REPUBLIC OF KENYA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF LAIKIPIA

THE HANSARD

Wednesday, 18th May, 2022

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

[The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Veronica Ikunyua) in the Chair]

PRAYERS

PAPER LAID

QUARTERLY REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF MEDICAL SERVICES AND PUBLIC HEALTH

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Veronica Ikunyua): Hon. Catherine, do you have a paper to lay?

Hon. Catherine Nyawira: Yes Madam Speaker. I have a paper to lay which is a report by the Committee on Health Services on County Government of Laikipia quarterly report and financial statements for the Department of Medical Services and Public Health for the quarter ended 31st December, 2020.

(Hon. Catherine Nyawira laid the Papers on the Table)

NOTICE OF MOTION

QUARTERLY REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF MEDICAL SERVICES AND PUBLIC HEALTH

Hon. Catherine Nyawira: Madam Chair, I beg to give notice of the following motion;

THAT this Assembly adopts the quarterly report and financial statements for the period ended 31st December, 2020 for the Department of Medical Services and Public Health by the Sectoral Committee on Health Services dated 17th May, 2020.

It is on behalf of the Chair.

MOTION

QUARTERLY REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF WATER, ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES

Hon. Simon Kanyutu: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I am straining because the numbers are small. I was trying to enlarge for me to read properly. Madam Speaker, I beg to move the following motion;

THAT this Assembly adopts the quarterly report and financial statements for the period ended 31st December, for the Department of Water, Environment and Natural Resources by the Sectoral Committee on Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources.

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Temporary Speaker (Hon. Veronica Ikunyua): Kindly Clerk, assist the Chairperson.

The Committee comprises of;

1. Simon Kanyutu - Chairperson
2. Hon. Patricia Muthoni - Vice chairperson
3. Hon. Robert Maina - Member
4. Hon. Mutahi Muritu - Member
5. Hon. Wilson Wakahiu - Member
6. Hon. Peter Thomi - Member
7. Hon. Esokon Lochimidi - Member

Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the Standing Order Number 191, the Committee on Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources is mandated to investigate, inquire into and report on all matters related to agriculture, including crop and animal husbandry, livestock…

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Veronica Ikunyua): What is it Leader of the Majority Party?

Hon. Joseph Kiguru: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I just wanted to let Hon. Simon Kanyutu to address you as Madam.

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Veronica Ikunyua): Okay, go ahead and address me as Madam please.

Hon. Simon Kanyutu: Thank you, Madam. I will refer to you as madam. It is only that on the report they have written Mr. Speaker, Sir and therefore I read what is written. According to the committee's mandate, Standing Order…

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Veronica Ikunyua): What is it Hon. Catherine?

Hon. Catherine Nyawira: Madam Speaker, sorry but it is on the issue of Mr. Speaker, Sir. I think that it is time that this Assembly adopts the initiative of uniform address that refers as that Chair to Hon. Speaker regardless of male or female because I think that is what happens in the National Assembly and other Assemblies. Thank you.

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Veronica Ikunyua): Thank you for that opinion. Please go ahead and please Hon. Mutahi, consult quietly because this is a House of order.

Hon. Simon Kanyutu: Madam Speaker, I feel as if I am not ready to table this report because while tabling I am getting so much interruptions. Is that normal according to Standing Order?

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Veronica Ikunyua: It is normal but please go ahead.

Hon. Simon Kanyutu: I am going to sit down and it is also going to be normal.

I am grateful because we were able to finalize the final report and got what had been spent by the department. We have a table indicating all the money allocated and how it was spent. If

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everybody could go to their iPads, they can see all the expenditure as per what had been used. According to the committee, there were a lot of pending bills as indicated in the table below;

	1st Quarter	**2nd Quarter**
Construction of Buildings	995,280.00	-
Construction of Civil Works	131,608,045.00	108,942,066.00
Supply of Goods	24,311,304.00	17,729,146.00
Supply of Services	11,997,878.00	10,530,216.00
GRAND TOTAL	**168,912,507.00**	**137,201,428.00**

The committee observed the following: -

1. The department received a total allocation of Kshs. 259,642,931.00 and only a total expenditure of Kshs 8,371,055.00 was incurred in the two quarters representing an absorption rate of 3.22%;
2. That the budget utilization difference by the end of the period ending 31st December, 2020 was Kshs. 251,271,876.00.
3. That some pending bills were carried forward from the 1st quarter that ended 30th September, 2020.
4. That Civil Works had the highest pending bills of Kshs. 108,942,066.00 and construction of buildings had no pending bills for the quarter.

The committee recommends that;

1. The department to prioritize on clearing the pending bills before the end of the term; and
2. The House adopts the committee's report

I call upon Hon. Member for Tigithi, Hon. Mutahi Muritu to second.

Hon. Mutahi Muritu: Nashukuru sana. Nachukua hii nafasi kuweza kutoa mchango wangu na kuunga mkono Kamati ya Kilimo na Mazingira.

(Question proposed)

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Asante, Bi. Spika. Nasimama kuunga mkono.

Hon. George Karuiru: Thank you, Madam Speaker. My input is what I want to offer. One as the Chair has read the report, I think I said from time inception that the Department of Agriculture and Education are rotten as far as Laikipia County is concerned. According to the observations from the committee, there is that urge that they should clear the pending pills.

I recall in the same year of 2020, Olmoran was budgeted for installation of drip kits. I have tried to follow and according to the committee they are still researching but I still wonder what are the things they were paying and others have not been even done on the ground. I urge the committee to fast track through the concerned Members, CECM and Chief Officers.

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I still doubt whether we have one Chief Officer and CECM despite them being vetted in this Assembly. It seems the department is still vacant. I would urge the committee led by the able Chair Hon. Kanyutu to fast track and actually give a record though it is not officially requested by me but I will do so that we can know what the pending bills are, what has been done on the ground, what has been cleared and what has not been cleared.

Hon. Joseph Suge: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I also stand to support this report though with reservations. The Department of Agriculture needs …

[The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Veronica Ikunyua) left the Chair]

[The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Daniel Nyausi) took the Chair]

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I can now see. By the time I was looking to that head, Hon. Veronica was seated there. I was saying the Department of Agriculture is the engine of this County on the issues concerning food security to our farmers. If you can see at this particular moment, farmers need to be supplied with subsidized seeds as well as other farm inputs.

In this report, you can see that the allocation to this department was Kshs.259 million against an expenditure of Kshs.8 million. This shows that there was a lot of laxity by the officers in this department and it is an issue that the committee should have looked into, why was a small amount of money spent and why was that huge allocation directed to a department that was not ready to spend money?

Mr. Speaker, I can also see on observation Number 4 that there was the highest pending bill in civil works within the same department of Kshs.108 million. Considering the two, the allocation and the pending bill, it shows that there are a lot of questions in this department and I would urge the Chair and the rest of the Members to make a follow-up so that in future they can be giving a report that is scrutinized and dealt with for this Assembly to adopt. I support side-eyed, thank you.

Deputy Speaker: May I call upon the Mover to give a reply.

Hon. Simon Kanyutu: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I thank you for giving me this opportunity and I am very happy with the… Oh, sorry Mr. Speaker. I left when a madam was on the seat. It is unfortunate because I am sure I was even corrected, so it stuck on my mind that the one on the seat is a madam. I am very sorry for that.

I commend the Members and I am sure that they have appreciated the report. Except Hon. George whom I am sure, I do not know, I will make a consultation because sometimes I am unable to do multitasking, when I focus on an issue I focus to the end. So, I might not be able to do it at the moment but once we come back, I will be able to make that follow-up. I appreciate and call upon all the Members to pass the report as it is, thank you.

(Question put and agreed to)

ADJOURNMENT

Deputy Speaker: The Sittings of this House now stand adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday 19th May, 2022 at 9.00 a.m.

The House rose at 3.01 p.m.

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