REPUBLIC OF KENYA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF LAIKIPIA

THE HANSARD

Wednesday, 12th October, 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

MEMBERS MAIDEN SPEECH

Speaker: Hon. Members, on Order No. 2. Today being the First Sitting of the Assembly after yesterday's successful day, I want to take this opportunity to welcome you all. I also want to say that this is the day that you will have an opportunity to give your maiden speeches. As we deliberate, discuss and debate on the speech of H.E. The Governor, you are all invited this day to give your maiden speech and I just want to explain to you a little bit about a maiden speech.

This is the day that you are allowed to speak and preferably, as much as possible, not to have interruption when you are giving your maiden speech. In conjunction with His Excellency the Governor's speech yesterday, you are also allowed to note or interject on your campaign promises; how the speech links with you. This will probably be a very interesting day because your members back in your wards will be able to see how you articulate their matters during the first time you are speaking in the Assembly.

Therefore, I want to welcome you Members so that you will be able to give your first-time speeches as you debate on His Excellency's speech, and probably hear what you have in connection with the speech for your citizenry in every ward or in the wards which you represent.

PAPERS

EXPOSITION OF PUBLIC POLICY IN GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS

Hon. John Gichuki: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to lay the following Paper on the Table of the County Assembly.

(Hon. John Gichuki laid the paper on the Table)

NOTICES OF MOTIONS

EXPOSITION OF PUBLIC POLICY IN GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS

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

THAT, pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 24(4), the thanks of the Assembly be recorded for the exposition of public policy contained in the Address of the Governor delivered on Tuesday 11th October, 2022 at 2.30 p.m.

MOTION

EXPOSITION OF PUBLIC POLICY IN GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.*

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

THAT, pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 24(4), the thanks of the Assembly be recorded for the exposition of public policy contained in the Address of the Governor delivered on Tuesday 11th October, 2022 at 2.30 p.m.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to thank once more, the Hon. Members for electing me as the leader of the Majority Party in this County Assembly. I know the task ahead is not easy but together, we shall give it the best shot. I also wish to congratulate all Honourable Members for the positions you have been appointed to serve. Indeed, it is the favour of God.

Hon. Speaker, Members would recall that on 11TH October 2022, H.E the Governor, Joshua Wakahora Irungu gave a speech in this house to officially open the Third County assembly of Laikipia. Indeed, it is one of the roles that the Laws of this country expects him to perform. In his speech, the Governor expounded on major issues his government will address in the coming days.

The Governor gave his vision of where he would want this county to be in the next 5 years by sharing his ambitious transformational agenda that his administration intends to undertake in making our great county, Laikipia, a model within the region and across the country.

Mr. Speaker, the Governor outlined his vision from his manifesto based on 6 pillars namely;

1. Health care
2. Water and sanitation
3. Food security and wealth creation
4. Renewable energy, roads infrastructure and urban development
5. Trade, industrialization, Enterprise and urban development
6. Youth & Employment.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to put emphasis on some issues raised by the Governor.

On the issue of Health, I wish to thank the Governor for reinstating the medical professionals who had been sacked for over 2 years. I also wish to request the County Executive to propose the amendments to Laikipia Health Services Act of 2014 to be considered once the Assembly establishes, the Committee on Health. As an Assembly, we fully support the plans to establish;

a) An oncology clinic at Nanyuki Teaching and Referral Hospital are at a final stage.

b) Laikipia County Health Services Facility Improvement Fund.

c) Laikipia Ambulance and Rescue Services Bill

d) Comprehensive Non-Communicable Diseases services that cover hypertension and diabetes.

Mr. Speaker on the agenda concerning Water and sanitation, I wish to highlight that the Governor has committed to ensure that water harvesting and storage is enhanced and that the capacity of water companies is also enhanced to ensure they give services as expected.

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.*

The Assembly's committee in charge of water will address the quest for establishment of Doldol Water and Sewerage Company (Dowasco) that will be in charge of the management of water resources in Laikipia North. The County Assembly will expedite the consideration of budget allocations on Water related projects once they County Executive proposes them to the Assembly.

The use of solar energy to pump water is a welcome move by the Governor since it will cut the cost of pumping water in the long run. Further, the provision of at least 50,000 water tanks to household across the county will promote rainwater harvesting, storage and treatment.

On the Food security and wealth creation, the Governor, hopes to transform the sector into a sustainable, innovative and commercially oriented one, contributing to food and nutritional security with increased incomes for the Laikipia people.

In this case the Assembly will support the efforts by the Executive to make the sector vibrant and I wish to ask them to stop over reliance on rain-fed agriculture and turn to irrigation. This will ensure sustainable increase in agricultural productivity, income growth, food and nutrition security while creating agriculture and livestock related jobs through value addition and agro- industries.

On the issue of Renewable energy, roads infrastructure; The County Executive has vowed to build new ECDE centres and upgrade others across the county. The Government will also be relooking and re-evaluating the teams of engagement for the entire ECDE teachers.

Mr. Speaker on the pillar of Trade, industrialization, Enterprise and urban development, the Governor has promised to establish the economic stimulus fund and enhance its funding to Kshs. 150 million over the course of 5 years. As an Assembly, we will evaluate every proposal brought to us with an open mind and having the plight of Laikipians in mind.

The Assembly will also wait to discuss the proposal on operationalization of the County Enterprise Revolving Fund. It was reported that the fund will enable people from Laikipia access affordable start-up capital and working capital for businesses that are excluded from formal financial systems because of high cost of credit and strict credit requirements.

I wish to request the County Executive to keep pushing hard for the gazettement of Nyahururu and Nanyuki urban centres to municipalities in conformity with the Urban Areas and Cities Act No.13 of 2011.

As an assembly we urge the County Government to be practical in their resolve to create a friendly business environment to promote entrepreneurship; expand private capital investments, urbanization and industrialization in the county.

On the sixth Pillar which is on Youth & Employment, the Governor has recommended a raft of measures to address this matter. We want to assure him that the Assembly will critically look at all the issues and make a proper determination on each of the proposals that will be forwarded to the Assembly. Further, the Assembly welcomes the commitment to provide internet connectivity in constituency youth innovation and incubation centres.

Mr. Speaker Sir, I challenge the County Executive to seriously come up with well-thought ways on investing in our youths. Talents should be identified and nurtured and existing facilities improved if new ones cannot be built due to scarcity of funds.

In order to achieve the vision by the Governor, I wish to inform the Executive that the County Assembly of Laikipia will not be a stumbling block in the Government's resolve to undertake what it has planned to do.

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.*

Mr. Speaker, as an Assembly, under your able leadership and guidance, we shall offer the legislative support by considering and if Members find it fit to approve;

- Any policies that will be forwarded to the Assembly,
- Bills and Regulations, and
- County budgets

These documents will be approved within the timelines set so that we can give the County Executive time to implement their programs and specific plans.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Assembly will be able to achieve all the above activities if we shall work as a united team, especially in our Committees. By now, Members already know that much of the work in any County Assembly is done by and through the Committees. The Six pillars of the Government will not be achieved if the County Assembly does not constitute effective committees.

I wish to state that as the Chairman of the Selection Committee, I have already requested a meeting of the Committee in order to address the issue of constituting the Committees without further delay.

Mr. Speaker, allow me at this early opportunity to remind the County Executive that the Hon. Members will undertake their oversight role as expected. The Assembly will not relent in asking the Executive to always follow the rules as laid down in various statutes of this nation. Further, the Executive will also be required to implement the county budget to the letter so that Laikipians can start experiencing the benefits of this government at the earliest opportunity.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to urge the Hon. Members to remain committed to the work in which they swore to perform. I wish to assure the residents of Laikipia that the Members of this Assembly are equal to the task and we shall remain committed to the work that we have been elected to do.

Further, I want to thank the Governor for his advice in doing consultations and enhancing mutual respect among ourselves. Hon. Members there are no two ways about this. We must consult always and work as a team in order to achieve the twin mandate of oversight, representation, and legislation.

Mr. Speaker, in conclusion, I wish to request the County Executive led by H.E the Governor to;

1. Finalize the establishment and constitution of his government by forwarding the names of CEC members and respective Chief Officers to the Assembly for vetting. These are the officers who will undertake the preparation of enabling policies for the development of the required policies, bills, and regulations in order to operationalize much of what the Governor has explained in his speech.
2. To indicate the source of funds when he brings proposals for any projects in the county if the funds are being raised from other sources apart from the usual sources.
3. Indicate revenue-raising measures in order to address all the activities, projects, and restructuring plans he has suggested in his speech.
4. The Executive is requested to ensure prudent use of funds for the delivery of service to the residents of Laikipia.

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.*

Mr. Speaker Sir, I now wish to be seconded and I would suggest Mr. Anthony to second me on this. Thank you.

Hon. Anthony Theuri: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I second.

(Question proposed)

Speaker: Hon. Members, the floor is now open for discussion and you are free to also discuss on matters to do with your campaign promises because it is maiden speech time.

Hon. Samuel Mugambi: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Being the first session and also a new MCA, I want to thank the Members of the Assembly, the Speaker and the management. First and foremost I want to thank the Governor for giving us the opening speech yesterday. I have some comments and opinions because as I was reading the Governor's Speech, I have highlighted two points.

First, I can recognize that as a county we need to do a lot of serious evaluations in terms of pending bills and other things because the previous regime left our county in a bad state. I stand to be guided because anytime you want to start a project it is good to carry out some evaluation to determine whether you have the ability like resources. In this context, I am talking about the County Government of Laikipia because according to the speech, I can see that we have a pending bill of approximately Kshs.4 Billion. This pending bill will make us lame even in the next financial year even as we budget.

So, it is my opinion that in this county we need to have an audit or an analysis of what is left, what we have and maybe what we are going to plan. I stand guided by my fellow colleagues that if we fail to do this audit and start by employing other new people and putting resources to new projects, this county will come get stuck. If you were watching TV, some of the Governors in other counties were doing audits for example in Kisii County where the Governor was doing an audit of all employees.

If we can be left with a pending bill of Kshs.4 Billion, it means that we have got so many loopholes in this county. As my first speech, it is my opinion that this be taken very seriously. Maybe, we also need an outside firm to do the audit.

Secondly, as we were doing our campaigns I was a good supporter of the Governor and I could hear him talk of doing developments into sub locations. I want to thank him that public participation is being done at the sub county levels. But also to note, it is good to do the public participation in the sub county level but is it also important to do budgeting amongst the sub location units. I also stand to be guided, we need to make sure that after we do the public participation in our sub locations to also do a budget on the same. I know that if we do this development will be distributed equally.

Mr. Speaker, I want to remind the Members that one of the failures of the previous regime was unbalanced regional development. You could hear people saying in our villages that the regime is just developing towns and leaving the rural areas behind. So, as we start, I would urge the County Government headed by the Governor to start on a high footage. As a Member of the Laikipia Assembly, I am suggesting that we do a thorough audit of the whole county and also do a good planning of development in sub locations and also budget on the same. Thank you Mr. Speaker for giving me ample time. I am very happy being here because I am a son of a peasant. I want to thank God, my family and my people of Salama.

Hon. Paul Leshuel: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First, I want to take this opportunity to thank God for allowing us to be here again and to thank the Members too. I wish to give them

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.*

a challenge that we have a task to do because we are representing the people of Laikipia and this is a House of laws.

I want to come back to the speech of the Governor. I am so impressed that in this speech there are so many things which we need to discuss. One, in this speech we are suspicious because of two things. When you read the PFM Act, it is very clear that the recurrent budget in salaries, we are given 30% of the total revenue and the 70% goes to development. According to the speech of the Governor which is really scaring us, 53% of the total income goes to the wage bill. That means only 47% remains for development.

According to the vision of the Governor which is good, it is giving us a roadmap of this county. We now need to plan properly and reduce the wage bill to at least to 40% because I know that it is not possible to have the 30% which the law requires but at least we can reduce it to a certain amount. As Members, we need to be very proactive to do a planning because if we fail to do a plan then we are there to fail. The CIDP is before us but we now need to ensure that what we promised our people is in the CIDP so that when we come here to do the county budget, we will be very sure that all the plans are in the CIDP.

So according to me, the speech of the Governor is very okay and I can support it but as Members we need now to do a plan so that we can achieve what the Governor is intending to do. The Governor is planning to do a lot in health and I know that it will cost us a lot of money because we need infrastructure and more personnel which is an addition of wage bill, therefore need to balance. How do we balance because we need to increase the personnel and at the same time reduce the wage bill? So we must work properly.

I really support the Member for Salama that we need to do a head count to know the number of staff that we have and what we are doing and whether they are of benefit to this county. From that, we will be able to tell whether we are in a position to add more or to reduce. If we are to reduce, what is the mechanism of reducing when it comes to permanent staff? You cannot just wake up in the morning and tell them to go home? So we have a lot to do for us to achieve what we need to do.

In the Speech of the Governor, there is also a huge amount of pending bills. To my understanding, pending bills are not debts but people are given a job and you cannot give those jobs without an allocation. So, the allocation is there unless the government diverted money to other projects unnecessarily and that is only what would affect the allocation of a certain project leading to those people not getting paid. I do not understand why we have a big pending bill whereas for example you are very specific in the budget that the Kshs.5 Million going to agriculture must go for water or whatever? What is this that has happened that you are not paying those people? If you are giving people jobs without proper paperwork, then the County Government is not liable for that and you are not supposed to pay because how do you pay?

Perhaps you are even able to see that job when you go there but what was the criteria used? You know the procurement act also is clear that if you give a person a job award, the money must be in the account. You cannot give people a job if you don't have money. I think we have a lot to do as an Assembly to ensure that the county is in safe hands. We are not here to ensure that people are not paid but we must know the process and the problem was. I do not want to accuse the former regime but we must know what was happening.

There is also a leasing programme which was another problem. We also need to know what was happening because the government was paying a lot of money to the leasing programme. The Members who were here might tell us what they were doing because most of us do not even understand. If you go to my ward, honestly you cannot tell what was done from

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.*

the leasing programme. Probably in other wards they are performing well. I support the speech of the Governor bit we now need to sit down because this speech is giving us a road map. We need to budget and plan for that. We need to look for money, personnel and capable people who will make the implementation to go smoothly. Therefore, we have got a lot to do because this is just a start. The Governor has just given us a roadmap and therefore it is for us now to ensure that those things have happened.

I am also happy to see about bursary. The allocation for bursary initially was Kshs.50 Million but he is intending to increase it to Kshs. 100 million which is a good way to go because we are affected by the drought and our communities are in a bad state in terms of paying for student's school fees. If at all we can have Kshs.100 million, I am sure that we can help the needy.

I have noted that he has mentioned the youth and the enterprise fund. I am sure that for those who are doing small businesses like *mama mboga*, they can get something to at least push empower them. What worries me is the employment of youth. It is very hard for us because we can promise people to employ the youth and I am sure that every Member here knows how many people usually look for us so that they can get jobs. It is a process and therefore we need to work out on which jobs and how to create jobs and how we can make people to be self-employed because we cannot employ everybody. Majority of our people do not even have good papers to look for jobs and therefore we must look for ways.

I want to tell Members that we have a lot to do as Members. Let us ensure that we are independent minded people as a House. Let us ensure that we follow the law accordingly because we cannot challenge the Executive if we do not know what we are really supposed to do. Therefore, let us understand our role of oversight. I know that the management will support us to do that. This is a start and I know that we have a long way to go. I stand to support the speech of the Governor as we continue doing other plans and proving many plans in this House so that we can continue. Thank you.

Hon. Nicholas Lempaira: Thank you, Mr. Speaker for giving me this opportunity. Before I speak more, may I take the opportunity to congratulate H.E the Governor, Joshua Irungu and his Deputy for being elected in Laikipia County. May I also take the opportunity to give my congratulations to you for being elected as the Speaker of the third Assembly of Laikipia. I am sure now that the County Government and the County Assembly of Laikipia are in safe hands and we will achieve our objectives in a few months of the years that we have been mandated by the people of Laikipia to work for them.

Mr. Speaker, may I also take this opportunity to congratulate all the Members of the County Assembly for those who have been elected in various wards and also for those who have been nominated by various parties.

Mr. Speaker, it has been a very challenging process during the campaigns but the Members that we are seeing here proved themselves to be the best in various wards and that's why we are here today. Mr. Speaker without forgetting, may I also give my thanks to the people of Mukogodo West who have seen the importance of this opportunity to present them today. If it were not for them, am sure I wouldn't be on the floor of this House.

Mr. Speaker as you know, we have been having challenges, especially with rains for the last three to four years now in Laikipia County, especially Laikipia North. The people of Mukogodo West are actually suffering a lot especially because of the drought.

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.*

We are having water shortage and some schools are almost closing because of a lack of water and food for the kids and therefore this House has a lot to do because we need to address the challenges that are coming because of the drought.

May I also take the opportunity to support the Governor in his address yesterday. I want to talk about a few things that the Governor touched on. First is on Healthcare; it is good to note that the Governor took the first step to reinstate the sacked doctors who were actually reinstated by the court but the last regime ignored the court order. Therefore, I want to support the Governor for that.

Also, just to add to the Governor's issue of the health sector, I think it's time for the Executive to concentrate on the issue of health facilities that are based in rural areas. For example, we have hospitals in Mukogodo West like Kimanju Hospital, Naiperere, and Kurum that have not been re-stocked with medicine for the last six to seven months. You cannot even get Panadol or even painkillers in those dispensaries and we have staff in those dispensaries who are being paid for actually doing nothing.

I am urging the Executive to at least pay the bills that are pending at KEMSA so that they can at least supply medicines to these local dispensaries because if we reinstate doctors and there is no medicine in the hospitals, we would actually be promoting the private sector at the expense of our people.

If you go to the hospital, you get a prescription for the drugs you need and buy them from a chemist. We want to urge the County Government to take a bold step to pay the KEMSA pending bills and stock these dispensaries so that our people can access drugs where necessary.

Mr. Speaker on the issue of water, the Governor mentioned that he wants to buy more tanks for the people especially in the homesteads so that they can have clean water and practice water harvesting during rainy seasons. We have a challenge as I said before, we have been having failing rains for the last 3 years due to changing rainy seasons that has resulted from climate change.

Therefore, if it's possible I would like to urge the Governor to reconsider adding at least 1 or 2 more water bowsers in Laikipia North so that they can supply water to schools. As I said, we have specific schools that have already given us notice of closure if we don't supply them with water. I think if we can add more water bowsers to this drought-stricken area, it will help a lot.

Mr. Speaker, on the issue of Youth Empowerment, we have been having this issue of employing and empowering youths but in actual sense there is actually nothing that has been happening on the ground. Just to take notice, I am happy that this House has a majority of Members who are youths.

I want to challenge you, those who are here, to stand with our fellow youths who are outside there. Let's fight for their rights. Let's make sure that when the Governor presents the CECM's or the CO's for employment, we make sure that the youths are fully represented and the youth fund that's supposed to go through the Enterprise Development Fund is actualized instead of just putting them in papers and not reaching the youth at the ground.

I also urge with the County Executive to come up with various youth programs that actually will bring some money to the pockets of our youths down there in rural areas. Mr. Speaker, I want also to talk on the issue of the pending bills which have been said they amount to Kshs.4 Billion. The Governor also clearly stated yesterday that most of these bills we incurred during the last regime did not follow the right procurement procedures.

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.*

So Mr. Speaker, we need to act swiftly in forming various committees in this House so that the responsible committees can give us the details on those contracts which were given without following the procurement procedures, so that those who did shortcuts in getting these bills, we can strike them out and work with joining bills so that we can start moving forward.

If the wage bill is at 53% then we are at risk in not actualizing the development programme that we promised our people during the campaign period. So we have a lot to do especially with the committees. Therefore, I want to urge the House that we go straight or the Speaker to advise us on how best we can form these committees so that we can start our work of probing these bills.

Mr. Speaker, just to put it across, we are also expecting the Governor to also act swiftly and give us the names of CECM's so that we can have people to question on some of these matters, so that we do not have people who are in acting positions. I am meant to understand that those people who are on acting positions, we cannot question them because they have not been approved by this House. If necessary, at least we should get communication from the Executive on these issues so that we can know where to address our issues.

I also want to take this opportunity to thank the people of Mukogodo West for giving me this opportunity to be here. I was once a Member of staff at the County Assembly and therefore wish to thank them for the warm reception they gave us here and the good induction training they gave us for the last two weeks. It is actually helping us a lot and just to have in mind, I want to urge the Members to have them in our mind so that we may have a motivated staff and a people who can help us whenever we want.

Just to put it across, please staff, bear with us because we will be disturbing you for the next three months until we get to understand the real process of debating here and a few issues that we will be consulting with you. Thank you.

Hon. George Karuiru: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My names are George Karuiru Wanjiku and Kanyi and I hail from Olmoran Ward in Laikipia West. First of all, I would like to thank God for this chance that I would call a second chance in this Assembly; I was here from 2017 up to now that I have been re-elected.

I would also wish to congratulate all the elected and the nominated Members of this Assembly for the same. I would want to urge them that cohesion, integration and togetherness will make this Assembly first running. I would also like to congratulate you Mr. Speaker and the leadership of this Assembly.

I also congratulate the Office of our able Clerk Mr. Mutuiri and his team for the exemplary business which they have conducted even after we were sworn in. I can see that even the new Members have adopted the businesses of the Assembly led by the able Deputy Speaker, Hon. Anthony and the Majority Leader, Hon. Gichuki. Congratulations for being elected to lead this House. I know that you are equal to the task and this House is going to move fast according to the ability which God has given you and bestowed on the Hon. Members.

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate H.E the Governor for having time to come to this Assembly and actually make his speech. I know most of the Member's manifesto because every Member who went to Wanjiku actually had his or her own manifesto. I am hoping that very soon the Governor will convene a meeting of the Members of the County Assembly of Laikipia and him so that now we can actualize his well put together manifesto and ours because our sole objective is to move this County of Laikipia a step forward from where we were.

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.*

I would want to say that some challenges are quite welcome when it comes to development issues. Despite of me not challenging the former regime, I think that the current regime should look forward on how to improve on what the second Assembly did because each and every one of us has got his/her diverse mind and thoughts on how to take this county forward.

Touching on the Governor's speech, I think that it is quite commendable that we have had issues with what the Governor actually moved first on improving the Health Sector. On health doctors, we need to stabilize the health sector because I believe that even if we would have the best facilities in terms of infrastructure and water and fail to have good health services, that one should be a big problem and issue.

In fact, because we have the facilitators who sell medicine to our medical facilities, the best thing we should do during the first time the supplementary budget will be brought to us is to think of how best we can purchase enough and affordable medicine to actually cater for our people so that our health facilities will be the best.

I am also happy that sometimes I dealt with the Department of Sports which lies under Labour Department. As one of my fellow Hon. Members has said, because this Assembly currently seems like almost 60% or 70% youth, we should think of promoting our young generation and our youth. I know that in the last regime we pushed and actually came up with an Act that supports the moves for the youth employment and empowerment. We should push to make a policy that will guide on the same.

Sometimes when we are out sourcing for votes, we usually tell our youth that we are going to promote them in sports but actually we do not have a sports policy. I know that this able House will have a good policy to actually guide and have a budget of its own for Sports. That will help because we have talented people and youth but actually what we are not doing is tapping the same. I am hoping that when we sit down with committees, we are going to be guided to make a policy that will actually demand for sports to have their own budget.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate that the Governor touched on the Governor's cup. I must be honest that in the last regime because I was lucky to be there, we actually tried to push on this but it was futile. H.E the Governor Irungu during the First Assembly had actually promoted the youth in terms of sport and the Governor's cup.

If we unite as the youth, we are going to sit down because I have also come to learn that there are so many avenues we can approach to source for funds for our youth through organisations like KCB, Equity and other entities like the ranchers. We can write proposals and they can donate to us uniforms. Despite the little budget we have as the County Government, our good fields will be made well so that these sports can be self-sustaining for sporting activities in particular areas.

Therefore, something little from those funds can make that particular club or area sustain itself rather than always crying to the County Government because those that will be charging at the gate will be our youth. It is challenging that the Governor's speech does not talk on matters of security. I want this for record purposes and urge the Governor that I personally come from the most insecure ward called Ol Moran. We have had a big challenge and I thank God that through me and other friends, we managed to secure NPR (National Police Reservists).

I urge the Governor because the NPR are not recognized. The security issues are not devolved to the County Government but fall under the National Government. I am hoping that

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.*

through the wisdom of H.E the Governor, Hon. Members and the Cohesion Committee that touches on security, we shall sit down so that during the employment of the enforcement officers, our three touched areas of Laikipia West and some parts of Laikipia North absorbs the NPR in the budget. They will be put as reinforcement officers but they will be owning guns that are home based.

We have tried as Members from those dangerous wards across the dangerous forest called Laikipia Nature Conservancy whereby we have done a trench. The raiders try to cover them with soil but it is also becoming tough for the wildlife. Therefore, we have two issues so when we have additional NPRs, we shall at least appreciate them from the County Government Money because the guns are coming from the National Government.

This will gradually delay and deter the bandits from coming to attack and stealing from our people and also killing them. It is also an issue that of late, members are diverse and they have gone across the county and know we have a Human-Wildlife conflict. Mr. Speaker, this did not come out well from the Governor's Speech and I would like to remind him that the destruction and killing that the buffaloes and other animals are causing have been here since we got independence.

There have been that problem and we have lost many lives and compensated lives. We have lost crops especially the cash crops such as avocado trees and maize and the leadership have advised our people to go to the KWS. They have filled forms and others have been called by the various advocates that we have in the name of following up but I heard there is a compensation of about Kshs.100 or so million. I would like to have a guideline on this.

I urge this House to fast track this and the Member who will be in charge of Department on Agriculture and matters of wildlife, will accommodate the affected and compensate. Mr. Speaker, in conclusion, I urge this Honourable House that our unity is what will take us for the next five years. I beg that we will have unity that we shall portray here even with the Nominated MCAs who I appreciate. I congratulate Hon. Nyokabi and Hon. Wachuka who in the last regime were nominate.

I am hoping because we have argued, we have talked and consensus and we are going to go on well. Mr. Speaker, I join hands in this Governor's Speech and I am hoping that when we unite, we are going to deliver whatever is in the speech and our agendas that are not in the speech 100%. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, very much. I just want to convey as I observe in the House that some Hon. Members are going in and out without bowing. I request we use the parliamentary procedures. Kindly when you leave, bow and when you are coming in bow. I am noting we might need to have a longer time in deliberating on this speech in the afternoon and I will only allow one Member so that we may be able to adjourn for a few minutes cognizant of what the Majority Leader has said that we need to put together other committees like House Business Committee and The Committee on Selection.

I will only allow the Hon. Member on the other end to contribute before we wind-up this session in order for us to be able to converge in the afternoon. Welcome.

Hon. Simon Kanyutu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am Hon. Kanyutu, the Hon. Member for Marmanet Ward. Thank you for this chance. Before I continue, I thank the almighty for having given me this chance. During the previous regime, I was seated in the same position. It is not through my effort but the mighty hand of God. I congratulate the other Hon. Members who are with us, both new Members and some of us who were there previously.

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.*

Were it not for God, they would not be here. I wish we work together as a team to ensure that after our term is over, we shall be able to proceed. Mr. Speaker, I would like to say something on the Governor's Speech. I have a concern on the issue pertaining to the wage bill. This issue has been a challenge not only now but previously we have had those challenges.

We need to sit down as an Assembly and the committees that will be constituted to ensure we get to know why we always have issues with the wage bill. It is a concern and it affects our people. It cannot be that all the resources we are getting will be going to people's pockets whereas there is supposed to be money for development.

There is the issue the Governor talked about on pending bills. I am concerned because during the previous regime when the former Governor was making his speech, we had the same sentiments that the pending bills is of a huge amount. I can attest that there are some people who are suppliers and by the end of the five years, they had aired their issues and were never paid. We need to sit down and find a way forward on how we can settle this issue remarkably.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the Governor for his speech because he stated very clearly on the amount of pending bills. As one of the Hon. Members has stated, we need a proper audit so that we cannot be recurring pending bills. Let the pending bills be sorted once and for all. By the time we are completing our five year's term we shall settle this.

There is an issue that I have heard many Hon. Members talk about on the leasing programme. I really support the leasing programme for roads construction. The only concern I have is the leasing programme for vehicles that were being used by the officers. They seem to be so many unlike the machines that were used for roads construction. Were it not for the leasing machines, I would not be here.

I had a chance that even during the nominations, the machines came in our area. The work they did, everybody was clapping saying Hon. Kanyutu is the man. Were it not for those machines, I would not have been here. The machines for roads construction are important and I support on the same. There is another issue the Governor talked about which I appreciated because very soon I might become a preacher. I will not be charged if I go on open air.

That is good because when I am worshipping the almighty and I am not charged, it is a noble idea. Let us charge other activities but we accommodate preaching. I am sure it touches people's lives even us being here. Were it not for the almighty, we would not be here.

There is another part that he mentioned and that affected me last year. I had a sick mother and in the oncology ward which is a rare ward. It is either you go to cancer centre, Nairobi or KU (Kenyatta University). Now having our ward here in Nakuru we cannot get a facility. This was a challenge because for dialysis, I used to travel to Nakuru and Nairobi and now the Nyahururu District Hospital is almost complete. With those health facilities, I concur with him and I support.

On issues pertaining to youth, that is another concern. Unfortunately, I am just 36 years so I am among the group and it is good he promised to engage the youth and he will work together to see that our youth get the allocation. There is another point we have been talking about and I wholly support that noble idea from H.E the Governor.

On issues pertaining to development at the sub-location level, Mr. Speaker, if there is one of the best ideas, that is one. If he does development at the sub-location level and ensure we distribute them in the budget, Mr. Speaker, 2027 we shall not campaign much. The members of the public will say they will take us back to the Assembly for the good work we have done. Sometimes we try to distribute the resources in our wards which is a challenge.

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.*

Sometimes we fight because of distribution of resources. I am sure if we work as per the programme, that is one of the best. I wish the way they are doing public participation at the sub-location level, let also do whatever the community will have stated at the sub-location level while making the distribution in the budget.

Last one, the Hon. Member for Ol Moran has stated that H.E the Governor in his Speech, he never mentioned anything to do with human-wildlife conflict. This is a concern and I thought he would because during the previous regime, I was able to push for the fencing of Rumuruti Forest so that that issue will be solved once and for all.

Unfortunately, we have Naigera Forest that borders Ol Moran, Githiga and Marmanet Wards and to date we can hardly sleep and I can attest it possible for us to fence it. We did the Rumuruti Forest and lately we are taking selfies with elephants when they are on the other side of the fence. I wish we do it with Naigera and ensure our people can be able to work on farms and harvest.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the Governor for his speech and I wish the Assembly makes a follow up because we are the one who do oversight on whether these projects are done on the ground. We talked about the pending bills and we were pushing the previous Governor to pay because the people who are suffering are our local members of public. I wish we try to sort out pending bills once and for all and ensure in future as we are giving out services to our people, we ensure the funds are available.

As one of the Hon. Members has stated, there is no way a budget can be allocated without knowing where funds are. As we pass the budget, we have to ensure that the budget commences with what is supposed to be done and we should not be going for another leave when certain projects have not been completed.

On the issue pertaining to the Infrastructure Board, we as an Assembly did our part. The Governor came to the House and convinced us and we approved it. If they did the wrong thing yet we gave him the mandate, if he did not wait for the National Assembly and the Senate after we did our part, we were not the final stage. It had other chances in the National Government. If in any case we need to make a follow up, we need to ensure that we follow it to the letter. I support.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is my maiden speech and I am happy to be in this Assembly. I thank the almighty and I am sure if we continue to work for our people the way we have been doing, we shall leave this place with our walking sticks. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Hon. Members, I thank you for the speeches. They are excellent and I will urge you to continue. We have a little more time. Our Standing Order Number 24

> *(4) A Member may give a notice of motion that "The thanks of the Assembly be recorded for the exposition of public policy contained in the address of the Governor" but debate on the Motion shall not exceed four sitting days.*

Today being the first day, we still have three more days most likely up to next Tuesday. I want to take this opportunity to invite you as per the words of the Majority Leader, Hon. John so that we may be able to converge at our boardrooms and deliberate on the business before you with the Majority Leader on the selection of the Members of the HBC and the Committee on Selection.

ADJOURNMENT

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.*

Speaker: The sittings of this House now stands adjourned until later today Wednesday, 12th October, 2022 at 2.30 p.m.

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.*