# REPUBLIC OF KENYA

# COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF LAIKIPIA

## THE HANSARD

**Wednesday, 24th June, 2020.**

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

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

PRAYERS

## COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

GOVERNOR AND SPEAKER'S PANEL MEETING

**Speaker:** As you all know we have the Governor's meeting at exactly eleven today in the morning with the Liaison Committee. Also immediately after this we will be having the Speaker's panel meeting so Members kindly do attend the respective meetings where you belong.

## STATEMENTS

COMPLETION OF BAHATI DISPENSARY

**Hon. Peter Matunge:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On behalf of our Committee of Health, I have two responses to statements and because I can see the Member from Olmoran I will start from response to statement from the Member of Tigithi.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, a statement was raised and tabled in the Assembly by Hon. John Mutahi on 9th June, 2020 requesting for a response on funds allocated to a tune of Kshs. 5,174,250 shillings in the financial year 2018/2019 for Bahati Dispensary in Tigithi ward. The committee on 10th June, 2020 requested for a response from the Department of Medical Services. The Department responded to the Committee on 15th June, 2020 and the Committee subsequently visited the Centre on 23rd June, 2020. On when the project is expected to be completed I wish to respond as follows:

That the construction works for the Dispensary are now complete as per the attached completion certificate from public works as in annexure 1. Attached as annexure 2 is a photo taken by the Committee in the year 2019 before the dispensary completion works had commenced and annexure 3 is a photo taken after completion.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The annexures are there and the original statement is also there so I wish to respond as that.

**Speaker:** That is a statement raised by the Hon. Member for Tigithi so it is appropriate that the Hon. Member can register your satisfaction.

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**Hon. Mutahi Muritu:** Asante Mheshimiwa Spika. Kwanza ninamshukuru Mungu kwa kunipa nafasi ya kufika siku ya leo lakini kwa heshima zote. Sidhani kama kuna mahali niliomba taarifa ya Zahanati ya Bahati. Kile nilichokiomba ni kituo cha afya cha Solio na uende kwa kumbukumbu. Wakati mwingine...

**Speaker:** Just a minute, be seated. I think I directed last time that any statement that comes to this House must have an attachment of whatever statement was raised so that see because I tried to find out. We need to see the issues that were raised. That is usually very important. The statement is here; I had not seen it. Statement on Status of completion of Bahati Dispensary is signed by yourself, Hon. Mutahi Muritu and you can find that on the second page on that response.

**Hon. Mutahi Muritu:** Mheshimiwa Spika, ni kituo cha afya cha Solio na ndipo nikaomba hiyo taarifa. Kama kuna Bahati hiyo ninajua imeisha...

**Speaker:** I am informed that you asked for two dispensaries. One is Solio and the other one is this because it has your signature.

**Hon. Mutahi Muritu:** Sawa, unajua nimeshtuka kusema mimi hata kama niliagiza Bahati nilijua imeisha lakini...

**Speaker:** Just a minute, be seated. It reads, Hon. Members, you are not allowed to respond to each other but you do it through the Chair, kindly be advised. In order to provide essential health services addressing control of communicable diseases and managing the rising burden of non-communicable conditions in the county, the County Assembly allocated funds to a tune of Kshs. 5,174,250 shillings in the financial year 2018/2019 for Bahati Dispensary in Tigithi Ward. Mr. Speaker, the aforementioned construction of Bahati Dispensary has not yet been completed. I request the Chairperson Health Services to inform this House on;

1. When the project is expected to be completed

I believe that is a statement raised by you, Hon. Member for Tigithi. It has your signature and it would be misleading when you say you already knew that the project was complete yet you were requesting to know.

**Hon. Mutahi Muritu:** Mheshimiwa Spika, ninakushukuru kwa sababu umesema niliagiza taarifa mbili, ya vituo vya afya vya Bahati na Solio. Ninaridhika na sina shida kabisa na Bahati na mwenendo wake lakini ile ninayofuatilia...

**Speaker:** If you are satisfied then that is okay because the statement that has been responded to is for Bahati.

**Hon. Mutahi Muritu:** Asante, Mheshimiwa Spika. Sina shida na hiyo.

**Hon. Peter Matunge:** Mr. Speaker, I know that you have concluded on the statement that we had before but it is very unfortunate that the Member has asked for a statement and he is disowning it.

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FENCING OF MBOGO-INI DISPENSARY

**Hon. Peter Matunge:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, a statement was raised and tabled in the Assembly by Hon. George Karuiru on 21st November 2020 requesting for a response on funds allocated to a tune of Kshs. 2,000,000 in the financial year 2018/2019 for purposes of fencing of Mbogo-ini dispensary for security purposes, water connectivity and plumbing works.

The committee requested for a response from the Department of Medical Services and received a response on 15th June, 2020.

*1.On why the project hasn't commenced to date.*

Mr. Speaker Sir I wish to respond as follows:

That fencing works were advertised on March 2020 and are currently being evaluated. Attached is the advert extract for the works as annexure 1. I would also wish to clarify to this House that the project to be undertaken at Mbogo-ini dispensary was in financial year 2019/2020 budget and had no provision of water connectivity and plumbing works as indicated in annexure 2.

*2. On when the project is expected to commence and when it will be completed.*

Mr. Speaker, I wish to respond as follows;

That the contractor will be on site to commence works in the next two weeks after the evaluation has been completed. Mr. Speaker, again we have attached the original statement and the advert that was done and to be closed by 27th March, 2020 and an annexure of budget 2020 to show that the budget was to be done this year. So that is the response of the committee.

**Speaker:** So you are doing it on behalf of the Chairperson because it has been signed by the Chair?

**Hon. Peter Matunge:** Yes.

**Speaker:** When is the date when the two weeks starts counting?

**Hon. Peter Matunge:** I think it should start today. It again depends on the process of evaluation. So it is expected that by the end of this week they will be able to complete the evaluation and give out the work to the contractor. So in the course of next week we can be able to have the contractor for the project.

**Hon. George Karuiru:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Hon. Matunge is trying to look at me trying to figure out what I have thought of his statement. It is quite contradicting putting 2018/2019 yet it is 2019/2020. Let me thank the Committee on Health because I can see that they have taken a step but many of these projects, I think that it is the high time that this House now takes more steps. As you have seen they are not denying that they did but what we are trying to do here is not to accept but the progress.

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Thank you Mr. Speaker for making them learn that we work under timelines and they should be exact. Our core mandate is about oversight and following the issues that are happening and therefore the committee should be telling you that they interrogated the CECM Health and responded that the revolution would take place on a certain date so that this Hon. House can have a record that by July 14th we will have commenced.

We are not actually the makers of BQs so saying that plumbing works were not indicated is not part my concern. They would have said that they have prolonged because they wanted to have more finances so that they can put the plumbing works. As keen as I have been, I want the exact time of the commencement of the project. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. George Karuiru. In my judgment I find this response well responded to but it will also be important for the Chair of the Health Services Committee to consult with the other side to know the exact date and you can kindly avail that to the Member because the statement has been responded to.

## MOTION

2ND SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES REPORT 2019/2020

**Hon. Wilson Wakahiu:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I beg to move the following motion;

THAT this Assembly adopts the report of the 2019/2020 Financial year 2nd Supplementary Estimates by the Select Committee on Budget and Appropriations dated 16th June, 2020.

Mr. Speaker, the Select Committee on Budget and Appropriations was established as per the Standing Order no. 186 with some mandates as provided in that Standing Order. The Members are as follows;

1. Hon. Wilson Wakahiu - Chairperson
2. Hon. Zamzam Salma - Vice Chair person
3. Hon. Judy Lukio - Member
4. Hon. Simon Kanyutu - Member
5. Hon. Mutahi Muritu - Member

Mr. Speaker, the Budget Committee received the 2nd supplementary budget from the Executive and last week there were some amendments they presented to the House as memoranda whereby there were some issues they felt that needed to be addressed.

One was the issue of covid-19 finances that were provided by the National Treasury and DANIDA. They wanted the Assembly to approve so that they may use the money. Mr. Speaker, there were some other issues that they raised and needs to be incorporated but the committee made some observations and we noted that having remaining only two weeks from when the memoranda came, we were not able to change the development plans as they were in the first supplementary

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budget. So the committee only dealt with the issue of the money from DANIDA and the National Government.

Therefore I want to urge this Honourable House to approve this money of conditional grants from those two institutions so that we can give the Executive the way of appropriating the money. DANIDA was to fund the government 4.585 million and the Department of Health in the National Government allocated Laikipia County 54.654 Million to fight covid-19. So the Executive requested this allocation of 59 million to be approved in the House so that it can go down and help the people and cushion the issues of COVID-19. So I request Ho. Kanyutu to second this motion.

**Speaker:** The money is in Kenyan Shillings? You know they are just numbers so they might be in US Dollars or Sterling Pounds. It is good to confirm it is in Kenyan Shillings.

**Simon Kanyutu:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I stand to second as per what the Chairman has stated. Nothing else to add, I just second.

*(Question Proposed)*

**Hon. Daniel Mugweru:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to support this motion by the fact that our County has gotten such funds. Ours is to support them and from there we know that we have a very huge task. A responsibility of ensuring that the money is used appropriately. It is upon us as Members from now if we pass this.

It is for us who represent different groups and who represent different areas. Even the Committee Health to know that we must work extra hard because in this County we have a tendency of having such funds that are donated, only to find it being misused. It is a collective responsibility to understand and know that this money is specifically for the people of Laikipia.

We make sure that we follow every coin so that it is used appropriately. Without forgetting, now that we have this huge amount of money. We as an Assembly should also make sure we make a follow-up. It is specifically for COVID and we have the staff who have been working day and night because of COVID. Now there is nobody who can claim that there is no money.

The people we see on roads doing the work of getting our temperatures day and night. Most of them have been complaining that they have never gotten their allowances. Most of them have been using their own vehicles. Now there is no excuse of not giving those people their dues. Therefore, I do support and also urge Honourable Members to work as a team and make sure that this money is used appropriately. Thank you.

**Hon. Peter Matunge:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I first wish to take this opportunity to thank the Committee on Budget. When I saw the proposal from the executives, there were many other proposals. The proposals were supposed to be supplemented especially, the part of Administration and Finance. The Budget Committee made the right decision to bring this report for us to approve the grants given to the Department of Health. We all know where we are as a country and as a county.

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Every county is moving very fast to see that we are able to protect our citizens from Covid-19. We know this disease is labour intensive and we know it involves a lot of investments. We all need to put in place so that Laikipia will not be like the county of Siaya which has no single bed for isolation or less than ten beds for isolation. So far, I want to appreciate the work that has been done by Laikipia County Government.

In preparation for the issues of COVID-19, we saw the Nanyuki Annex which we previously knew as ASK showground. There is a lot of work done there for preparation of isolation beds and rooms for quarantine and treatment. We have also seen the Nanyuki Teaching and Referral Hospital undergoing a lot of facelift for it to accommodate the critical unit. By yesterday the County Government of Laikipia was able to install some five ventilators.

Mr. Speaker, we know sometimes that anything that comes has a positive side. For the first time in Laikipia we can say, we can be able to have an ICU at Nanyuki and one at Nyahururu. All those things need a lot of investment and as I said, it is labour intensive. We need to increase the number of staff and also we need to motivate them for them to work because they are doing life risk. As said by Honourable Member from Umande, we should not have any reason not to pay them their dues and facilitate them to provide services to the people of Laikipia.

They are the frontline workers and they are risking their lives and that of their families to serve and protect us. It is high time for us because the National Government has seen sense of giving this money to the County Government. We can be able to prepare ourselves because what is happening now, we cannot transport or export any case. If we get a case in Laikipia, be it a case that needs to be quarantined or a case that needs to be treated because it is positive. We must address it in Laikipia from all the mild signs to the critical part of it.

I think we need to prepare as a government, and as the County Government of Laikipia. As the Honourable Member said, it is the responsibility of all of us to see through our oversight role that this money has been used to serve the people of Laikipia. We should give them all the support that we need so that our people are really protected and served well. I wish to thank the Committee for seeing the sense of bringing this report for us to approve. With those few words, I support the report of the Committee. Thank you.

**Hon. Mutahi Muritu:** Asante, Mheshimiwa Spika. Nashukuru kamati kwa sababu imeonekana kuwa imefanya kazi nzuri. Mimi ni mwanachama. Hii ni ruzuku kutoka kwa serikali. Naamini kuna maagizo na taratibu zinazohitajika kufuatiliwa ili tusitoe tu pesa kwa kisingizio cha COVID-19. Naomba kamati kupitia kwa Mwenyekiti atusaidie zaidi tukihitaji hiyo taarifa. Hizo fedha zimetolewa na Mheshimiwa Raisi na kusema kuwa zinahitaji kutumiwa hivi na hivi. Hizo fedha zitumike vizuri ili tuweze kusaidia kaunti yetu. Serikali imefanya kazi yake kwa kiwango cha haja. Naunga ripoti mkono. Nashukuru kwa nafasi hiyo. Asante, Mheshimiwa Spika.

**Hon. George Karuiru:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Let me also take this chance to congratulate the Budget Committee especially for the presentation of this second supplementary

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budget. I know that the Members were here last year a moment like this when we had the second supplementary. What they have brought in this House is quite commendable. I know that they had a big paper but they decided to only bring the touching matters on COVID-19 issues. Sometimes whatever the supplementary that is presented to this House from the executive it just touches on issues on our projects and other things.

This time we have this animal called COVID-19. I heard somebody say that it is a time bomb. The National Government Minister for Health continues to bring us day to day report shows it is expanding. What we need is not the big papers that we need to supplement this to that. The Committee on Budget sat down and found the issue of whatever grant that we have. I can see DANIDA is giving Kshs. 4.5 million and the Ministry of Health giving Kshs. 54.6 million. Even if it is not touching what we need most is our health.

I appreciate what one of the Members of health Hon. Matunge has said. I saw through the social media that we now have five ventilators that arrived in the facility yesterday. I would beg the Health Committee to follow as the last time there was an update that four million was spent for tea. This money should touch the small centres namely the health centres in a way. I had a motion yesterday about our good Community Health Volunteers (CHVs) who are not paid. We get that the big bosses are now just waiting for this supplementary budget to be passed so that they start using it. They look from all perspectives.

The CHV's are directly, not indirectly, involved with COVID-19. They are being told to go and identify the visitors who have come and check those that they may have the signs. It is the high time that this budget is implemented to the letter. I am hoping that the Committee on Health will put an eye and closely follow the implementation of second supplementary budget that touches on our health. I also support. Thank you.

**Hon. Judy Lukio:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I stand to support this important motion on second supplementary with the amount of money given. We know that COVID-19 disease is on the rise. We do not know how far it will take us as a county and as a country. With this amount of over 59 million it will enable the county to prepare in a better way. I stand to support. Thank you.

**Hon. Catherine Kibue:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I stand in support of conditional grant as indicated in the report so that the county can utilise the funds. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Can the mover make a reply.

**Hon. Wilson Wakahiu:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I appreciate the Members' contribution towards this. As the Members have said, there were very many proposals from the Executive that were even touching on development. As a committee we found it unwise because of the time we are in and at the same time keeping on changing programs as per the budget. I want to appreciate the fact that we will approve this. It will give the treasury an opportunity to put this in the Appropriation Act so that they can receive the funds to fight the same.

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I appreciate what Hon. Mugweru has said that we need follow up and do our oversight role. As much as this is the public money it needs to be utilised prudently. On this case, I would request and appreciate the Health Committee. They have been very committed to fight for the welfare and health services of our people in this county. I believe that they work together to ensure that all the report in the House concerning utilisation of these funds will be made available. I have seen how they have been following the issues of health and how they are fighting this pandemic. I thank the Hon. Members for the contribution.

*(Question put and agreed to)*

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Speaker:** The sittings of this House stands adjourned until later today Wednesday, 24th June, 2020 at 2.30 p.m.

The House rose at 9.37 a.m.

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