia is on the map on the issues of conservancies but in terms of finances when it comes to revenue of Laikipia, it is not something to brag about. We brag that we have a hotel in one of the conservancies charging Kshs.1.5 million a night but that does not translate into revenue.

When I looked at his conservancies' bill I was happy that for once Laikipia will have its own conservancy which is Kilimon Conservancy which has almost 60,000 hectares of untapped natural resources. The other issues was the Sand Harvesting Bill. I believe this House will revive that bill because that bill had a good vision. It may need more consultations with the public but it was an issue of saving our natural resources and utilising it perfectly so that they can be used for a long time and make the community benefit more.

Finally, this is a youth and we commend the Governor because he is not shying away from working with the youth. In other democracies, the youth is just a number and the youth are given space just like when people need *Nyama Choma* they put their kids in bouncing castles and say we have sorted the kids. Now the youths are being put in the decision making table which is very important. We know he is not going to let us down because we have seen the qualifications and it is this same House that will be dealing with him. I urge my fellow colleagues to support this nominee fully. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. George Meshami: Asante, Mheshimiwa Spika. Nasimama kuunga uteuzi wa Mheshimiwa Peter Matunge. Kwanza kabisa nashukuru Gavana kwa kutambua jamii ndogo ya *Yaaku.* Mheshimiwa Matunge ni kijana mdogo ambaye yuko na miaka 35. Hii ni kumaanisha Gavana anatambua vijana katika Kaunti ya Laikipia. Naunga Mheshimiwa Matunge mkono na naomba Waheshimiwa wenzangu waunge mkono na wampitishe asilimia 100. Asante.

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Asante, Mheshimiwa Spika. Nasimama kuunga mkono uteuzi wa Mheshimiwa Matunge kama Waziri wa Maji. Naelewa Kijana Matunge kwa sababu tumefanya kazi naye katika Bunge hili. Amewahi kujitolea sana kuhakikisha Bunge hili linaendeshwa kwa njia ya haki. Katika hii ripoti kama vile tunajua Mheshimiwa Matunge, hata tukizungumza yote hapa tutatoka hapa kesho.

Mambo ambayo nimeona ni muhimu kuyataja ni kwa sababu yeye ni kiongozi ambaye yuko na maadili mema na anafuata sheria. Katika uchunguzi, Mheshimiwa Matunge ameweza kupitisha *Chapter six.* Huyu ni kijana msafi na kwa hivyo nasimama hapa kumuunga mkono nikielewa akiingia katika hiyo idara atafanya kazi kwa moyo wake wote na atajitolea kama vile amekuwa akifanya hapa.

Bwana Spika, akiteuliwa najua Wodi ya Thingithu ambayo iko na sehemu ambayo haina maji najua atakuwa mstari wa mbele kuhakikisha watu wa Njoguini, Mirera, Mburugutia na Matanya wamepata maji ya kutosha. Mheshimiwa Matunge alifika kwenye kamati na

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waliweza kumhakiki na aliweza kujibu maswali yote kwa ujasiri na hekima. Hii ni kumaanisha huyu kijana yuko tayari kufanya kazi. Nampongeza Gavana kwa kuteua Mheshimiwa Matunge. Sichangii kwa sababu ni Mheshimiwa lakini kwa sababu alikuwa amejitolea na amefanya kazi yake kulingana na sheria.

Vilevile nampongeza Mheshimiwa Matunge kwa sababu alipokuwa akikalia kiti alikuwa anahakikisha jambo lote tunafanya katika Bunge hili linafuata sheria. Bwana Spika, alipokuwa anakalia kiti chako alihakikisha Bunge hili haliwezi kukiuka kanuni ambazo zinaongoza Bunge hili. Naelewa ni kijana ambaye anafanya vizuri. Jambo ambalo naona siku hizi ni kwamba hili Bunge linaendelea kuvunja kanuni ambao zimewekwa hapa.

Hilo ni jambo ambalo tunafaa kuangalia kwa makini kwa sababu hili Bunge ni la sheria. Bwana Spika, nimeona Mheshimiwa Mutahi akijaribu kujieleza hapa lakini akakosa kufafanua vile alikuwa anataka. Nikisimama hapa ni vizuri niseme maneno mawili na lifikie HANSARD moja kwa moja kwamba Bunge hili limekiuka sheria nyingi wakati tulikuwa tunatengeza kamati. Kuna kamati mbili ambazo zinalindwa na sheria. Nikirejelea Kanuni za Bunge Nambari 185 na 186, linaongelea kuhusu Kamati ya Bajeti na Kamati ya CPAIC. Naomba uniruhusu nisome 185(5); *The County Public Accounts and Investment Committee...*

Speaker: Order Hon. Stephen!

Hon. Veronica Ikunyua: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think Hon. Stephen is out of order and you need to guide us because he is mixing issues. With your guidance we will appreciate.

Speaker: Hon. Ndiritu be guided not to go against the rules of the Standing Orders of this House. The Standing Orders are very clear that we confine ourselves to the matter of the motion because we are discussing a motion on the vetting of the nominee. I believe we still have time once you finish raising your issues. It is only that I was patient giving Hon. Members time to contribute when there is a point of order. I thank Hon. Veronica and let us remain in the matters of the motion so that whatever issue you want to raise; I believe I can still give you time when we are done with the motion.

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Mr. Speaker, if you can assure me that you will give me time I will be very patient.

Speaker: I will give you time.

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Asante, Bwana Spika. Mambo ninayoongea kuhusu kijana huyu, Mheshimiwa Matunge, ni ya kwamba tusije tukakiuka sheria yoyote kwa sababu kama tutakiuka sheria yoyote tutakuwa tumemweka katika hatari. Hilo ndilo lililokuwa linafanya niongee kuhusu hayo mengine. Hakuna mahali pengine ambapo nina uhuru wa kuongea na kujieleza isipokuwa katika Bunge hili. Kama umesema utanipea, nitakubali hilo. Kwa hayo machache ninaunga mkono uteuzi wa Mheshimiwa Matunge na ateuliwe haraka iwezekanavyo ili huu uteuzi wake uweze kusaidia watu wa Laikipia. Asante.

Hon. Irene Wachuka: Asante sana, Bwana Spika kwa kunipa nafasi. Kama vile umesema, masaa yameenda na kuna watu wengine tunangoja kwa hivyo tusiongee mengi sana. Nataka tu kurudisha shukrani kwa kamati ambayo iliketi na Mheshimiwa Matunge, Kamati ya

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Uteuzi, ambao walifanya kazi nzuri. Pongezi kwa kamati. Pili, nataka kumpongeza Gavana wa Laikipia, Mheshimiwa Ndiritu Muriithi, ambaye hakuangalia ukabila. Hicho ndicho kitu tunaeneza katika nchi hii tukiongozwa na Rais wa Jamhuri ya Kenya. Usiangalie kabila ya mtu bali kazi anayoifanya. Gavana apokee shukrani ya Bunge la Laikipia.

Nashukuru pia kwamba Gavana alifanya uchunguzi wake na akaona mtu anayeitwa Mheshimiwa Peter Matunge ambaye anaweza kufanyia wananchi wa Laikipia kazi. Watu walio na shida mara nyingi katika familia ni akina mama. Najua Mheshimiwa Matunge ataanza kule chini kuangalia shida ya maji kwa akina mama. Zamani mama alikuwa anabeba maji na mtoto mbele pamoja na mizigo mingine lakini leo najua Mheshimiwa Matunge atawaondolea akina mama hizo shida zote za maji.

Wakati tunapokumbana hapa kwenye Bunge anatuita sisi kama Wajumbe Wateule tukiongozwa na Mwenyekiti wetu, Mheshimiwa Chris Mark. Anatuita na kutuambia ni lazima tuketi chini na kuangalia hapa na pale. Kwa hivyo yeye ni mtu wa amani na kuleta watu pamoja. Namshukuru Gavana, nawe pia Bwana Spika nataka kukurudishia shukrani kwa vile ulipokuwa unachagua wanachama wa Jopo La Spika ulituwekea Mheshimiwa Matunge na hicho kiti ni vyema ukirudishe tu kwa Wajumbe Wateule; tuko na Mwenyekiti wetu pale aliye na uwezo. Nata kusema asante, na tufanye kazi kama Jumba moja. Mambo yakiisha, yameisha. Tuendelee kufanyia wananchi wa Laikipia kazi. Mungu awabariki.

Hon. Catherine Nyawira: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I stand to support the nomination of Hon. Peter Matunge to be the CECM of Water and Natural Resources. A lot may be said about Hon. Matunge, but I want to recognise in this House that Hon. Matunge was a great debater. He debated very well and was very objective in his debate. His debates were very timely. When Hon. Matunge was debating he was filled with a lot of emotion and it showed his passion for debate. It also showed that he was in touch with the ground that he came from.

The Hon. Member was also very fearless. He believed that the knowledge he acquired in school was meant to be shared, contributed and put to use. As my colleagues have mentioned, Hon. Matunge was fearless. He brought a Sand Bill before this House. Was that Bill good for the people of Laikipia North? Would it benefit a larger population in Laikipia North? Would it have faced opposition in Laikipia North?

I believe Hon. Matunge had taken all these into consideration. However, this did not stop him from facing what he knew would be challenging. He still brought it because he knew it was the right thing for him to do. I applaud his being a fearless leader. That fear was very courageous, it was resilient, and I believe, did not stop him from doing what he wanted to do.

Mr. Speaker, I had the opportunity to share two very critical committees with Hon. Matunge. One of them was Health and the other one Rules and Procedures, a very vibrant Committee that looks into the Standing Orders of this House. In his absentia, Hon. Matunge has done a lot of work with the Members of that Committee to be able to look into the Standing Orders and make amendments to it. We sat on numerous occasions with Hon. Matunge to write reports on Health with our abled Chair here, Hon. Veronica Ikunyua. For me, Hon. Peter stood out. He took his time and was there on time. He never skived any meeting.

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So, I want to thank the Hon. Governor, H.E Ndiritu Muriithi for finding among us Hon. Peter, a nominated MCA who comes from a minority community, the Yaaku Community. Not only has he given him the position of a CECM but has given him one of the most powerful departments, a powerful department with a big budget. It shows the kind of trust he has in this Assembly and especially with Peter Matunge.

I want to congratulate him because I know this House will consider him for this position. If there is anybody who understands the challenges of Laikipia North, and especially water, it would be Hon. Peter. He understands that that community, that area of Laikipia North is faced with drought and flash floods. It has perennial rains which all finally results in poverty. He understands that challenge very well. So, I ask him to ensure that he brings water to the people of Laikipia North.

This House will definitely miss Hon. Peter Matunge. We will miss his debates, we will miss the confidence he portrayed and we will miss a good friend. I stand to support the nomination of Hon. Peter Matunge into the Water Department. Thank you.

Hon. Salma Zamzam: Asante sana, Bwana Spika, kwa kunipa nafasi nitoe mchango wangu katika uteuzi wa ndugu yetu, Mheshimiwa Peter Lemerian Matunge ambaye amechaguliwa kama Waziri wa Maji na mambo ya Mazingira katika Kaunti ya Laikipia. Nichukue fursa hii kuwapa kongole walioweza kuchaguliwa kuwa wenyeviti katika Kamati za uongozi wa Bunge na kumpa kongole Kiongozi wa Walio Wengi katika Kaunti ya Laikipia.

Tukiendelea, nashukuru Gavana Ndiritu Muriithi kwa kuona uzuri wa kumteua aliyekuwa Mwakilishi wa Wadi Mteule katika Jumba hili. Tunaona kwamba Gavana ana imani na viongozi katika Jumba hili la Bunge la Kaunti ya Laikipia. Nampa kongole tena Gavana Ndiritu Muriithi kwa kumteua kijana mdogo, kijana aliye na elimu ya kutosha, kijana aliyeweza kufunga ndoa na kupata watoto na pamoja na mke mrembo katika Laikipia Kaskazini.

Pia anatoka kwenye jamii ndogo, jamii ya Yaaku ambao tangu karne ya elfu moja na mia nane wamekuwa wawindaji walioingia Msitu wa Mukogodo katika karne ya 1800, na ambao wametengwa kwa miaka mingi na ambao ni watu saba pekee katika Laikipia Kaskazini wanaoweza kuongea lugha yao. Ni jamii ndogo zaidi, nafikiri, katika Afrika Mashariki nzima.

Wengi wamesema kuhusu Mheshimiwa Peter Lemerian Matunge. Mimi nahisi roho yangu imejaa huzuni ila siwezi kulia katika Bunge. Tumempoteza mtu wa maana katika Bunge hili bali tunajua yuko hapa karibu tu nasi na pia nyumbani ni jirani. Tumshike mkono Mheshimiwa Lemerian Matunge ili aweze kutatua shida ya Kaunti nzima kama ambavyo dada yetu Mheshimiwa Catherine Nyawira ameweza kusema. Tunajua ni yeye atatatua shida ya maji iliyopo Laikipia Kaskazini na Kaunti nzima.

Kamati ya Bajeti inafaa iweze kumpa bajeti nzuri ili aweze kuendesha kazi aliyotunukiwa na Gavana Ndiritu Muriithi. Namwombea Mungu ampe hekima na nguvu ambayo alikuwa nayo ili aende kutumikia watu wa Laikipia kijumla. Naunga Mheshimiwa Lemerian Matunge mkono mia kwa mia na Mungu ampe maisha marefu. Asante.

Hon. Daniel Mugweru: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also rise in support of the report from the Committee on Appointments in relation to Hon. Peter Lemerian Matunge. As many

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in this House have said, Hon. Matunge is fearless, courageous and full of passion in his work. We really congratulate him for this position and also thank the Governor for seeing something good in this Assembly.

There is a saying that goes, *'what good can be found in the Assembly, what good can be found in the young people, what good can be found in a clan that does not have even a single person who is able to speak in their vernacular'*. The answer is with the Governor and this House, that we have seen one, who is Hon. Peter Matunge who can carry the mantle of that small clan. I feel that I should support him fully not because he was a Member with me but because every time Hon. Matunge spoke about water and natural resources, he was so passionate that he could even shed tears because of the passion he has for water and natural resources.

So, Mr. Speaker, we have given the right person to lead in that department and I believe that he will be very productive to this County, and one day everybody will say that we got the very best. We really thank the Governor for not looking at the things that people look at. You know politicians look at the number of votes, the people, the community and all that, but he saw him though he comes from the smallest community in this country, he saw the capability in him and gave him this job.

I support him and still continue telling the Hon. Members that we support this young man who is going to bring change in Laikipia in the Water and Natural Resources Department. Thank you.

Hon. Daniel Nyausi: Thank you, Hon. Speaker, for giving me this chance to fully register my support regarding the nomination of Hon. Peter Matunge as the CECM for Water and Natural Resources. He is very much equal to the task and we have full hopes in him that he will deliver in that department and that as a County we will move a step further than we were before he was there. So I request Hon. Members to support him, and we are looking for great achievements ahead of us. I squarely support, thank you.

Speaker: Mover, kindly reply.

Hon. Joseph Kiguru: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I want to appreciate the contribution from Members and also take this opportunity to thank our Governor for having trust in this Assembly that we are able and can work together. Hon. Zamzam speaks with a lot of passion as if we have lost Hon. Matunge. No, we have elevated him to a higher office. I urge Members and also welcome the Governor of Laikipia, as a leader in this House, to come and fetch more for the CECM position and any other Government position. I urge Members to support, thank you.

(Question put and agreed to)

MOTION

VETTING OF MS. ANNE WANGARI WACHIRA, CECM NOMINEE FOR AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND FISHERIES

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Hon. Joseph Kiguru: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move the following motion;

> THAT this House adapts the Report by the Committee of Appointments on the vetting of Ms Anne Wangari Wachira for County Executive Committee Member (CECM) for Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Department, dated 26th April, 2021.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, allow me to go directly to the report on this vetting. On the membership of the Committee, I will go direct to the acknowledgement.

Acknowledgements

I take this opportunity to thank all Members of the Committee for their input and valuable contributions during the deliberations and vetting exercise. The Committee also takes this opportunity to thank the Offices of the Speaker and the Clerk of the County Assembly for the logistical support accorded to it during the vetting exercise.

On behalf of the Committee on Appointments and pursuant to Article 124(4) (b) of the Constitution, Section 9(1) of the Public Appointments (County Assemblies Approval) Act, 2017, and the provisions of Standing Order No. 184, it is my pleasure and duty to present to the House, the Committee's report on the vetting of Ms. Anne Wangari Wachira, nominee for Appointments to the position of County Executive Committee Member for Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will go directly to the appointment process of the CECM.

Appointment Process of the Executive Committee Members

i. Pursuant to Article 179 (2)(b) of the Constitution and section 35 of the County Government Act 2012, H.E. the Governor, forwarded to the Speaker of the County Assembly, the name of the nominee vide a letter dated 12th April, 2021 for approval by the County Assembly for Appointment as the County Executive Committee member.

ii. On 13th April, 2021, the Hon. Speaker through a communication, informed the House that the Clerk of the County Assembly, had received the names of the nominee and directed that the name and Curriculum Vitae of the said nominee be referred to the Committee on Appointments for vetting and reporting to the House.

Vetting of the County Executive Committee Member for Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries

Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the submission of memoranda I will go direct to the vetting of the CECM. In conducting the vetting process, the Committee on Appointments examined the nominee against…

Speaker: Just to intervene a little bit, I think the vetting process is the same for that member and the previous one. Therefore, we can just go to the specific things.

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Hon. Joseph Kiguru: In conducting the vetting process, the Committee on Appointments examined the nominee against the following criteria, amongst others, in accordance with the Constitution of Kenya, the County Governments Act and the Public Appointments (County Assemblies Approval) Act, 2017.

i. Academic qualifications
ii. Employment record
iii. Professional affiliations
iv. Potential conflict of interest
v. Knowledge of the relevant subject
vi. Overall suitability for the position
vii. Tax compliance
viii. Integrity, among others.

Committee Findings

The Committee having considered her curriculum vitae and her oral submissions during the vetting exercise, made the following observations:

Personal Background

The nominee stated that she was born on 25/8/1961 and is married.

Educational Background

2007/2010- Masters of Arts in Sociology – California State University Fullerton, USA

2003- 2005- Masters of Arts in Counselling Studies- University of Durham (UK)

2003- 2004- Undergraduate in Counselling Studies- University of Durham (UK)

2000- 2003 Higher Diploma in counselling studies-Kenya Association for professional counsellors, Nairobi.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to go directly to observations because the findings, amongst others, make the Committee see her as qualified.

Observations

- She had duly complied with the Chapter Six requirements of the Constitution of Kenya, was tax compliant and had a clearance certificate from the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC).
- She had been cleared by the Criminal Investigation Department (CID), Kenya Revenue Authority on tax compliance, Higher Education Loans Board (HELB) and the Credit Reference Bureau.

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- She has never been charged in a Court of Law.
- She had never been dismissed from office for contravention of the provisions of Article 75 of the Constitution which deals with conduct of state officers, among others.

  The Committee sees it fit for her to hold that office.

Committee's Recommendation

Pursuant to Article 179(2) (b) of the Constitution, Section 9 of the Public Appointments (County Assemblies Approval) Act, 2017 and Standing Order No. 184 (4), the Committee recommends that the County Assembly **APPROVES** the nomination of Ms. Anne Wangari Wachira for Appointment by H.E. the Governor as County Executive Committee Member for Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Department.

Thank you Mr. Speaker. I would like to directly say that as a committee we followed all the relevant rules and this is the end report on how we came up with the approval. I urge the Members to just let this nominee to be given this position and also work for this county. I wish to ask Hon. Patricia to second this motion. Than you.

Hon. Patricia Muthoni: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to support this motion and also support more women in the government and also asking the Hon. Members to support this motion.

(Question proposed)

Hon. Daniel Nyausi: Thank you, Hon. Speaker for giving me this chance to support the motion brought by the Hon. Leader of the Majority Party on Anne Wachira. She is equal to the task and she has been the Chairperson for Revenue and revenue has gone up since she took up that position. Was it not for this Corona, the revenue in this county could have improved far much better. I urge this House that we still put trust in her because the Department of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries will do better with her leadership since we all know that this is the backbone of this country. Thank you.

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Asante, Bwana Spika. Nasimama mara ya pili kuunga mkono uteuzi wa Anne Wangari ambaye amekuwa Mwenyekiti wa Bodi la Kuokota Kodi. Ameweza kuongeza yale matarajio ambayo tulikuwa tunaokota katika Kaunti letu la Laikipia. Hata kabla sijasoma hizi makaratasi zake ninaona ya kwamba anafaa kuwa ameteuliwa waziri katika hiyo wizara. Hiyo ni wizara ambayo inahitaji mtu mwaminifu na ambaye atakayefuatilia kuhakikisha ya kwamba wakulima wetu, wafugaji wetu na wale wote ambao huegemea upande wa kilimo wameweza kusaidika.

Bwana Spika, jambo ambalo ningetaka kumuambia huyu Wangari ni kwamba yale mambo ambayo yako mbele yake ni mazito na awe tayari kutekeleza kazi. Tunajua kama vile alivyokuja katika hili Bunge na tukaweza kumpitisha, niko na Imani ya kwamba yeye ataweza kuongoza hiyo wizara vizuri.

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Bwana Spika, pia katika hii ripoti tumeona ya kwamba huyu mteuliwa ameweza kutimiza *Chapter Six* ambayo inaongelea mambo ya kuwa na maadili mema na pia ni mtu ambaye ako na masomo ya kutosha na anaelewa kazi yake. Kwa hivyo mimi nafikiria ya kwamba Anne Wangari anafaa katika hiyo wizara.

Nataka pia kumpongeza kwa sababu Anne Wangari ametoka Wadi ya Thingithu na hilo ni jambo la busara kwa sababu katika hiyo wadi sasa tunafurahia kuwa na waziri katika hiyo wadi. Hilo ni dhihirisho ya kwamba ukweli watu wa Thingithu wanaweza na pia hawatishiki. Kwa hiyo mimi niko na Imani na ninaelewa ya kwamba Anne Wangari ataweza kutekeleza kazi yake na kuinua Kaunti ya Laikipia na tusonge mbele. Asante, ninaunga mkono.

Hon. Irene Wachuka: Asante, Bwana Spika kwa kunipatia hii nafasi kuongea kuhusu Anne Wachira ambaye siku moja alikuja hapa wakati alikuwa Mwenyekiti wa Bodi la kodi. Tuliona ile kazi ambayo alifanya Laikipia nzima na yeye ni mama wa kuogopa Mwenyezi Mungu. Hata wakati alikuwa anazunguka alikuwa anakutana na watoto wetu ambao wameandikwa kuokota kodi na hata kama mtoto yuko na makosa anamuita na kumuonyesha makosa yake.

Kwa hivyo mimi nimesimama hata kumshukuru Gavana kwa sababu mbeleni Wangari aliteuliwa upande wa elimu na mambo ikawa ngumu na mwingine tulisaidia hapa tukapeleka kesi kortini. Gavana akaonelea ya kwamba huyu Wangari Wachira anaweza katika Laikipia na ndio akampatia huu uteuzi wa kilimo. Kile kitu tu ningetaka juu tuko na mwenyekiti wa Kilimo ni ya kwamba ajue wakulima wako na shida mingi sana.

Kama siku ya leo ndovu wamebomoa kwetu na hakuna ua karibu, ndovu wanne na watoto wake na hii ni mara ya tano. Ni kuchunga mambo ya ndovu na kuangalia wakulima wapate mbolea ya kupanda kwa sababu kuna shida ya mbolea. Wakati mbolea inakuja wale ambao wako na maduka kubwa ndio huwa wanabeba mbolea yote na kuweka kwa duka zao na yule wanjiku ambaye hana nguvu anangojea tu ile ingine. Sijui tutaiita aje kwa Kiswahili ule mnada wa ng'ombe na tungetaka irudishwe.

Kwa hivyo mimi nashukuru na kusema ya kwamba Gavana akiendelea hivyo tutaona sasa atarudi mara ya pili hapa. Tungetaka tupatiwe mtu mwingine hapa na tupewe *gender* kwa sababu amebeba kijana wangu. Niwie radhi Bwana Spika lakini unajua ya kwamba wale vijana wote walio kwa hili Bunge ni kama wangu na wasichana pia kwa sababu mimi ni mama. Kwa hivyo…

Hon. Simon Kanyutu: Bwana Spika, ningetaka Mheshimiwa Wachuka aelezee Bunge vizuri kama huyu Waziri ambaye ameteuliwa atakuwa anafanya kazi ya kulinda ndovu kwa sababu amesema ya kwamba kwake kulibomolewa na ndovu na ninajua ya kwamba Matunge ndiye atakayekuwa na hiyo shughuli. Ningetaka aelekeze Bunge vizuri.

Hon. Irene Wachuka: Asante sana, Mheshimiwa Kanyutu. Mimi nasema hivyo kwa sababu yeye yuko upande wa kilimo na kilimo wakishikana na Mheshimiwa Matunge watafanya kazi kwa sababu hawezi akafanya kazi pekee yake. Kwa hivyo Mheshimiwa Kanyutu usubiri nimalize. Nataka kusema ya kwamba Gavana wetu tukiendea vile tunaendelea ninaona ya kwamba kuna kitu ambacho tutaweza kufanya kabla tutoke katika hili Bunge.

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Mimi ningeomba ndugu zangu na wale wengine na kama hapo Bwana Spika nitatoka nje, ningeomba mwelekezo wako ya kwamba wacheni tufanye kazi kama timu. Vita inakuja na inaenda lakini sisi tungali tutawachwa hapa. Kwa hivyo mimi naunga Anne Wachira na kamati ambayo ilimuhoji na pia Gavana wa Laikipia Ndiritu Muriithi pahali popote alipo tunasema asante. Ameona ya kwamba hili Bunge linaweza kufanya kazi na pia anajua ya kwamba hatujasumbuana naye kama vile Magavana wengi wanavyosumbuliwa na Wajumbe. Tunashukuru Bwana Spika pia kwa vile anavyotuongoza na hatuna vita. Kwa hayo machache naunga Wangari. Asante na Mungu awabariki.

Hon. Mary Samken: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I also rise to join my colleagues to support the approval of Anne Wangari as the CECM Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Department. I have interacted with Wangari when she was the Chairperson of the Revenue Board and I have no doubt in my mind that she is equal to the task. She is a good lady who is good hearted. She is a good listener and she has steered the revenue in this Laikipia to higher levels.

Mr. Speaker, she has proved that when women are given leadership they are able to act and be responsible in those positions. Madam Wangari has done a lot as the Chairperson for Revenue Board and all of us know that. She has curbed corruption in revenue collection in this Laikipia and that is why we are improving in revenue collection in this county every year.

Mr. Speaker, it is my only humble hope that she will only do better in that department of livestock and that she will listen to the greater people of Laikipia and their needs. There is a lot that needs to be done in that department. There are so many places that have been left out and it is our hope that now she is moving to that department and we shall see her leadership qualities in that department. I support the report and also join the Hon. Members in supporting it. Thank you.

Hon. Judy Lukio: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I stand to support Anne Wangari as the CECM in the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries. Besides everything that is academic, she has worked in various positions both in Kenya and abroad and she has gained a huge experience which will enable her to work with other officers in that department.

Besides the challenges that will be in that department, her background will enable her to solve most of the problems. During the time she was in revenue, she showed a lot of commitment raising the county revenue from Kshs.840 million to over Kshs.850 million. That in itself is a plus and she builds that confidence that she will be able to work in that Ministry of Agriculture. So I support her, thank you.

Speaker: The mover to give a reply.

Hon. Joseph Kiguru: Thank you, Mr. Speaker for this House. The contribution was very positive and I urge the Members to approve the name of Anne Wachira to be a CECM in the Ministry of Agriculture. I am happy that the Members will approve. Thank you.

(Question put and agreed to)

VETTING OF MR. PAUL NJENGA WAWERU, CHIEF OFFICER NOMINEE FOR FINANCE DEPARTMENT

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Hon. Mary Samken: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I beg to move the following motion;

THAT this Assembly adopts the report by Finance and County Planning Committee on the vetting of Mr. Paul Njenga Waweru Chief Officer nominee for the Department of Finance, Economic Planning and County Development dated 27th April, 2021.

Mr. Speaker, I know that the Members have got the report and I would like to go to page three of the report.

On behalf of the Committee on Finance and County Planning, in pursuant to the Standing Order No. 191 (5) (f), it is my pleasure and duty to present to the House the committee's report on the vetting of the Chief Officer Department of Finance, Economic Planning and County Development.

The committee was recently constituted and comprises of the following members. I would like to take this opportunity to thank God for the position of Chairperson Finance. I am a woman of God and I fear God and I know that everything happens with God's purpose. I don't take it granted but I thank God for this position and secondly I thank the members of my committee for believing in me and accepting me to be their Chair.

1. Hon. Mary Samken -Chairperson
2. Hon. George Karuiru -Vice Chair.
3. Hon. Joseph Kiguru -member
4. Hon. Joseph Suge -member.
5. Hon. Chalumbo Kaparo -member.

The committee is established under Standing Order No. 191 and Article 179(2) of the Constitution of Kenya. Pursuant to Article 235 (b) of the Constitution and Section 45 of County Government Act, H. E the Governor forwarded to the Speaker of the County Assembly the name of the nominee for vetting by the committee and consideration for approval by the County Assembly for appointment as the Chief Officer Department of Finance, Economic Planning and County Development. The nominee is Paul Njenga waweru.

Mr. Speaker, the committee held a meeting on 26th April, 2021 during which the nominee appeared and was vetted in accordance with the public appointment approval Act, 2017. On behalf of the Finance and County Planning Committee, I have the honour and pleasure to present the committees report. May I take this opportunity to thank all the members of the committee for their valuable contributions during the entire process and also Mr. Speaker to thank your office and the Office of the Clerk for all the necessary support awarded to the committee.

On vetting of the nominee, in conducting the vetting process, the committee examined the nominee against the following criteria amongst others, in accordance with the Public Appointments Act, 2017, the County Government and the Constitution of Kenya.

i. Academic qualification

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ii. Employment record

iii. Professional affiliations

iv. Potential conflicts of interest

v. Knowledge of the relevant subject

vi. Overall suitable for the position

vii. Tax compliance and

viii. Integrity.

During its seating held on 26th April, 2021 in the Assembly Boardroom in the presence of the media and members of the public, the committee interviewed the nominee for appointment as the Chief Officer, Finance, Economic Planning and County Development. Mr. Paul Njenga Waweru appeared before the committee on Monday, 26th April, 2021 and was informed by the Chairperson;

1. That after inviting memoranda from the public on his suitability or otherwise for appointment of public office, no petition or memorandum was submitted.
2. That the vetting process was strictly guided by the law and more specifically the constitution of Kenya, the County Government Act as well as the public appointments Assemblies approval Act, 2017.

Mr. Speaker, on committee findings, having considered the curriculum vitae and his oral submissions during the vetting exercise, we made the following observations;

Personal Background

- The nominee indicated that he was born in 1977 in Kajiado County and grew up in Nyahururu and is married.

Education Background

- Current- Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology- PHD in Business and Administration (finance)
- 2012- Jomo Kenyatta university of Agriculture and Technology, BMA (finance option).
- 2002- Maseno University -Bachelor of Education (Arts)
- 2010- Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supplies.

Work Experience

- August 2017 to date- Ag Chief Officer Finance, Economic Planning and County Development of Laikipia County.
- 2016 to 2017- Director for cooperatives Laikipia County.

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- 2014-2016- Head of Supply Chain Management County Government of Laikipia.
- August 2002- 2004- lecture at multimedia University formally Kenya College of communication Technology (KCCT).

Honours and Awards

- 2004- He was awarded for producing the best students in association for Business Executive (ABE).
- 2014- Awarded for being the best procuring entity by the Public Procurement oversight Authority (PPOA).

Professional Association

- Kenya Institute of Supply Management (KISM)-Member.
- Chartered Institute of Purchasing Supply (CIPS)-Member.

He had duly complied with Chapter six requirements of the Constitution of Kenya, was tax compliant and had a clearance certificate from Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC).

He was articulate on the interview questions, confident and has good communication skills. On matters pertaining to decision making and problem solving the committee noted that the nominee was able to articulate on he would handle the issues related to dispute within in and outside his jurisdiction.

On matters relating to whether he had resigned upon being successful on the post of being Chief Officer. The nominee reiterated that he will resign to take the full mantle and ensure he have delivered beyond expectation.

He has great vision for the department where he is ready to formulate various policies such as procurement policy and investment policy to ensure smooth operation within the department.

Pertaining realization for value for money within the county, the nominee highlighted that he will ensure that there is prudent management of finances in the county. In the period he had been in the office there have realized minimal Audit Queries.

He was conversant with his expected mandate/roles. He was also to serve in the post for the required period. He had adequate knowledge on what the department of finance economic and county planning development entails.

He was honest in his submission because we realize what he submitted earlier and the originals tallied. The committee found the nominee is suitable as a Chief Officer Finance Economic County Planning Development.

Lastly, the committee recommendation. Pursuant to Article 235(b) of the Constitution and Standing Order No. 191/5(f), the Committee recommends that;

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- This Assembly adopts the report of the Finance and County Planning Committee on the vetting of Mr. Paul Njenga Waweru as a Chief Officer Finance Economic and County Planning Development.
- That, the Assembly **APPROVES** the nomination of Mr. Paul Njenga Waweru as Chief Officer Finance Economic and County Planning Development.

Thank you Mr. Speaker, Sir. I would like to call upon Hon. Joseph Suge to second the report.

Hon. Joseph Suge: Thank you Mr. Speaker, Sir. I stand to second the report by the committee on Finance. I would like to congratulate the committee and our able chairperson and I believe she is equal to the task. Mine will be very brief because the chair has explained the report and findings of the committee. Also confirm that Mr. Paul Njenga Waweru is suitable to serve in the department of finance as a substantive chief officer.

Mr. Njenga is a well-known person by almost everybody in this House as he has served in various department in this county. As you can see from the report, Mr. Paul Njenga has been a procurement officer whereby the department was awarded being the best procuring entity by the Public Procurement Oversight Authority.

During the vetting we also found this man being a person of integrity hardworking. You can see in the year 2004, he was awarded for producing the best student in Association of Business Executory. I support this guy I came to know him some years back, almost 7 years ago and I know he is a person with a lot of passion to serve in the department and to see that the County Government works to the level and discharge the mandate to the people of Laikipia. With those few remarks because we have said a lot and the committee has already approved him, I stand to second the report. Thank you.

(Question Proposed)

Hon. Simon Kanyutu: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I do not have much about Njenga because I have worked with him in the department of finance while I am in the committee of Budget. Njenga is very much conversant with financial matters of this county. I am sure were it not for the financial costs that were cause by this COVID issues, most of the issues that are coming up would have been sorted.

I am happy because he has promised to follow up on ensuring even the pending bills that are with the county are well sorted and as a committee on budget, we will be happy if he is approved by the Assembly so that we work together with him. I support.

Hon. Chris Mark: Mr. Speaker, thank you. I rise to support this nominee. I have seen how he has handled the issues that have always risen in terms finances. The pull of money that comes from the checks come as a pull and at times it has been so scarce that the allocation of the Assembly has been a negotiation. He has always been able to balance the interest of Laikipia workers, the Assembly and the development in infrastructure projects.

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That office he has held in acting capacity is an office that can give someone a lot of blood pressure and what have you. We have seen how he had handled the Senate during the hearings and how was able to respond to those Audit Queries. I being a member of CPAIC, I have had a chance of actually grilling him on matters concerning audit.

How he answers is sufficient and he had an open-door policy. I do not think there is a Member of this Assembly who went with a problem or concern on matters of the electorate or the county as a whole, whenever you went to his office you did not need an appointment to meet him

So that is servant leadership that is needed in such a docket and sensitive docket. He is a good person and where he is I would like to urge him to be very prudent. When Governors are taken to task on issues of audit in any county, they always went to the Chief Officer for finance and the CECM. Somehow, the Governors are isolated and I am not saying this Governor or this county has issues on misappropriation. I am just saying if there comes such a time, he should know that office is very sensitive in terms of accounting. Otherwise, I support him fully and beg my colleagues to also emulate that. Thank you.

Hon. Irene Wachuka: Asante sana Bwana Spika, sitaongea mengi sana, wengi wameongea. Lakini nasimama kusaidia huyu Waweru Njenga ambaye nimemjua wakati wa Gavana wa kwanza akiwa upande wa wizara ya ununuzi. Pia nikamkuta wakati wa Gavana wa pili ambaye ni Nderitu Muriithi. Kama vile wengi wamesema Njenga ni mtu hata kama unaenda unakasirika juu kuna kitu haifanyiki.

Kuna siku nilienda huko nikipiga makelele juu ya watu ambao hawakuwa wamelipa hao wanakandarasi. Hata sikumuongelesha lakini nilitoka huko kama nimetosheka.

Mimi nasema hii Bunge tusaidie Njenga afanye kazi na pia tumeona kazi yake. Kwa hivyo, Njenga vile amelewa mimi najua amelelewa Nyahururu. Amesomea Shule ya Upili ya Leshau, acha niseme ni mtu anajua kukaa na watu. Wakati Gavana anaona kuna shida ya Finance, tunaona anaita Njenga na CECM wake, wanakaa pamoja. Kwa hivyo mimi naunga mkono, na vile masaa imeenda, wacha nikomee hapo. Nimeshukuru Mheshimiwa Spika kwa sababu tunaenda mkutano mwingine.

Speaker: Hon. Stephen Nderitu, then the mover to give a reply

Hon. Stephen Nderitu: Asante Mheshimiwa Spika, nasimama hapa kuunga mkono Mheshimiwa Paul Njenga kwa uteuzi wake kwa sababu Njenga amekuwa mfanyikazi wa Kaunti hii kwa muda mrefu. Njenga nilimjua tangu tulipoingia hizi viti za Wabunge.

Njenga ni mtu ambaye amefanya kazi akiwa amejitolea. Uteuzi wa Njenga mimi ningesema ulikuwa umechelewa, kwa sababu Njenga kama vile anavyofanya kazi yake, anafanya kazi yake kwa utaratibu na anafanya kazi ambayo ni ngumu sana.

Mheshimiwa Spika kuhakikisha ya kwamba ripoti zote za Kaunti kuhusu mambo ya fedha zimeekwa vizuri sana, inamhitaji huyo *Accounting Officer*. Na huyo pia katika ile kamati ambayo inaangalia mambo ya Kaunti ambapo Gavana hukaa, ni lazima Njenga akuwe pale.

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Historia ya Njenga ni ndefu sababu ashawahi kuwa katika viti mbalimbali kama ile ya ukaguzi, na kupeana mambo ya zabuni katika Laikipia hii. Na kwa hivyo Njenga ni mtu ambaye tangu wakati huo, hatujawahi sikia mambo ambayo amefanya makosa.

Bwana Spika, pia huyu Paul Njenga wakati tulikuwa tunamhitaji katika kamati, amekuwa mtu mtiifu. Anakuja kwa kamati, anajibu maswali yote, na anawaeleza vile fedha zinatumika katika hii Laikipia, na ukifuata unakuta ya kwamba kazi yake, ni kazi ambayo kila mjumbe anafaa kufurahi na kila Mwanachama anafaa kuunga Mkono.

Kwa sababu huyu muungwana Bwana Njenga ni mtu ambaye hawezi angalia mtu akudharau, kama uko na swali atakujibu, ukimhitaji kwa ofisi yako atakuja. Kwa hivyo hayo ni mambo ambayo mimi inafanya niunge yeye mkono. Nawaomba Wabunge walio hapa waweze kumuunga mkono ili aweze kukalia hio kiti kwa sababu amekalia hio kiti akiwa *Acting*. Tunataka hio mambo ya *Acting* iishe ndio aweze kujibu maswali kwa yale mambo yote yatafanyika katika Bunge hii. Asante sana Mheshimiwa Spika.

Hon. Mary Samken: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I take this opportunity to thank Hon. Members for their contribution. I also say as Hon. Members have said that Mr. Njenga is one of the people in this County Government that know and have a lot of interests in their area of work.

It is true he has been very productive in the office, and he is one of the people when you go to that office, he gives you his time and he listens to you. Therefore, it is the highest time that we approve this report of the committee, so that Mr. Njenga will stop being Acting and become the Chief Officer for Finance and will do as he has always been doing by helping the people of Laikipia, Thank you Mr. Speaker.

(Question put and agreed to)

MOTION

VETTING OF MS. WINNIE GATHONI MWANGI, CHIEF OFFICER NOMINEE FOR INNOVATION AND ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT

Speaker: Hon. Judy Lukio.

Hon. Judy Lukio: Thank you Mr. Speaker I beg to defer this motion until tomorrow morning so that we can attend to that meeting of Jubilee if you can allow.

Speaker: I believe the motion is brief, kindly Hon. Judy I don't think we will be here for the next ten minutes. You can be able to dispense with it then we can leave for our meeting, I think it is important we do that.

Hon. Judy Lukio: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I beg to move the following motion on vetting report of Chief Officer for Innovation and Enterprise Development.

Speaker: What you do Hon. Judy, you just move the motion then you go because we know you have vetted that nominee you go to the observations and recommendations then we can dispense with that.

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Hon. Judy Lukio: Okay, Mr. Speaker I beg to move the following motion;

THAT this Assembly adopts a report by the Trade, Tourism and Cooperatives Committee on the vetting of Ms. Winnie Gathoni Mwangi for Chief Officer Nominee Member for Innovation and Enterprise Development dated 26th April, 2021.

Mr. Speaker, as time is limited now, let me just introduce the composition of the Members. This committee is currently comprising of:

1. Hon. Judy Lukio – Chairperson
2. Hon. George Meshami – Vice Chairperson
3. Hon. Mary Samken - Member
4. Hon. Simon Kanyutu – Member
5. Hon. Chris Mark - Member
6. Hon. Irene Wacuka - Member
7. Hon. John Mutahi - Member

Mr. Speaker since everybody has this copy, may I go straight to the observation and be very fast. The Committee having considered her curriculum vitae and her oral submissions during the vetting exercise, made the following observations:

Personal Background

The nominee stated that she was born in 1989 in Kiambu County and she is not married. Educational Background; Post graduate you can see it there Members.

Work Experience

1. She has worked as Assistant Director Innovations and Industrialization – March 2020 to date Laikipia County Government.
2. Acting Deputy Director Industries- June 2018 – February 2020 County Government of Laikipia.
3. Records Management Officer – October 2016-May 2018 – County Government of Laikipia.
4. Part-time Lecturer in Egerton University, Laikipia University, Kenyatta University, Kenya Institute of Management from 2013-2016.

Observations

- She had duly complied with the Chapter Six requirements of the Constitution of Kenya, was tax compliant and had a clearance certificate from the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC).

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- She was articulate on the Interview questions, confident and has good communication skills.
- On matters pertaining to decision making and problem solving, the committee noted that the Nominee was able to articulate on how she would handle the issues related to disputes.

On recommendations Pursuant to Article 235 of the Constitution and Standing Order No.191/5 (f), the Committee recommends that this Assembly adopts the report of the Trade Tourism and Cooperatives Committee on the vetting of Winnie Mwangi as the Chief Officer of innovation and enterprises development. I kindly ask the Hon. Chris mark to support this report.

Hon. Chris Mark: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I rise to second the motion.

(Question proposed)

Hon. Simon Kanyutu: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I am a Member of the trade committee and I experienced Winnie Gathoni expressing herself on the issues pertaining to innovation, the department that she had and my opinion is that she is conversant with issues pertaining to innovation. I don't have much but to support and ensure that department has a Chief Officer so that everything pertaining to innovation is critical and without, it we are going nowhere. I fully support.

Hon. Irene Wachuka: Asante bwana spika, ninasimama kuunga mkono Winnie Gathoni Mwangi ambaye mimi ni mwanakamati wa hiyo kamati ilimuuliza maswali hapa na pale na akarudisha. Kwa hivyo ninasimama kuunga mkono.

Hon. Veronica Ikunyua: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I stand to support Winnie Gathoni Mwangi and also to thank our Governor because he is really giving us hope as parents of this county that he will support our youth by employing them without looking too much at working experience. Otherwise Gathoni is very experienced, she is very conversant in innovation matters and we have seen her in many meetings trying to negotiate in many offices and therefore I stand to support and to thank the Governor once again. Thank Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: The mover to give a reply.

Hon. Judy Lukio: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Gathoni will go far because she a youth who has shown a lot of commitment and the sky will be the limit for her. I wish her well, thank you.

(Question put and agreed to)

Speaker: Hon. Ndiritu had an issue, do you still want us to discuss it? Do I give you this chance or can I give it to you on Thursday?

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Ndio, asante Bwana Spika. Kama vile nilisema ni vizuri…

Speaker: Order Hon. Ndiritu! Yes Hon. Ikunyua.

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Hon. Veronica Ikunyua: Thank you Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Members because of time. We had another meeting after this, we beg that you give him the chance tomorrow because we will be here.

Speaker: Hon. Ndiritu.

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Bwana Spika, mimi sijui ni shida gani huyu Veronica yuko nayo na mimi. Mimi niko na haki zote za kuzungumza katika Bunge hili na kama yeye ndiye anafaa kunizungumzia, aseme kwa sababu nikisimama kuongea anasimama na kupinga. Nikisimama anapinga na Bwana Spika mimi ningeomba niweze kuendelea na jambo nilikuwa nayo kwa sababu kama vile nimesema hapo mbeleni na nimesema ili niweze kusikika na hata kama sitasikika, niwe nilisema na nimesema katika hili Bunge…

Speaker: Hon. Ndiritu, you know you should not pre-empt as if in your concerns will not be heard. I believe the fact that I have given you a chance to express yourself, you will be heard.

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Asante Bwana Spika kwa kunikosoa hapo, mimi nilikuwa nasema kuwa Bunge hili linaongozwa na sheria na hata mswada yoyote inayokuja katika Bunge hili inaambatana na Kanuni za Bunge kwa sababu hizo ndizo zinaongoza Bunge hili kwa jambo lolote na kwa hivyo nilikuwa nasema kwamba mswada ulioletwa katika Bunge hili Bwana Spika, niliona kama ulikiuka Kanuni Za Bunge nambari 185…

Hon. Joseph Suge: Mr. Speaker, the Member is out of order because he has been present in most of the motions before this House and now he is saying you are going against the standing orders. Therefore, he is out of order and he should not be given another chance Mr. Speaker. Maybe that will be discussed in other meetings. Thank you.

Speaker: I hope Hon. Ndiritu got what Hon. Suge said that you are saying we transacted business un-procedurally but you also contributed to them and I believe you are the one who said that Hon. Matunge should be approved as fast as possible and you went ahead to support a number of nominees. Then Hon. Suge argues that you are denying what you said. What do you have to say on that?

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Bwana spika, ninaomba kueleweka ya kuwa sijapinga huu mswada uliopitishwa kwa sababu mimi mwenyewe nimeunga, mimi ninasema hii ni nyumba inayofuata Kanuni za Bunge na ninataka kuangalia kanuni nambari 185 ambapo mimi kama mwanakamati ama vile niliona ni ya kwamba kuna kanuni ambazo zimerukwa kama hiyo ya 185 (5) ambayo inasema…

Speaker: You are very correct, you are talking about standing order no. 185, go to that standing order.

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Ya kwanza Bwana Spika, kamati ambayo ni ya CPAIC na ya Bajeti 185 (5) inaongea kuhusu vile hiyo kamati inavyofanywa. Inasema vizuri ya kwamba wakati kamati imeweza kutangazwa inaenda miaka tatu. Inapokuwa tena inaenda mpaka mwisho wa Bunge kuisha Bwana Spika. Pia katika kamati ya bajeti ni hivyo tu Bwana Spika

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na ndivyo mimi ninasema kuna mahali tunafika tunakiuka Kanuni katika Bunge hili na kama ningekuwa na simu yangu hapa…

Speaker: I have a copy of the standing orders, I can read it for you Hon. Ndiritu, standing order no. 185 (5) says,

> '*The County Public Accounts and Investment Committee constituted immediately following the general election shall serve for a period of three calendar years and that constituted thereafter shall serve for the remainder of the Assembly term.'*
>
> 186 (4) says, *'The County Budget and Appropriations Committee constituted by the Assembly immediately following the general election shall serve for a period of three calendar years and that constituted thereafter shall serve for the remainder of the Assembly term'.*
>
> What are the issues?

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Ndio, mswada ambayo ililetwa hapa bwana spika haikufuata kanuni za bunge nikielewa ya kwamba…

Hon. Catherine Nyawira: Hon. Speaker, I don't know whether the House is in order to continue without a quorum when critical issues like this are being raised Mr. Speaker. Secondly, I am just asking myself if Hon. Matunge was in the Budget Committee or the CPAIC, whether we would still not add such a Member to such a committee. Hon. Speaker, we cannot continue the proceeding without quorum because it means the same will be repeated again. Kindly advise the House.

Speaker: We have an issue of quorum though we have already dispensed with the business of today. It is an issue that the Hon. Ndiritu brought and I would advise that we can also give it time either tomorrow or Thursday so that we can dispense that issue. Just to say a word on that, whatever issues Hon. Ndiritu is raising on the term that the committee serves, it is just to give us clarity that the budget and CPAIC will serve for a period of three years after general elections then because it has a term of three years, it is put very clearly that after the three years it will only go until the end of the term. It is assumed to be 5 years. That does not hinder this House to exercise their authority, you can even change that committee even before three years are over even if it means 10 times.

If you have a committee that does not work within the 6 months, does it mean that this House will be held hostage by a committee that does not perform so that it can go for three years? I think the reason why this standing order is talking of that period is simply to give us clarity that it cannot go for another three years because the term will have ended. Now that we don't have quorum, you can still raise the issue tomorrow if you need more clarity.

ADJOURNMENT

Speaker: The sittings of this House now stands adjourned until tomorrow Wednesday, 28th April, 2021 at 9.00 a.m.

The House rose at 4.39 p.m.

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