REPUBLIC OF KENYA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF LAIKIPIA

THE HANSARD

Wednesday, 14th August, 2024

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

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

PRAYERS

QUORUM CALL

Speaker: Clerk, do confirm whether we have got quorum.

(Lack of quorum confirmed)

Speaker: Without quorum, I direct that the bell be rang for ten minutes.

(The quorum bell was rung for eight minutes)

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Mr. Speaker, I think we have got quorum because one Member is in the boardroom.

Speaker: Clerk, confirm if we do have quorum.

(Clerk confirmed achievement of Quorum)

Speaker: I direct that the bell stops ringing.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

VISITING DELEGATION FROM REDEEMED ACADEMY

Speaker: Thank you, Member. I have got one communication to make. In the morning, we had visitors and I was not adequately informed. Allow me to officially recognize the presence of our earlier visitors who were here in the morning and also in the afternoon. I want to recognize the upcoming citizens of this great magnificent Laikipia County, Joseph Prince and Alexander Mark, please raise your hands. These are students from the Redeemed Academy in Nanyuki and you are welcome. Thank you, you are welcome and you may put your hands down.

PAPERS LAID

VETTING REPORT ON MEMBERS OF THE CPSB SELECTION PANEL

Hon. Catherine Umija: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to lay a paper on the vetting of the members of the Selection Panel, nominated and tasked with the recruitment of the chairperson and members of the Laikipia County Public Service Board.

(Hon. Catherine Umija laid the Paper on the table)

NOTICE OF MOTION

VETTING REPORT ON MEMBERS OF THE CPSB SELECTION PANEL

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. Irene Wachuka through Hon. Catherine Umija: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On behalf of the Labour Chairperson, I beg to give notice of the following motion;

THAT taking into consideration the findings of the Sectoral Committee on Labour, Social Welfare and Community Services Committee in its Report on the Vetting of Members of the Selection Panel nominated and tasked to recruit the Chairperson and members of the Laikipia County Public Service Board dated 13th August, 2024 and;

PURSUANT to the provisions of Section 58A (1) of the County Governments Act, 2012 and sections 4 and 9 of the Public Appointments (County Assemblies Approval) Act, 2017;

THIS House approves the appointment of the following persons as Members of the Selection Panel tasked with the Responsibility of recruiting the Chairperson and Members to the Laikipia County Public Service Board;

1. Mr. Naftali Githua Karangu
2. Mr. Joseph Muchiri Mwangi
3. Ms. Winnie Wairimu Kinyanjui
4. Ms. Francisca Seneiya Kimiri
5. Ms. Elizabeth Akieli Romero

STATEMENT

NOTICE PAPER

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. On behalf of the HBC, I have tentative business for next week as follows;

It is notified that the House Business Committee has approved the following tentative business to appear in the Order paper for Tuesday (Morning) August 20th, 2024

- **PAPERS -** Report by the Transport and public works committee on oversight visits across the county.
- **NOTICES OF MOTIONS -** Report by the Transport and public works committee on oversight visits across the county.
- **MOTIONS -** Motion urging the County Government to establish a tourism policy by Hon. Salim Edung'.

Business to appear in the Order paper for Tuesday (Afternoon) August 20th, 2024

- **RESPONSE TO STATEMENT -** Response statement No. 003/2024 to the Chairperson Labour, Social Welfare and Community Services committee (Hon. Irene Wacuka) raised by the member representing Nanyuki Ward (Hon. Antony Wambui) pertaining Acting Chief Officer department of Medical Services and Public Health on 21st May, 2024.
- **NOTICE OF MOTION -** Motion urging the County Government to develop a mechanism of frequent maintenance of Livestock markets across the county by Hon. Nicholas Lempaira.

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*

- **MOTION -** Report by the Transport and public works committee on oversight visits across the county.

Business to appear in the Order paper for Wednesday (Morning) August 21st, 2024

- **MOTION** – Motion urging the County Government to develop a mechanism of frequent maintenance of Livestock markets across the county by Hon. Nicholas Lempaira.

Business to appear in the Order paper for Wednesday (Afternoon) August 21st, 2024

1. **RESPONSES TO STATEMENTS**- Response statement No. 002/2024 to the Chairperson Labour, Social Welfare and Community Services committee (Hon. Irene Wachuka) raised by the member representing Ngobit Ward (Hon. Catherine Kibue) pertaining Acting Chief Officer department of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries on 21st May, 2024.

Hon. Speaker, that is the tentative business and I am requesting the concerned Members who are supposed to bring those motions to make sure that they consult the other Members and ensure that the business is ready. I also request the House to be present on those days, God-willing because we have serious business to conduct. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Stephen. The same tentative business for the coming week will be uploaded to our group in which we are all members. We urge every Chair of every committee to avail business for the House for proper organization of House business. Thank you.

MOTION

VETTING REPORT ON MEMBERS OF THE CPSB SELECTION PANEL

Hon. Catherine Umija: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I beg to move the following motion;

THAT taking into consideration the findings of the Sectoral Committee on Labour, Social Welfare and Community Services Committee in its Report on the Vetting of Members of the Selection Panel nominated and tasked to recruit the Chairperson and members of the Laikipia County Public Service Board dated 13th August, 2024 and;

PURSUANT to the provisions of Section 58A (1) of the County Governments Act, 2012 and sections 4 and 9 of the Public Appointments (County Assemblies Approval) Act, 2017;

THIS House approves the appointment of the following persons as Members of the Selection Panel tasked with the Responsibility of recruiting the Chairperson and Members to the Laikipia County Public Service Board;

1. Mr. Naftali Githua Karangu
2. Mr. Joseph Muchiri Mwangi
3. Ms. Winnie Wairimu Kinyanjui
4. Ms. Francisca Seneiya Kimiri
5. Ms. Elizabeth Akieli Romero

Mr. Speaker, through the Sectoral Committee of Labor, Social Welfare and Community Services, we were tasked with the mandate of ensuring that we:

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*

1. Vet and report on all appointments where the Constitution or any law requires the Assembly to approve, except those under Standing Order 184(Committee on Appointments); and
2. Make reports and recommendations to the Assembly as often as possible.

First, I want to thank the committee for taking their time to come and do the vetting. I want to thank the following people for their commitment in ensuring that we finish this task as fast as possible:

1. Hon. Irene Wachuka - Chairperson
2. Hon. Eunice Salaten - Vice-Chairperson
3. Hon. Catherine Umija - Member
4. Hon. Caroline Kihika - Member
5. Hon. Nicholas Mwaniki - Member
6. Hon. Stephen Ndiritu - Member
7. Hon. Paul Leshuel - Member

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

Background

Establishment of the Labor, Social Welfare and Community Service Committee

Section 58A (1) of the County Governments (Amendment) Act, 2020 provides that "Whenever a vacancy arises in the County Public Service Board, the Governor shall nominate and with the approval of the County Assembly, appoint members to a selection panel for the selection of suitable candidates for appointment as members of the County Public Service Board."

It is important to note that Section 10(1) of the Public Appointments (County Assemblies Approval) Act, 2017 provides that, *"Where the nomination of a candidate is rejected by a County Assembly, the appointing authority shall submit to the County Assembly the name of another candidate, and the procedure for approval specified in this Act shall apply accordingly."*

Appointment process of the members of selection panel nominated and tasked to recruit the secretary of the Laikipia County Public Service Board

The list comprises of the following:

S/No.	NAME	CAPACITY
1.	Mr. Naftali Githua Karangu	Chairperson
2.	Mr. Joseph Muchiri Mwangi	Law Society of Kenya
3.	CPA Minnie Nyambura Kinyanjui	Institute of Certified Public Accountants of Kenya

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*

4.	Ms. Francisca Seneiya Kimiri	Union Representative
5.	Mr. Elizabeth Akieli Romero	Private Sector

On 23rd July, 2024, the Hon. Speaker through a Chair's Communication informed the House that the Clerk of the County Assembly had received the details of the above nominees and directed that the names and Curriculum Vitae of the said nominees be referred to the Labour, Social Welfare and Community Services Committee for vetting and reporting to the House.

Notification to the public was done. On Tuesday 6th August 2024 in annexure 2 of the report. Then there was submission of memorandum where the committee did not receive any submission or memorandum contesting the suitability of the nominees. On issues for consideration during the approval the committee observed that the issues of consideration in relation to the nomination and approval exercised as provided by section 8 of the Public Appointments Act 2017, was actually adhered to.

Approval and hearings of the nominees. The Labour and Social Welfare Community Service committee deliberated on the approval of hearings and agreed the following:

1. To have the public notice in the papers on 06th August, 2024;
2. To receive the documents from the nominees
3. To undertake the vetting.

We vetted:

1. Mr. Naftali Githua Karangu as the chairperson. He has worked in the County Government of Laikipia as a vice chair of the County Public Service Board 2013-2018. He has also worked as a Chair Board of Directors of NYAHUWASCO AND National Government as the Principal Secretary. He is now retired and he will be taking the position of chair in these selection panel.
2. Ms. Francisca Seneiya Kirimi. She is a union representative. She works in the department of Health from Laikipia North. She has a qualification from Kenya Medical Training College and she represents the union as stated in the report.
3. Ms. Elizabeth Akieli Romero from the private sector. She is a trained ECDE from the local Government, Laikipia County. She also has leadership skills that she has acquired from various places like Kenyatta University, Rumuruti Law Courts and also, she is a founder and member of the Laikipia Peace caravan here in Laikipia.
4. Mr. Joseph Muchiri Mwangi. An advocate. The nominee appeared before the committee on zoom an online platform. We were able to vet him. He is an advocate of the High Court of Kenya. He is also a commissioner of oath a meditator and arbitrator as well as a certified Public Secretary. He will also be one of the persons who is going to be in the panel.
5. Minnie Nyambura Kinyanjui. She is an accountant, a CPA holder. We also interviewed her via the zoom online platform and the nominee is a certified person, she has a degree in accounting. She is pursuing Master's degree in Management.

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*

From the committee observations we have seen that all these candidates, we have all their submissions and all the nominees have certified the requirements of Chapter six of the Constitution of Kenya 2010 on Leadership and Integrity.

All the nominees' academic credentials and experience are impressive. The nominees have never been charged in the Court of Law or adversely mentioned in any investigatory report. The nominees exhibited impressive knowledge on the topic of issues touching Laikipia County Public Service Board. The committee observed that the composition of the selection panel was considered gender balanced and inclusive of youth and marginalised groups.

Pursuant to Section 58A (1) of the County Governments (Amendment) Act, 2020 and Standing Order No. 191 (5) (f), the Committee recommends that this House Approves the nomination of the 5 members, appointed by H.E the Governor to the selection panel tasked with recruitment of the Chairperson and Members to the Laikipia County Public Service Board. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Do you have a seconder to this?

Hon. Catherine Umija: Yes, I'd like to call Hon. Paul Leshuel to second the report, thank you.

Hon. Paul Leshuel: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I stand to second the report. I am also privileged to be chairing the Labour Committee during the vetting process of the members of the panels. I can confirm to this House that the Selection Committee have met the requirements in Chapter 6 of the constitution. They also meet the regional balance. They also have very qualified people within themselves.

So Mr. Speaker, I am sure when those people combine and come together as a team, they will give us very competitive people in the County Public Service Board. Mr. Speaker, I would like to urge this House to approve the Selection Committee so that we can move to the next step. Mr. Speaker, we have a big wage bill in this county and we have gaps in some department and especially in the Agriculture Department that need to be filled.

We all know that on September to October the whole team will be going. It is a process that need to be started immediately. Mr. Speaker, that is the reason why the appointees, H.E the Governor of this county decided to have a Selection Committee so that they can start the process of having a new Public Service Board.

Mr. Speaker, when you balance the region, definitely during the Selection of the Board there will be regional balance. I urge Members to pass this committee so that we can move to the next step. Mr. Speaker, I am sure they have the capacity as you can see in the report. Most of them are accountants and lawyers by professional and very important people who are connected with the community.

They have done several engagements of activities in the community. Mr. Speaker, they have that knowledge. When you combine, they will produce a good report. I would like to urge Members. This is a good committee and we approved as a committee but the final approval is the Assembly today. I urge Hon. Members to approve these names so that we can be able to move to the next step. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I second.

(Question proposed)

Speaker: Hon. Members, I want to give you an opportunity to contribute to this motion. Hon. Kanyutu:

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. Simon Kanyutu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I stand to support the report from the committee. I have been able to go through it and what I have observed is that the panel consists of people of all ages. The person proposed to be the Chair, in the report it indicates that he was born in 1954. In the same report, there is a youth who was born in 1989.

I appreciate and I was a bit concerned though my concern has been responded to by one of the committee Members. There is one Member who did not have a KCSE Certificate but she has been able to undertake ECDE Teacher Certificate. With that consideration and coming from the minority, I support the report from the committee. I am happy all the age groups have been considered from 1954, 1970 and 1989.

It has only exempted the Gen-Z who have not been included and in future I am sure the Gen-Z will be included. Next time consider the Gen-Z to be given a position whenever we have such activities because we need to empower them and give them more knowledge on how things are done in all departments in the county. Mr. Speaker, I support.

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Asante, Mheshimiwa Spika. Ninasimama kuunga mkono ripoti ambayo imeletwa na Kamati ya Leba kupitia Mheshimiwa Catherine Umija.

Ripoti yenyewe Wajumbe wameweza kuipitia imeeleza vizuri kwamba wale watu tulihoji wataweza kufanya kazi ya kutafuta wanachama wa *County Public Service Board.* Jambo ambalo niliona tukiwahoji ni kwamba hao ambao wameteuliwa walijifikisha na kujibu maswali ya kamati inavyostahili.

Bwana Spika wale hawakufika tuliwasiliana kupitia teknolojia ya kisasa. Tuliwahoji wakiwa kwa runinga na kila mtu akaweza kujieleza na kumkagua na kujua atafanya ile kazi. Katika hio ripoti utaona kwamba wale walihojiwa wako na masomo tofauti kulingana na vile Mungu amewasaidia. Nimesikia Mheshimiwa Kanyutu akisema kuna yule Binti aliingia bila vyeti vya chuo kikuu na shule ya upili.

Vile aliweza kujileta na kujieleza na kujua kazi iliyoko mbele yake, kama kamati tuliona yeye ndiye amehitimu zaidi inavyostahili. Anaelewa sheria kuliko wale walikuwa na vyeti. Anaelewa kazi yake na yuko na uzoefu. Ni vyeti tu hana. Nikaona makaratasi wakati mwingine inaficha mambo mengine. Mtu anakuja hapa na vyeti, Kizungu mingi lakini ikikuja ni kazi, hakuna. Mimi nilimpongeza akiwa hapa kwa sababu ni mama ambaye anajua kazi yake ni gani.

Pia tuliangalia mambo ya usawa katika jamii ya Laikipia. Tukaona hio kamati iko sawa na naomba wajumbe wote tuwapitishe na ndio tuwe na bodi ambayo itaajiri wafanyakazi Laikipia. Bila hio bodi, huenda Kaunti ya Laikipia ikabaki nyuma kimaendeleo. Kaunti bila Bunge itakwama. Kaunti bila upande tekelezi wa serikali pia itakwama. Ikikosa NAWASCO, itakwama na pia ikikosa bodi itakwama. Lazima tuhakikishe serikali imesimama ndio ifanye kazi yake bila kukwama. Naunga mkono hii ripoti.

Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Stephen. Allow me to call the mover of the motion to give a reply. Hon. Umija?

Hon. Catherine Umija: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I want to thank the Honourable House for actually approving the Members who are going to sit in the Selection Panel. We are hopeful that they are going to do their mandate as per the Constitution and select the best board for Laikipia County Government. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

(Question put and agreed to)

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 stand adjourned until next week Tuesday, 20th August, 2024 at 10.00 a.m.

The House rose at 3.14 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*