# REPUBLIC OF KENYA

## COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF LAIKIPIA

### THE HANSARD

**Wednesday, 14th October, 2020**

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

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

PRAYERS

**QUORUM CALL**

**Speaker:** Clerk, kindly confirm whether we have quorum.

*(Lack of Quorum confirmed)*

**Speaker:** Serjeant at Arms to ring the bell and open for some Members who are outside there.

*(The bell was rung for one minute)*

**Speaker:** Clerk, confirm whether we have achieved quorum.

*(Quorum confirmed)*

**PAPER LAID**

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE 2019/2020 FINANCIAL YEAR

**Hon. Daniel Nyausi:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On behalf of the Majority Party Leader, Hon. Peter Thomi, I wish to lay the following paper;

The Annual Report for the 2019/2020 Financial Year by the Department of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries.

*(Hon. Daniel Nyausi laid the paper on the Table)*

**Speaker:** That paper is committed to the Agriculture and Fisheries Committee.

**STATEMENT**

EXTENSION OF TIME TO RESPOND TO A STATEMENT

**Hon. Chris Mark:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I had earlier asked for more time for this statement. It is not just because of it being a big document but some of the things being spoken here are very sensitive. I would kindly ask for more time. These are sensitive things.

If you look at annex one, we are talking of there being an advertisement in the newspaper for land banking projects. I read the newspaper every day. I do not think that I saw it. The people who were interested in the land banking project are RentCo Africa. The last time

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I checked, RentCo was dealing with leasing. I do not know how it also got to land. When you look at Zeitz Foundation they were lastly putting up a sports facility which I think it was sponsored by Samuel Eto somewhere in Segera Ward. These are very sensitive things.

I do not want to stand here and say that I am satisfied for the sake of it. It is not just for my consumption when a document like this is asked as a statement. I saw that there is a lease document between the county and National Housing. The Chairman of Infrastructure here has not been aware of it. I know that he has not gotten a chance to probe for this.

I ask for more time so that when I am coming back to this House to register my satisfaction or dissatisfaction, it is factual and carries weight. The MCA for Segera Ward Hon. Chalubo, does not even know that there was such a thing. If you bring a land banking project to identify absentee landlords, this is where you find that land has been illegally appropriated because they say that there was an absentee landlord in that area. It is good that I get more time with this. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Since this report has a number of questions, I would appreciate if you tell me that you have gone through number one or two and you need more time for the next questions. This is so that we can also allow ourselves to discuss the response in bits. If there is a part that you have gone through, I can allow that we discuss that. You do not register your satisfaction until you have gone through the whole report. This is rather better than coming and not discussing a thing until you finish the whole thing.

**Hon. Chris Mark:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Englishmen said that the eating of the cake is not in the icing. It is in eating of the entire cake so that you can say whether it is a good cake. The good thing is that the government led by Governor Ndiritu Muriithi, has said that there is a welcome policy to the offices. If Hon. Chris Mark has questions, then let him walk into these offices.

Some of the members of the LCDA have told me that we can sit down and they explain the things that I am not understating. The way I asked question one and how it is answered brings a lot of questions. Mr. Speaker, I would beg you to just give me one more week with this one. This is so that we do not just deal with the top layer but the entire issue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Hon. Chris Mark, I have given you more than a week. You need to convince me having given you a week and you have not handled this. My question was that if you go to question one, on why there have been no annual reports submitted to the County Assembly as stipulated in Section 16 of the Laikipia County Development Authority Act, did they respond.

I was wondering whether we are able to handle that bit of it. If it has some annexes attached to it then we can leave that. As much as you do not register your satisfaction, we also get to know the issues that you have not gone through in the first week.

**Hon. Chris Mark:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If you look at the wisdom of time, more time and short time, we might rush to answer these things. We will then deny the residents of Laikipia the much deserved answers that could have been given if we gave this thing the appropriate time. I am not a drinker but they say that wine gets better with time. Let's us just

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give it more time and not get fatigued. The Swahili say that *'kawia ufike'* and *'hayawi hayawi huwa'*. All these sayings would really ask for more time.

We can then say that we took a lot of time but not to waste it. We took a lot of time to come and answer it appropriately and register satisfaction. The reasons that they were giving, if the Chairman was here, they had said that the Chairperson of the Laikipia Development Authority was away and could not be reached. That he was in a country far away from here. It was even answered verbally that he is not here.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask you to allow for one more week. That is all that I would ask. I will then be confident as I come here on whether these things have been answered prudently and appropriately as I had asked. Thank you.

## CONSIDERED RULING

**Speaker:** I give you one week. We will be looking at that document next week on Wednesday morning. I also want to remind us on the importance of not delaying. When a Member asks for a statement as much as it may be on his own behalf, it is also on behalf of the people that we represent. Delay does not come only from the Chair or the committee that is supposed to respond. It also comes when a response is made and you are not able to finalise with that response to see whether the issues requested have been answered properly.

Someone said that justice delayed is justice denied. It is important that we are able to finalise with these statements. This is not only about this one. We have quite a number of statements that come to this House. We have had statements on bursaries and enterprise fund. They have been overtaken by events and time.

It is important that we consider time and do our work diligently. Whatever we can achieve and do in this world can only be because of time. This is important so that we are able to handle our issues in good time. That one week is granted. To all of us who have requested for statements and are to respond to statements, let us try to sit and concentrate with our work. We are then able to meet the timeline that is required.

I just wish to remind you that COVID-19 is not yet over. Let us adhere to the guidelines. The numbers are still rising in Laikipia. Let us take care and protect ourselves accordingly. We were in a meeting somewhere this morning and some Members were challenged not to have the masks. A Member challenged the others and said that even those who have them, it is just like they do not have them because they have not worn them properly. Let us take care and observe the guidelines.

## ADJOURNMENT

**Speaker:** This House now stands adjourned until later today, Wednesday 14th October, 2020 at 2.30 p.m.

The House rose at 9.15 a.m.

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