REPUBLIC OF KENYA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF LAIKIPIA

THE HANSARD

Tuesday, 31st August, 2021

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

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

PRAYER

QUORUM CALL

Speaker: Clerk confirm whether we have quorum.

(Lack of quorum confirmed)

Speaker: Serjeant at Arms, you can ring the quorum bell for 10 minutes.

(The bell was rung for 10 minutes)

Speaker: Serjeant at Arms to extend the bell for 5 more minutes.

(The bell rung for 5 minutes)

Speaker: Clerk confirm whether we have achieved quorum with the entry of the few Members.

(Quorum confirmed)

PAPERS LAID

QUARTERLY REPORT AND STATEMENTS BY THE AGRICULTURE, ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Hon. Patricia Muthoni: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I wish to lay the report by Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources Committee on County Government of Laikipia (County Executive) quarterly reports and financial statements for the period ended 31st December, 2019 for the Department of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries dated 19th August, 2021.

(Hon. Patricia Muthoni laid the Report on the table)

QUARTERLY REPORT AND STATEMENTS BY THE AGRICULTURE, ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Hon. Patricia Muthoni: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I wish to lay the report of Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources Committee on County Government of Laikipia (County Executive) quarterly reports and financial statements for the period ended 31st December, 2019 for the Department of Water, Environment and Natural Resources dated 17th August, 2021.

(Hon. Patricia Muthoni laid the Report on the table)

QUARTERLY REPORT AND STATEMENTS BY THE TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

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Hon. Daniel Mugweru: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I wish to lay the report of Committee on Public Works on County Government of Laikipia (County Executive) quarterly reports and financial statements for the period ended 31st December, 2019, dated 23rd August, 2021.

(Hon. Daniel Mugweru laid the Report on the table)

LAIKIPIA COUNTY BUSINESS STIMULUS FUND (AMENDMENT REGULATIONS, 2021)

&

4TH QUARTER REPORTS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30TH JUNE, 2021

Hon. Veronica Ikunyua: Thank you Mr. Speaker. On behalf of Leader of Majority, I beg to lay;

a. Laikipia County Business Stimulus Fund (Amendment Regulations, 2021).

b. 4th Quarter reports and financial statements for the period ended 30th June, 2021.

(Hon. Veronica Ikunyua laid the Reports on the table)

Speaker: Hon. Members, the Laikipia County Business Stimulus Fund (Amendment Regulations, 2021) is hereby committed to the Committee of Delegated County Legislation and also the 4th Quarter reports and financial statements for the period ended 30th June, 2021 is committed to all Sectoral Committees.

NOTICES OF MOTIONS

QUARTERLY REPORT AND STATEMENTS BY THE AGRICULTURE, ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Hon. Patricia Muthoni: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I wish to give notice of the following motion;

> THAT, this House adopts quarterly reports and financial statements for the period ended 31st December, 2019 for the Department of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries by the Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources Committee dated 19th August, 2021.

QUARTERLY REPORT AND STATEMENTS BY THE AGRICULTURE, ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Hon. Patricia Muthoni: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I wish to give notice of the following motion;

> THAT, this House adopts quarterly reports and financial statements for the period ended 31st December, 2019 for the Department of Water, Environment and Natural resources by the Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources Committee dated 17th August, 2021.

QUARTERLY REPORT AND STATEMENTS BY THE TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Hon. Daniel Mugweru: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I wish to give notice of the following motion;

> THAT, this House adopts the report of the Committee on Transport and Public Works on County Government of Laikipia (County Executive) quarterly reports and financial statements for the period ended 31st December, 2019 dated 23th August, 2021.

MOTION

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QUARTERLY REPORT AND STATEMENTS BY THE COUNTY COHESION, JUSTICE AND LEGAL MATTERS COMMITTEE

Hon. Daniel Nyausi: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. On behalf of Chair County Cohesion, Justice and Legal Matters committee, I beg to move the following motion;

> THAT this Assembly adopts the report of the Committee on County Cohesion, Justice and Legal Matters on County Government of Laikipia (County Executive) quarterly report and financial statements for the quarter ended 31st December, 2019 dated 18th August, 2021.

Hon. Speaker, I will move to 1.0 on the preface. Mr. Speaker, Sir, on behalf of the Members of the Committee on County Cohesion, Justice and Legal Matters in pursuant to the provision of standing order No. 191/5 (f), It is my pleasure and duty to present to the House the Committee's report on the County Government of Laikipia (County Executive) Quarterly Report and financial statements for the Quarter ended 31st December, 2019.

Committee Membership.

The Committee as currently constituted, comprises of the following members:

1. Hon. Catherine Nyawira - Chairperson
2. Hon. Zamzam Hussein - Vice Chair person
3. Hon. George Karuiru - Member
4. Hon. Daniel Nyausi - Member
5. Hon. Patricia Muthoni - Member
6. Hon. Judy Lukio - Member
7. Hon Stephen Ndiritu - Member

Committee Mandate

The Committee is established under the Standing Order No. 191 which provides that the committee shall investigate, inquire into, and report on all matters relating to the mandate, management, activities, administration, operation and estimates of the assigned departments among other functions.

Committee Meetings

Mr. Speaker, the Committee has held a number of meetings to scrutinize the document as required prior to tabling it in the House. On behalf of the Cohesion, Justice and Legal Matters Committee, I have the honour and pleasure to present the Committee's report.

Mr. Speaker, may I take this opportunity to thank all the Members of the Committee for their valuable contributions during the entire process. Thank you.

Committee Establishment

Mr. Speaker, the Committee on County Cohesion, Justice and Legal Matters was first constituted by the House on 28th September, 2017 during the First Session of the Second Assembly in Laikipia County.

Mr. Speaker, It is one of the Sectoral Committees established under Standing Order No. 191(g) with the mandate to make reports and recommendations to the Assembly as often as possible, including recommendations of proposed legislation.

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Hon. Speaker, because I believe the Hon. Members have the same report so we are going together. Allow me to go to 5.0.

Committee Observations

Mr. Speaker Sir, the County Cohesion, Justice and Legal Matters made the following observations;

1. There was very low expenditure in almost all of the programme, general administration planning and support service programme which had the highest absorption rate at 41.60%.
2. During the period under review the county administration and decentralized service programme as well as fire services programme did not utilize any of the funds during the previous first quarter period.

Committee Recommendations

Mr. Speaker Sir, the County Cohesion, Justice and Legal Matters Committee made the recommendations that;

1. The County Administration and Public Service Department need to plan for project expenditure before budgeting for the same. Cash plans can be used for planning purposes to control and manage use of funds in the department.
2. The County Administration Justice and Legal Matters Department should ensure that those projects that are budgeted for are completed and the funds utilized accordingly.

Committee Conclusion.

That this House adopts on the Committee on County Cohesion, Justice and Legal Matters on the County Government of Laikipia (County Executive) Quarterly Report and financial statements for the Quarter ended 31st September, 2019.

Thank you, Hon. Speaker. This was brief and self-explanatory. I believe Members have the same because the committee has sat down and tried to break it down and the Hon. Members will not take time to digest. We have some input from the non-members of this committee. Since all of us are oversighting the same government a good number of Members got time to air their views. It helped those who probably did not get time so that they can as well give their input. Hon. Speaker, I will kindly ask Hon. Patricia Muthoni to second the report. Thank you.

Hon. Patricia Muthoni: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I second this motion and I urge Hon. Members to support this motion.

(Question proposed)

Hon. Daniel Mugweru: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to support the report. Mr. Speaker, this is a Department of County Administration and Public Works. As per the committee's observations, it is worrying because the County Administration Department and Public Services is the fulcrum of the county which is the centre of all the departments. Mr. Speaker, when such a department fails this is worrying.

It means that the whole county departments will follow suit. What has worried me is that during the period and the review of the service, they did not utilise any of the funds allocated. When we say any of the funds allocated, it means there was proper allocation but no

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funds were utilised as at that time. The worst part is that the funds even during the previous first quarter, there was nothing that was utilised.

Mr. Speaker, this committee is confidently telling us that the department administration for the first two quarters utilized zero shillings. It means that for half of the year, the department did nothing. It is really worrying when the fulcrum of the County does not do anything for half a year and perhaps expects to do the two halves within one half.

The committee has done a good job because it is helping us to understand how this department works and the failures and weaknesses in this department. These reports are to help us as an Assembly to understand and push the County Executive to implement the projects that are budgeted for in a timely manner. The committee has done a good job and this will help us as Members of the House; we as the representatives of the people, as the people who make the budget to be able to go and do our oversight job properly and push this department.

I am not sure but I am just speculating that in the third quarter, we will hear that they utilized zero shillings and we will probably find out that they did nothing. This one will help us as Members and representatives to wake up strongly and push this department to utilize the allocated funds because there are some other departments in the same County which always cry that they have very little funds.

We should always ask ourselves, why allocate funds that are not utilized whereas we have other departments that are crying that they have little funds to utilize? Such reports are really helping us even in making future budgets as well as in doing oversight strongly to make sure that the County of Laikipia gets the best from the allocated funds. I support, thank you.

Speaker: Hon. Veronica, then we can have Hon. Lochimidi.

Hon. Veronica Ikunyua: Thank you, Hon. Speaker for giving me this chance to make my contribution. First of all I want to thank the committee for the effort. This report was to be brought last week but because of many other things it is here with us today. The committee has done their part but it is a shame that we allocated some amount for this department but they did not utilize.

It is not just this department. We have seen several departments where we allocate money but is not utilized, there is delay in making of BQs. Our Governor is trying to emphasize to those departments to start doing those BQs immediately we set a budget, but they are reluctant. Some staffs are very reluctant, they do not want to do what they are requested to do. That is why we are ending up here, allocating money and it is not used. It is a shame.

Today, for instance, in the same department we allocated money for street lighting. Up to this day, we do not have those street lights. It is a shame because this is government money, not money for anybody's pockets. We are urging this department and even the committee to continue doing their oversight at the right time. We are complaining now but we are also a bit late. We need this department to do what they are called to do.

We have the fire extinguisher store and offices that were to be completed last year. They are still there. I do not know whether we have allocated money for that, but we need this department to pull up their socks so that we can at least uplift the development of this County. We are here to support and uplift the economy as well as the development of this County.

For the street lighting that we allocated for in this department, I do not know. We would like the Department of Cohesion to tell us where those street lights are. You can see that we

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allocated some money last year but they did not utilize the money. It is not fair. We have other departments, as Hon. Mugweru has said, that are ready to use even up to the last coin.

For the same department that we allocated for street lighting, we allocated the money for planning our towns in 2018/19. I will keep repeating, we allocated Kshs.8 million. They never used that money. We allocated again in 2019/20, the money was not used. If the money was used, it was not used for the purpose that we allocated it. There are so many areas that need to be planned but it has not been done.

We do not want anybody changing money that was allocated for a given purpose to another purpose without consulting this House. We need this department to respect this House because that is why we are here to defend our wards' funds. I am embarrassed that we can allocate money and it is not used for the same purpose. Thank you.

Speaker: Hon. Lochimidi, and you can as well use this time to give your maiden speech.

Hon. Lochimidi Esokon: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Before I give my contribution, I want to make my maiden speech today: Mr. Speaker, God's time is the best time. First, I thank the Almighty God for giving me this opportunity to stand here today in the County Assembly of Laikipia to represent His people. It is by His grace and not by my strength.

I wanted to express my heartfelt gratitude to the Jubilee Party and its leadership under His Excellency Uhuru Kenyatta, EGH and Commander-in-Chief of the Kenya Defence Forces, for the opportunity to represent the minority in Laikipia County. I also wish to thank the great people of Laikipia and particularly the minorities and the marginalised in Laikipia North.

Mr. Speaker, under the Constitution of Kenya, 2010, devolution has been entrenched and Members of County Assemblies are mandated to represent the people at the ward level. make laws for the people in the Counties, oversight County Government and most importantly appropriate resources for the development of the people at the County level. Am aware of this constitutional responsibility and cognisant of the oath office I took here last week, I wish to promise the people of Laikipia that I will be steadfast in representing their interest in this County Assembly without fear of contradiction or intimidation.

While appreciating the limitations of a nominated Member of a County Assembly and knowing very well that we are now getting into the electioneering period, I will however work with my fellow Members of this House to ensure that the rights and interests of the people are well protected and promoted by the County Government.

There are many challenges facing the people of Laikipia and particularly the people of Laikipia North and mostly those from Sosian Ward. Starting from issues of insecurity, scarcity of water, issues of settlement/squatters, poor healthcare, lack of adequate and sufficient ECD infrastructure, poor road network, unemployment among the youth, among a myriad of challenges.

These challenges some of which are specific to Sosian but majority cut across the Wards in Laikipia County call upon as leaders to work together in a concerted effort to alleviate the suffering of our people. It calls upon us as the people's representatives while oversighting the County Government to work with it to ensure that we address these challenges and that is the reason we are in this County Assembly.

On my part, I will do whatever it takes to ensure that the people get the goods and services that the County Government and the National Government are expected to provide by

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collaborating and working closely with both the National Governments agents and the County Government of Laikipia. I make this undertaking well aware that it is an enormous task.

I wish to note that despite the nine years of devolution, there are still areas in this County where children are not able to go to school due to lack of basic infrastructure such as ECD classes and teachers. In some lucky instances where there is a temporary infrastructure, there are no teachers leaving parents to volunteer as ECD teachers. In some parts of Sosian Ward, people have to walk long distances to access a dispensary and when they do, there are no medicines or the personnel are nowhere to offer services. It is these marginalised people, who are suffering that I seek to be their voice in this House.

As a Member of this Assembly, I will work closely with my elected and fellow nominated colleagues in committees and the plenary to marshal the necessary support to ensure that resources appropriated for health, infrastructure and education of Laikipians is utilized for the intended purposes to alleviate the suffering of Akale, Naserian, Cherono and wanjiku.

I will also endeavour to bring registration and motions to the House on matters affecting the people. I will count on your support and partnership for their passage and in equal measure I will also not hesitate or shy away in supporting County Government development programmes that target poverty alleviation and socio-economic prosperity of the marginalised communities.

I wish to express my appreciation of the programmes currently being undertaken by the County Government. I only wish that more resources be appropriated to the marginalised areas comprising of Sosian, Mukogodo East and West as well as Segera Ward. Development in Laikipia cannot be realized if one sub-county in the County is left behind in the development train.

I challenge the County Executive and the leaders from these areas to be more proactive in pastoral communities in these four Wards. It is a shame when you travel across the County and realize that a section of the society feels left out just because someone thinks that they do not matter or that their contribution is insignificant. We can only grow as a County if all of us are travelling together in the same direction in same development train.

Physical planning is a function of the County Government, there is need to review the way planning is done in our County and majority of our urban centres and markets do not have physical development plans. A majority of the trading centres in particular those in Laikipia North sub-County lack physical plans and his affects the future growth of such centres and their potential for expansion and development.

As result of lack of planning unscrupulous persons working with some leaders have disenfranchised the local inhabitants by allocating themselves land/plots leaving out the deserving residents a case in point is *Kadutura*, *Mowarak* among other upcoming centres. There is an urgent need for preparation of progressing physical plans of these and other upcoming centres are critical.

In this breath, I call upon the County Executive to review all recent allocation of plots in the aforementioned centres. People are calling for transparency and equity in distribution and allocation of their resources. Land in Laikipia cannot be preserve of the high and mighty, the rich and the connected. The local inhabitants must own land/ plots in their areas so that they can shape their own development and this is what devolution is all about.

The recently approved Laikipia Infrastructural Bond must be allocated and appropriated to develop these upcoming towns. As we begin the budget process for the financial year

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2021/2022, let us not forget the small towns/trading centres in Laikipia North. Let us allocate resources to make them hubs for rural growth since all the major towns and urban centres have taken care of by the World Bank smart town programme. This way we can make development our equalizer.

Laikipia is not short of people and leaders of goodwill. Let us all work together to serve the people and make Laikipia a better place. Finally, I want to thank all those who are working tirelessly in serving the people. I want to salute the Hon. Member of Parliament for Laikipia North, Hon. Sarah Korere, for standing up for the people of Laikipia North, thank you.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to contribute now. I wish to support the report by County Cohesion, Justice and Legal Matters because it provides a framework and rule to solve disputes between individuals. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Lochimidi for that powerful speech and the issues that you have really brought out clearly in your speech. I wish you all the best and pray that God will help you in the short time you will be here which is almost a year so that you can be able to fight for those issues and follow them up. It is what you would have wished while you were outside there but today you have got the platform, power and mandate.

You are in the very House where you can fight for those issues and therefore it is my wish that you will do it aggressively also redeeming time because you don't have the luxury of time. Therefore, by the time you are coming to the end of this term of the Assembly, you will have a number of things to show for the people that you represent. I hope that you are going to ensure that we facilitate you adequately so that you can play your roles. We will ensure that you will get some trainings here and there so as to sharpen you in the execution of your mandate. If there is no any other Member wishing to contribute, then the mover can give a reply.

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Asante, Bwana Spika. Ninaongea kwa niaba ya mwenye huu mjadala. Kwanza nataka kushukuru kwa sababu huu ni wakati mwema. Nimshukuru pia Mheshimiwa J. Lochimidi kwa hotuba yake yenye ameweza kutoa na ambayo nimesikiza kwa makini. Kwa akili zangu nimeona ya kwamba huyu ni kiongozi ambaye yuko tayari kufanya kazi na kusaidia wanalaikipia. Ningeomba tu Mungu amujalie na aweze kuwafanyia hivyo ameweza kusema. Nimkumbushe pia ya kwamba amekuja wakati tumekaribia mlangoni kwenda kutafuta kura. Ningetaka kumuelezea ya kwamba asiwe na kuridhika sana katika hili Bunge kwa sababu tayari muda umesonga.

Kwa hivyo atasukuma kazi Bunge na pia akumbuke kusukuma kule mbele maana tulikutana naye wakati alikuwa anatafuta kiti na ninaamini ya kwamba pia wakati huu atakuwa huko. Kwa hivyo Lochimidi, Mungu akubariki na pia ushikanishe yote mawili kwa sababu Wakikuyu husema ya kwamba "mtu akizaa mapacha ananyonyesha wote." Kwa hivyo haya yote utanyonyesha na kwa hivyo utayarishe matiti sawa sawa…

Speaker: Kindly address him through the Speaker and also refer to him as an Honourable Member. He is not just Lochimidi but Hon. Lochimidi.

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Bwana Spika, unajua hii 'Honourable' wakati mwingine inatutatiza sana. Kwa hayo mengi na machache namshukuru Mheshimiwa Lochimidi. Huu mjadala pia umeweza kuelezea vizuri. Kama vile wachangiaji wameelezea, wameweza kuguzia mambo muhimu ambayo inafaa kutekelezwa na hii Idara ya *Administration*. Wameweza pia kutoa maono ambayo kwa kweli ni muhimu na yanafaa kuangaziwa katika hii idara. Kama kamati tumefanya kazi yetu na tumeweza kueleza Bunge vile mambo ilivyo. Niambie

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Wajumbe ya kwamba hii ripoti ambayo iko katika Bunge sasa hivi ni ripoti ya 2019. Kwa hivyo yale mambo ambayo Wajumbe wameweza kuonelea tumeweza kuinakiri na tutaweza kuifuatilia na kuhakikisha ya kwamba idara imefanya kazi vile inavyostahili.

Bwana Spika, kama vile tumeweza kuweka mapendekezo, hivyo ndivyo idara ilivyo. Kama idara imerarukiwa, hatuwezi kuja hapa kusema ya kwamba iko sawa. Kama iko na shida ni lazima tueleze Wajumbe ili waweze kuelewa vile hiyo idara iko ndiyo maana tunapofanya kazi ya uangalizi tuwe tukijua shida za hiyo idara. Kwa hivyo hayo ni mambo ambayo tumeweza kuyanakiri na pia tukaonelea ya kwamba idara haikuweza kutumia pesa ilivyo. Juzi nilisema ya kwamba kuna idara ambazo hazitumii pesa sawa sawa na nikauliza kama tungekuwa na sheria ya kubadilisha hizo idara ili ziletwe hapa kwa Bunge ambapo tunatumia hela zetu vizuri hadi hela ya mwisho.

Ukiangalia kama hii Idara ya *Administration* haijatumia pesa yake vizuri na kama inaweza letwa hapa, tunaweza kutumia hiyo pesa hadi shilingi ya mwisho ndio wananchi waweze kusaidika. Kama pesa imewekwa kwa idara, inafaa kusaidia wale ambao wanafaa kusaidika. Kama ni idara ya ujenzi tunafaa kutumia pesa hadi shilingi ya mwisho ndio wananchi waweze kupata maendeleo.

Kama ni idara ya afya, vile vile tuweze kutumia ile pesa ambayo imetengewa hiyo idara ili wananchi ambao wanategemea hizo huduma kama madawa na kutengeneza mahospitali, waweze kufikiwa na hizo huduma. Ukipata idara ambazo hazitumii pesa vizuri, hiyo ni kumaanisha ya kwamba wananchi wanarudishwa nyuma. Kwa hayo machache ninashukuru na Mungu abariki hili Bunge na sisi wote ili tuendelee kuwa watu wa Mungu na kutumikia wananchi kwa njia ambayo ni ya haki na ukweli. Asante.

Speaker: Hon. Members, the putting of question for that report will be done tomorrow Wednesday at 9.00 a.m.

(Motion deferred)

ADJOURNMENT

Speaker: This House now stands adjourned until tomorrow Wednesday, 1st September, 2021 at 9.00 a.m.

The House rose at 3. 30 p.m.

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