# REPUBLIC OF KENYA

# COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF LAIKIPIA

## THE HANSARD

**Tuesday, 8th November, 2022**

*The House met at the Assembly Chambers at 9.00 a.m.*

*[The Speaker (Hon. Lantano Nabaala) in the Chair]*

PRAYERS

## COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

VISIT BY MACHARIA PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENTS, NYERI.

**Speaker**: Hon. Members, I wish to recognize the presence of 54 pupils from Macharia Primary School in Nyeri County, Gakawa Ward. They are led by their teachers;

1. Ms. Faith Gakunda
2. Ann Muchangi
3. Jane Githinji
4. Jennifer Munyi

Feel welcome and learn pertaining to matters of legislation, oversight and representation as pertaining to duties and responsibilities of elected leaders. Thank you so much. You may get sited.

## PAPERS LAID

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND BUDGET REVIEW REPORTS

**Hon. John Gichuki:** Thank you Mr. Speaker. I beg to lay the following papers;

1. County Government of Laikipia (Executive) First quarter report and Financial Statements for the Financial Year 2022/2023.
2. National Government Budget implementation Review report for the First Quarter Financial Year 2021/2022 Financial Year from the Office of Controller of Budget.
3. National Government Budget Implementation review report for the First Half 2021/ 2022 Financial Year from the Office of the Controller of Budget.

*(The reports were laid on the table by Hon. John)*

**Speaker:** Thank you. I would like to give direction on the Papers tabled. County Government of Laikipia (Executive) First quarter report and Financial Statements for the Financial Year 2022/2023, I commit it to all Sectoral Committees.

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The National Government Budget implementation Review report for the First Quarter Financial Year 2021/2022 Financial Year from the Office of Controller of Budget and the National Government Budget Implementation review report for the First Half 2021/ 2022 Financial Year from the Office of the Controller of Budget remain committed to the Committee on Budget and Appropriation Committee.

## NOTICE OF MOTION

COUNTY SECRETARY SELECTION PANEL MEMBERSHIP

**Hon. John Gichuki:** Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of the following motion;

THAT pursuant to provisions of Section 44(2B) read together with section 44 (2C) and 58(A) of the County Government Act, 2012 this Assembly APPROVES the nomination of the following persons to the selection panel for the recruitment of the County Secretary and Head of County Public Service in Laikipia County.

i. Jane Kimani as the Chairperson
ii. Pst. David Komu to represent the private sector
iii. Minneh Nyambura, certified Public Accountant and a member of the Institute of Certified Public Accountants of Kenya.
iv. George Kooro a representative of Worker's Association
v. Joseph Mwangi an advocate and member Law Society of Kenya.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

## MOTION

COUNTY SECRETARY SELECTION PANEL MEMBERSHIP

**Hon. John Gichuki:** Mr. Speaker, I beg to move the following motion;

THAT pursuant to provisions of Section 44(2B) read together with section 44 (2C) and 58(A) of the County Government Act, 2012 this Assembly APPROVES the nomination of the following persons to the selection panel for the recruitment of the County Secretary and Head of County Public Service in Laikipia County.

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v. Joseph Mwangi an advocate and member Law Society of Kenya

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I request Hon. Mugweru to second this motion.

**Hon. Daniel Mugweru:** Thank you, Hon. Speaker for giving me this chance to second the motion. Before I second the motion, I wish to congratulate the pupils of the said school that has

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come from Nyeri County and visited the County Assembly of Laikipia to see what it does. In one way or the other, we perform our duties the same way the County Assembly of Nyeri performs. Laikipia County Assembly being near them, they are most welcome here to see how Hon. Members prosecute agendas in relation to the county.

Hon. Speaker, secondly before I make my contribution on the same, I wish from your Honourable Chair that in future whenever we are having trainings we should also take the Serjeant at Arms to get training on the gadgets that we are using. It is so unfortunate that the ICT Department is the one that understands issues and they are the ones who were trained on issues to do with the gadgets we are having but unfortunately, they are never in the House. We need to train the people who are in the House.

The people who will serve us in the House are the best people to perform the duties because we are with them. Some few minutes ago, I had challenges in opening the gadget and 90% of the Members had the same challenge. Now the people who are to help us are the ones who are here. We need to equip those who are in the House. The ones who understand things to do with ICT should be taken there as trainers to train the ones who are with us in this House continually. That was just by the way.

Hon. Speaker, I rise to second the motion brought by the Majority Leader on the Members who are here who will help us recruit the County Secretary. Hon. Speaker, I do not know the members that have been listed here. The good thing is that I am not interested in knowing them because our interest is the County Secretary. They are just there to bring us a County Secretary whom we as an Assembly are interested in vetting. I support the members wherever they come from but as long as they bring us the person we need.

From there, we shall work on vetting the County Secretary. I support the members and I wish them well. We shall pray for them that they bring the best person. From there we as an Assembly, we shall get to the next level of vetting the County Secretary waiting for approval in this House. Anything that is in this county important like that should come into this Assembly because this Assembly acts as a high court in Laikipia.

Hon. Speaker, I support them to be in the panel to recruit the County Secretary. From there, we as Members are going to the next level to vet the County Secretary and approve the best because the County Secretary is a very senior person in this county. He is the fulcrum of all businesses in the County Government. Hon. Speaker, I second. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you, very much Hon. Members. In regards to our visitors, we continue to ask you to feel at home and learn from the representatives of the people.

*(Question proposed)*

**Hon. Simon Kanyutu:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am standing on a point of clarification though I welcome the pupils of Macharia Primary School in this Assembly. I need the Majority Leader to clarify whether he knows these nominees. Mr. Speaker, I am shocked because the Chair is Jane Kimani while my elder sister is Jane Wangari Kimani. I do not know whether she is my sister and I need the clarification from the Majority Leader.

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**Hon. John Gichuki:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I may not know them but according to the County Government Act, the Governor has a responsibility of appointing. I do not know them but he knows them more. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Hon. Simon Kanyutu:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wanted that clarification but I am happy with the issue the Majority Leader has stated. Being the propagative of the Governor, I support because we need our county to move forward. We need work to start and without a County Secretary, we cannot move in the right direction. This selection panel is entitled to ensure that we get the best. We need to do it as fast as possible so that the County Secretary is brought to the floor of the House and deliberate on the same.

I support because there is one person who I have worked with when they had a crisis with the workers there. There is George Kooro who is representing the Worker's Association. So I wholly support.

**Hon. Samuel Mugambi:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First, I will start by welcoming the pupils who are present here today. May they feel welcome to Laikipia County and specifically the Laikipia Assembly. I am standing on this floor to support the motion on the Selection Members to pick a County Secretary and I have two reasons why I am supporting the panel. First, I am supporting it because of gender balance; I can see that there are two Honourable women who have been placed in this list. Secondly, I can see there is a religious leader, Pastor David Komu. We also have Minneh Nyambura who is a Certified Public Accountant and a member of ICPAK. We also have Joseph Mwangi who is an advocate and member of the Law Society of Kenya.

I want to laud the Governor of Laikipia County because he seems to understand his role well by giving a variety of people in a certain panel so that we get a good candidate for County Secretary. As I echo the words of MCA for Marmanet, the County Secretary is an important person. From my own understanding, a County Secretary is the person in charge of most of the county resources as well as staff. So, this is a very pivotal role in our County Government and I stand here to support the motion. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you. I want to take this opportunity to give to the Majority Whip.

**Hon. Stephen Ndiritu:** Asante Bwana Spika, kwa kunipa hii nafasi na kwa kuniita kwa cheo changu. Ningetaka pia kuwakaribisha wanafunzi ambao wamefika hapa ili kuweza kujua zaidi tunayotekeleza tunapokuwa hapa Bungeni. Nimeona wameandamana pamoja na walimu wao wanaowafundisha kule shuleni. Nafikiri kwa sababu tumebadilisha mfumo wa elimu kutoka *8-4-4* hadi ile mpya ya *CBC,* hii itakuwa mojawapo ya masomo ya hawa wanafunzi na nadhani hata wakati huu wako darasani.

Nataka kuwapongeza watoto, asanteni sana. Vile mmekaa hapo kuna wakati nanyi pia mtaketi hapa kuwatetea wananchi mtakaokuwa mkiwakilisha. Yale mnayoyaona tukifanya ndio mtakuja kufanya. Nafikiri mko sawa na mnaendelea. Vilevile, nawashukuru walimu kwa kuchukua jukumu hilo la kuwaleta hawa wanafunzi ili waweze kusoma zaidi kuhusu mambo ya Bunge.

Bwana Spika, langu ni kushukuru Kiongozi wa Walio Wengi hususan kwa kuuleta huu mswada wa kupitisha kamati itakayokuwa na kazi ya kukagua na kufupisha orodha ya wanaowania kiti cha Katibu wa Kaunti. Kulingana na ninavyoelewa, kazi ya hii kamati ni kuleta mwaniaji ambaye atakayefaa kuingia kwenye hio ofisi. Kwa hivyo nafikiri kazi ambayo itakuwa tena mbele

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yetu ni kuhakikisha kwamba Gavana amemteua mtu atakayeweza kufanya kazi bila mapendeleo na kuyapa kipaumbele maslahi ya watu wa Laikipia.

Naweza kuwa siwajui hawa watu sana. Huenda sijaona wengi wao, lakini kulingana na jukumu alilopewa Gavana la kuwateua hawa maafisa, nimeangalia na kuona kwamba ni watu watakaoweza kufanya kazi licha ya kwamba siwajui. Hatuwezi kuchagua mtu na kumpa jukumu ya kuingia kwenye ofisi ya Gavana kisha alete mtu asiyeelewa kazi yake. Naweza kosa kuwajua wote lakini vile nimemwona huyu wa nambari ya pili ambaye ni mchungaji, hata kabla sijaenda hapo pengine nimeona kwa kweli tuko pahali pazuri. Mimi namwelewa huyu mchungaji, najua ni mchamungu, ni mtu anayeombea watu na hata mimi mwenyewe ameniombea nikaweza kukishinda hiki kiti na kuwa Mwakilishi wa Wadi ya nilikotoka.

Kwa hivyo nafikiri hii ni timu itakayoweza kutekeleza kazi yake na majina atakayopewa Mheshimiwa Gavana yatakuwa majina ya watu waliohitimu. Ningeomba kwamba wakati hawa watu wataketi chini waweze kuangalia hata yule aliye sasa hivi kwa sababu nafikiri amefanya kiasi na wakimwangalia na jicho lingine lenye uzuri litakuwa jambo la busara kabisa. Wasije wakamuanzisha mtu kazi kisha baadaye kumtupilia mbali. Ningeomba tuwe na huo mwendeleo ili wananchi wa Laikipia wapata huduma ya maana.

Jambo lingine ninalotaka kusema kuhusu huku kupigwa msasa kwa Katibu wa Kaunti ni ya kwamba Katibu wa Kaunti ni afisa anayeunganisha Bunge na Serikali Tekelezi. Kwa hivyo yale yote tutakayo kuwa tukiyaongea hapa na kutaka yatekelezwe na Serikali ya Utekelezaji yatakuwa yakipitia kwa Katibu wa Kaunti.

Yale ambayo Mtendaji ya Kaunti anataka kuleta hapa, kama mambo ya bajeti ama sera zingine zote wanataka kuleta hapa itapitia Katibu Wa Kaunti. Kwa hivyo huyu ni afisa mwenye tunamhitaji kwa haraka. Ikiwezakana tuwapitishe leo, wakae siku tatu kisha watuletee majina ndio tuweze kupitisha na county yetu iende mbele. Kwa hayo machache Bw. Spika, nimeshukuru kwa kunipatia hii nafasi na pia nakupongeza kwa kuwa Spika ambaye anaelewa kazi yake ipasavyo. Kalia hiyo kitu bila wasiwasi. Asante sana.

**Speaker:** Thank you, the Honourable Member. Hon. Stephen Nderitu. Thank you. Congratulation. Allow me to bring to your attention Hon. Member our standing order no. 230 states and I will read as it says, I would like you to pay attention. '*There shall be reserved seats in the chamber of the assembly for the exclusive use of each of the following*: -

a) The Deputy Speaker.

b) The Leader of Majority Party.

c) The Leader of Minority Party

d) Members with disabilities

e) Members of the Speaker's panel.

f) The Majority Whip

g) The Minority Whip.

Pursuant to this standing order, I request you to move to your official seat.

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Equally, I will give direction to the Serjeant at Arms to ensure that the Speaker's panel seats are marked as the Speaker's panel. Kindly exchange your seats. Thank you very much. The Honourable Stephen Nderitu, you may want to talk and say something.

**Hon. Stephen Nderitu:** Asante Bwana Spika, Nimesikia vyenye umeweza kutoa amri na nikiangalia hizi vitu, ni lebo pekee ndio wameweza kuweka. Bwana Spika, mimi ni mtu mfupi na nikiwa pale naweza kosa kuonekana sana. Ningeomba ile stika iliyo pale kwa ruhusa yako Bwana Spika, watoe kisha waniwekee hapa. Asante Bwana Spika

**Speaker:** Hon. Member Stephen Nderitu, I will ask you to take your seat, the official seat, and we will consider your request, it's appropriate. Thank you very much for complying with the standing orders. Next member who may want to contribute to the motion. Thank you for that moment and thank you for presenting a robust discussion on the floor. Any other Member who may want to contribute to this important motion? Yes, allow me to give to the Deputy Speaker, the Hon. Antony Theuri.

**Hon. Antony Theuri:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker once again. I don't have much to say, first of all is to welcome the pupils of Macharia Primary School. I wish them well as they are here. It has been my dream since I was young to present my people. Those days it was called Hospital Ward but I thank God, nowadays we are no longer sick and it is a big Ward now called Nanyuki Ward.

Those days we didn't have the leisure of going to National Parliament or coming to the same House during the Mayors' and chancellors' era. It is my dream and I want to encourage them to focus on their dream, work on them and as Lupita Nyong'o says, all dreams are valid. It is never too late to dream. I also want to I want to congratulate the teachers because I believe without them, we don't have the pupils and likewise if you don't have the pupils, we don't have the teachers. I believe that one of these days, we might have one of their pupils above there here or maybe to a higher calling.

I want to support the agenda of today of the approval of the following people. I think it would be too early to judge the Governor or whichever organ that we have. We are sitting in this House and I believe it would be good if we give each and every person a chance to prove himself or herself. Equally, I want to echo my friend Hon. Stephen Nderitu, I know the campaign mood is over but we have been having the acting County Secretary here and the majority of us have been comfortable with him. I would equally ask that we give him time. If it is possible and if the five members here deems possible for them to bring him or give him our approval, it will be a good thing because of the continuation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Deputy Speaker. Allow me to give this opportunity to the Hon. Simon Kanyutu. Kindly, the floor is yours.

**Hon. Simon Kanyutu**: Mr. Speaker, I was concerned with the Hon. Member because he seemed to have started campaigning, but the Selection Committee ought to bring the best so that the House just pass, but since he is already seated, I just accept.

**Speaker:** Thank you. I want to continue allowing Members to deliberate and also to contribute to the motion. I am not seeing any, perhaps the Hon. Antony Theuri would like to make a clarification

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**Hon. Antony Theuri:** On the same, I thought Hon. Simon Kanyutu was standing up to applaud me since the said acting County Secretary comes from his area, I thought he would stand up and contribute on the same. However, I would not mind having another person who would serve the County Assembly in equal measure. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you. The Hon. Paul Shuel.

**Hon. Paul Leshuel:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also stand in support of the panel. Mr. Speaker, knowing clearly that we have two arms of the government and the role of the Governor is to nominate the names and bring to the Assembly for approval. We also have a committee that is going to vet the names. I am sure they are able to give us the suitable persons.

Mr. Speaker, I don't want to give the answers today but we want to give the committee a chance to go and vet them because the names suitable for that position means a lot. It means that person is equal to the qualifications, it means that person is able to communicate, it means that person is able to answer all questions. That means it is a comprehensive process, so let us wait. Let us give them time. The moment they bring the report, I am sure we will get the best candidates.

It is not our work to know those people but the Governor to ensure that he has given us the right names and the right people who will give us good service to our people. It is the time we give the Governor a chance to ensure everyone is in the right place. As we speak now, we do not have the CECM's, the Chief Officers and the County Secretary. So, I am sure that when all those names come in place and we approve them, then we will be able to know whether we are really performing. It is our time now to give the Governor a chance to nominate, we approve and then from there we go to service delivery.

Our role here is oversight. The moment we give the CECM's these jobs, it is our responsibility to ensure that they are delivering. So, I want to urge the committee concerned to move with speed so that before we go for recess, we approve those names so that we proceed for recess comfortably. As we speak, we have not given bursary to our people because we do not have the CECM's and the accounting officers in place.

It is our concern because it is our role to make sure that we have approved everything. I also hope that we will have a supplementary budget so that we can align everything to the manifesto of the Governor. I may not even know those people physically and I am not even supposed to know them because that is not my work, but it is my work to get the right thing from them. Are they capable? The moment I understand that, I approve them and wait for service delivery. If they fail to deliver service to our people, then I will come back to blame the Governor because everything will land in his hands. Therefore, that is my stand but for now I support. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Leshuel. Indeed it is a nice contribution. Hon. Parleto, did you want to contribute?

**Hon. Antony Theuri:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker and I stand to be guided. While I was seated, I just wanted to remind you that the last time I was seated on that seat as a Chair, we had students from Segera Ward and we passed a motion which was brought by Hon. Mugweru concerning food programme in ECD schools. It was a good thing and we agreed to support that. However, as I was seated here after everything we have done, the Deputy Speaker and the Majority saw it fit to give our pupils lunch on that particular day. Now because you are here and you are the

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father of the House, I think it is better we do this after we are through with the session to sit with these pupils and they will go home smiling. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Sentiments heard and well noted. Thank you, very much for that. Hon. Members, the floor is still yours for the discussion of the same. As I read the mood of the House, I think perhaps you all agree with what we have discussed. Now I want to take this opportunity therefore to invite the Majority Leader to make a reply.

**Hon. John Gichuki:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to congratulate the Members who have supported the motion. Adding to what our Deputy Speaker, has said these pupils need lunch and I will also request Hon. Lempaira to also chip in and support our Speaker. Thank you so much Mr. Speaker and you have our support.

## ADJOURNMENT

**Speaker:** The sittings of this House now stands adjourned until tomorrow Wednesday, 9th November, 2022 at 9.00 a.m.

The House rose at 3.10 p.m.

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