# REPUBLIC OF KENYA

## COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF LAIKIPIA

### THE HANSARD

**Wednesday, 24th September, 2025**

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

*[The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Nicholas Mwaniki) in the Chair]*

PRAYERS

**QUORUM CALL**

**Temporary Speaker (Hon. Nicholas Mwaniki):** Clerk, confirm if we do have quorum in the Assembly.

*(Lack of quorum confirmed)*

**Temporary Speaker (Hon. Nicholas Mwaniki):** I direct that the bell be rang for ten minutes.

*(The quorum bell was rang for ten minutes)*

**Temporary Speaker (Hon. Nicholas Mwaniki):** Clerk, confirm if we do have quorum now.

*(Clerk confirmed achievement of Quorum)*

**Temporary Speaker (Hon. Nicholas Mwaniki):** Order of the day.

**NOTICE OF MOTION**

CONSTRUCTION OF DYKES

**Hon. Nicholas Lempaira through Hon. Anthony Theuri:** Hon. Speaker, I beg to give notice of the following motion;

THAT AWARE THAT Article 186 of the Constitution of Kenya and Part Two of the Fourth Schedule assigns counties functions relating to county public works, including storm water management systems in built-up areas and disaster management;

FURTHER AWARE THAT the recurrent flooding in various parts of the county has in the past led to displacement of families, destruction of property, loss of farmlands, and disruption of social and…

Hon. Speaker, I wish that you protect me according to our Standing Orders.

**Hon. Joseph Gitahi:** Hon, Speaker, I am rising on a point of order. Hon. Mugweru is not properly dressed for Parliament.

**Hon. Daniel Mugweru:** Hon. Speaker, it is unfortunate that people voted for some people. They were brought here for proper training and we have even taken them to foreign counties and until now, they have not known the Parliamentary way of dressing. I don't know which Standing Order he is reading because I am smartly dressed and well covered.

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**Temporary Speaker (Hon. Nicholas Mwaniki):** Hon, Gitahi, I think Hon. Daniel Mugweru has expressed himself and has stated that he is properly dresses as a Parliamentarian of this House. We should allow that matter to rest. Hon. Anthony, proceed.

**Hon. Anthony Theuri:** Thank you. On the same, after we are through with the debate, I would like to be guided on how we should be properly dressed. I need a refresher on the same. He looks smartly dressed and if that is the style, I believe that I am better dressed than he is today, but I leave that to you. Allow me to go back to the motion.

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FURTHER AWARE THAT the recurrent flooding in various parts of the county has in the past led to displacement of families, destruction of property, loss of farmlands, and disruption of social and economic activities;

CONCERNED THAT, despite the frequent floods experienced, there are limited flood mitigation measures such as dykes, proper drainage channels and embankments, leaving residents vulnerable to disasters during rainy seasons;

NOTING THAT, the construction of dykes and related flood control infrastructure will significantly reduce flood risks, safeguard lives and property, enhance agricultural productivity, and promote sustainable settlement within flood-prone areas;

This House URGES the County Government to immediately prioritize and undertakes the construction of dykes in flood-prone areas within the county.

## MOTION

CONSTRUCTION OF DYKES

**Hon. Nicholas Lempaira through Hon. Antony Theuri:** Hon. Speaker, I beg to move the following motion;

THAT AWARE THAT Article 186 of the Constitution of Kenya and Part Two of the Fourth Schedule assigns counties functions relating to county public works, including storm water management systems in built-up areas and disaster management;

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CONCERNED THAT, despite the frequent floods experienced, there are limited flood mitigation measures such as dykes, proper drainage channels and embankments, leaving residents vulnerable to disasters during rainy seasons;

NOTING THAT, the construction of dykes and related flood control infrastructure will significantly reduce flood risks, safeguard lives and property, enhance agricultural productivity, and promote sustainable settlement within flood-prone areas;

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This House URGES the County Government to immediately prioritize and undertakes the construction of dykes in flood-prone areas within the county.

Mheshimiwa Spika, kwa mujibu wa Mwakilishi wa Wadi ya Mukogodo Magharibi, Nicholas Lempaira, naomba hili Bunge letu liangalie kwa haraka iwezekanavyo. Ikumbukwe kwamba kulingana na watabiri wa hali ya hewa, siku haziko mbali sana. Kuanzia mwezi wa kumi hadi katikati ya mwezi wa kumi na moja na mwanzo wa Desemba, tutakuwa na mvua nyingi na ya kutosha.

Mheshimiwa Spika, mvua ni baraka. Hata hivyo, ikizidi inakuwa kisirani. Mahali tunazungumza kuhusu, ambapo ndipo mbunge huyo ametoka; hujulikana kama Doldol, Kimugandura... hayo maeneo, panajulikana kwa maafa ya maji. Inashangaza kwamba wakati wa jua, kuna ukame mwingi sana. Dunia iko hivyo tu. Kuna wakati wa kukosa, kwa mfano wakati huu, wengi tumekosa. Inapokuja, hata hivyo, inakuja kwa wingi.

Miaka tano au sita iliyopita tulipatwa na janga kubwa sana, sisi kama watu wa Laikipia. Kuna muuguzi wetu, dereva wetu na mtu mmoja, wakiwa kwenye eneo liitwalo Laga, kulinyesha mvua ya kasi sana inayojulikana kama *flashfloods.* Hayo maji yalibeba hao watu na hawajapatikana hadi wa leo. Inaaminika kuwa walikufa. Tulichukua ambulensi yetu ikiwa imeharibika, na maafa yakawa makubwa sana.

Mheshimiwa Spika, huo ni mfano mmoja tu. Mifugo wengi wamepotea kwa kubebwa na maji. Hili ni tukio moja tu la kipekee linaloonekana kwa kuwa iliguza Kaunti nzima. Hapa, hata hivyo, tuna suluhisho kwa kuwa kila jambo lina suluhisho. Tunaelekea miaka sitini na tano tangu tupate uhuru. Watabiri wa hali ya hewa pamoja nasi wameweza kusoma hali ya hewa ilivyo. Hili ni jambo ambalo linawezekana. Hivi vitu vinavyoitwa *dykes* tunaweza kusema ni mitaro mikubwa.

Kaunti inatakikana kutengeneza mitaro mikubwa ambayo itaelekeza hio maji kwenye mito iliyo huko. Hilo litasaidia sana. Bali sio upande wa Doldol, hata hapa kwetu kwenye wadi ya Nanyuki, tulipokea hizo *flashfloods* mwaka mmoja uliopita. Mvua ilinyesha huko Mlima Kenya na kuteremka huko kwetu Likii na kubeba nyumba nyingi sana. Hata kama wanasema ilikuwa makosa watu kuishi kwenye mto; mto ni muhimu na tunauhitaji, lakini bila watu mto hauna maana. Lazima tutafute njia ambapo hayo maji pamoja na watu wataweza kuishi pamoja bila kuharibiana na wapate faida.

Bwana Spika, nilisimama kwenye hili Jumba na kuomba serikali kutengeneza mitaro ya maji. Kuna nyingine walitengeneza hapa nje ya Bunge na ninawapongeza. Ni vizuri kuona mambo mazuri, tusiwe watu wasioona mazuri. Walitengeneza mtaro mkubwa sana karibu na duka kubwa la Quickmart ambao naweza hata kuupitia nikisimama. Huo mtaro unabeba maji yanayotoka kwenye Mlima Kenya, Ichuga na kwingineko na kuyapeleka mtoni.

Sisi tunaomba kwamba kwenye Bajeti ijayo ambayo ni ya ziada tutenge pesa kiasi ambayo hayatatumiwa kwenye barabara, mashamba, masomo au hospitali, bali yatumike kutengeneza mitaro mikubwa ambapo maji yatapita ili kuokoa maisha. Itakuwa aibu tukija kulia hapa eti watu wetu wamebebwa na maji ilhali Mungu ametupa akili na maarifa. Hata sio utabiri; ni kitu ambacho kinaonekana wazi, kwamba tunahitaji mifereji mizuri itengenezwe.

Faida ya hio mifereji ni kuwa maji yakitegwa, tunaweza kufuga samaki katika siku za usoni. Ni vizuri tuelewe kwamba samaki watokao sehemu za Doldol kwa sababu ndiko kuna laga na mchanga mzuri na rotuba, wanaweza wakawa watamu. Watakuwa pia kitega uchumi. Hio vilevile itatengeneza ajira kwa watu hao. Kila kitu kina manufaa yake. Ningeomba Jumba hili kuangalia hili jambo kwa kina kwa sababu hii shida ni yetu sote.

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Hata sasa hivi tukiongea, Bwana Spika, kuna mawingu. Itakuwa aibu kwamba tulikuwa na nafasi ya kutengeneza mitaro; na nimesema sio za kuhudumia eneo moja tu bali Kaunti nzima. Ningeomba tuunge mkono kwa ajili ya watu waliotuleta hapa. Itatufaidi kwa kusaidia kulinda maisha ya watu wetu na kuwakinga dhidi ya maafa kutokana na gharika. Namwomba Mheshimiwa Salim kutoka Segera, ambaye ana ufasaha sana wa lugha ya Kiswahili; mimi nimekuwa nikisitasita tu kwa huo muda mchache ambao nimeongea Kiswahili. Namwomba aniunge mkono tusukume hili gurudumu la maisha na kuwasaidia watu wa Laikipia kwa ujumla. Asante.

**Hon. Salim Edung:** Nashukuru, Bwana Spika kwa kunipa nafasi ya kuunga mkono huu mjadala unaohusu mitaro ya maji. Ni vizuri tujue kwamba mahali popote tunapoenda, mvua inyeshapo kuna mazuri na mabaya. Mwakilishi wa wadi ya Nanyuki alikuwa anasema kwamba kuna wakati janga lilitokea kwenye sehemu ya Doldol, gari lilisombwa pamoja na yule mama aliyekuwa analetwa hospitalini. Sisi tunasema kwamba iwapo mitaro itawekwa kwenye sehemu ya mito, yatapitisha maji mengi ambayo yatawasaidia wafugaji katika ufugaji wao na wakulima katika ukulima wao.

Mimi ningeangalia kwa ufasaha sana sisi twasema kitu lakini wengine wanapuuza kile kitendo kinachohitajika hasa ukiangalia kwenye Biblia, Nuhu aliambia watu tujenge Safina kuna gharika linakuja. Lilipokuja, lilikuja na maji mingi na watu walikufa na mifugo ikafa. Mambo mengi yalifanyika wakati huo. Sisi twahimiza katika Bunge hili, katika Kaunti ya Laikipia tunahitaji mitaro ambayo itasimamisha maji mengi na hayo maji yatasaidia wananchi kwa mifugo, ukulima na pia kufuga samaki. Italeta rasilimali katika Laikipia yetu na, hiyo samaki ambayo itapatikana pale itakuwa ikiuzwa.

Ni vizuri tunapokubaliana kupitisha jambo au kitu chochote kiweze kufanyika. Kwa upande ya utendaji, ni lazima pia tuwaambie ni vizuri wafanye kazi hii ndio watu wa Laikipia wasaidike. Mimi naunga mkono mjadala huo ambao umeletwa na Mheshimiwa Lempaira, na ameleta kwa wakati ambao unafaa, kwa sababu ule mwezi ambayo tunaenda kutakuwa ni kipindi cha mvua na lazima sisi tujiandae kwa hayo yote. Tunajua kwamba tutaenda mashinani tuwaelezee wale watu wako karibu na mito ya kwamba mvua imekaribia, kama tuko na uwezo wa kutengeneza hiyo mitaro, wengine watasaidika tukingoja Kaunti vile itatendea watu wa Laikipia. Asante, Bwana Spika.

*(Question proposed)*

**Hon. Joseph Gitahi:** Thank you, Hon. Speaker. Before I support this motion, I would wish to decline the language that is used to address other Members. I have heard through the grapevine, through gossip and formal communication. Sometimes, the language that some Members use to communicate to others, even casting questions on why some people were elected. I would not want to respond to that because it shows the level of disregard some people have towards others.

Having said that Hon. Speaker, I support this motion that has been presented by Hon. Anthony on behalf of Hon. Lempaira, the Member for Mukogodo West. You will realize that this motion is timely and prescriptive of planning that we plan ahead. I heard it said in other quarters that once people are not prepared, even the blessings become a catastrophe. That we may be praying for rains to do farming and other things but rains could come and cost the half of the distractions of lives and properties.

Hon. Speaker, it is important that this House becomes proactive in issues that are before us. Having said that, I would like to say that dykes are important even if I don't have the orientation of the agriculture. I come from an area where we have been raised and bred through

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agriculture. Dykes are important because one, they are able to drain some swampy areas, reclaiming the land for agriculture and other positive uses. Two, they control water run-off. You will realize in areas such as Laikipia North where we have vast lands that are flat, they are prone to flash floods and other issues where water is not controlled and causes destructions.

In such cases, dykes are important so that they can direct water into proper channels so that it doesn't cause destruction or havoc. Additionally, Hon. Speaker, dykes are important because they aid in the conservation of water. Once they have been properly constructed, dykes can be used to hold water before this water is used. It is therefore important that on the onset of rains that have been forecasted by the meteorological department that this House sits, direct and budget for the use of money in that important cause.

Hon. Speaker, as I sit, I would wish to reiterate on the statement that has been made by somebody who has spoken before me who spoke on the issue of implementation of what we are saying here. It is important that it is not a mere formality that we come, debate motions and lecture others and we go home. Hon. Speaker, it is important that the things that we are saying be implemented because they are important.

Hon. Speaker, having said that, I wish to urge this House to support the motion on the construction of dykes. Thank you, Honourable Speaker.

**Hon. Samuel Mugambi:** Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I also want to stand and support the motion. I have some reservations because this is a House of integrity. When we talk about county functions and national government functions, I am well informed that dykes construction doesn't fall under County Governments. Not unless we say that we want to do collaboration with National Government.

Solely, and I can refer from AI, my AI is telling me that dyke construction in County Government is often huddled by the National Government's Ministry of Water, Sanitation, and Navigation, or relevant agencies like the Lake Basin Development Authority, LBDA, and the National Water Harvesting and Storage Authority. These national entities are responsible for flood mitigation projects, including the construction of dykes.

The reason I want to bring this point is, because this motion was approved in a committee called HBC. In the morning, we didn't have quorum. This afternoon, we were struggling to get a quorum, so it means there is a disconnect somewhere. So even the people who are preparing the motions vis-à-vis, the House Business Committee's proceedings, I think we have a problem.

We can't have a motion approved by the HBC, then even have some errors, then we don't even have the Members who attended the HBC. Honourable Speaker, I think it is the highest time we as Members also, we take individual responsibility of attending sessions and also HBC committee to be serious. You cannot put such, and you know, once you put such a motion, it is available to the whole world through the HANSARD. Then you are speaking that you want the County Government to construct dykes, whereas the dykes are only categorized.

You cannot budget for anything called dykes in a County Government Budget. Those are the integrity issues we are bringing into this county of ours. People see us like we are jokers because even the things we are doing here are substandard. So, Honourable Speaker, dyke construction is good and I'm not opposing but it's good to be right.

This is something that will go to record that we, a House full of elected and nominated Members, with very educated Members, we are talking about that dykes are constructed by the County Government. So, I think me, Mugambi Gatati, unless the motion is edited, I support

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the dykes' construction but I decline the way the motion is designed. We need to go on record that we need to have appropriate, right and factual information.

I also want to echo on the availability of HBC members. There is no way you would be attending a HBC committee then you don't attend the session. It means you only came here to sign for you to earn an allowance whereas us we sit here in the chamber session, we don't earn anything. So, I think that is something we need to be very serious on Honourable Speaker. The same thing we are doing in 2025, this Assembly might go down to Guinness Book of Records for not attending Bunge, for not taking our committees seriously and writing irrelevant motions, so that you only have the business of the day.

So, I solely blame the HBC committee and it is high time all Members get involved in the HBC committee. We should be included in that committee. Every Member here should be a member of HBC so that when you come early in the morning, you attend the HBC and also you attend the session. That will be the only cure we'll have in this Assembly.

For the motion, I support the construction of dykes but I decline the design that the motion was written. Whoever wrote the motion should withdraw it and term it to be irrelevant to us. Thank you.

**Temporary Speaker (Hon. Nicholas Mwaniki):** Reading the mood in the House, I request the mover to reply.

**Hon. Anthony Theuri**: Hon. Speaker, I like the mood of the House and I'm a man known by his bravery. I never shy away from the challenges. To some extent, I agree with him. But this is a country where we are leading everybody and we are leaders. We are not in a fight with the National Government, Mr. Speaker, and we are there to complement and supplement each other, Mr. Speaker. It doesn't matter if there was an error, maybe they wanted to do some drainage and they wrote, maybe they wrote dykes, Mr. Speaker. It doesn't matter.

What matters is the availability of the services to our people and what we offer them. I wish to thank all the Members for their support. I've also heard your plea Hon. Samuel Gatati. I was in attendance in the morning for the HBC and I can see my fellow Committee Members, some of them are here. I want to remind you, Hon Gatati, we are in agreement. We said by the start of the coming year, everybody will be included in HBC.

That is what we agreed since we are following our Standing Orders. We cannot change the HBC members in the midst of semester or calendar. Maybe by the end or by the start of January, everybody will be in HBC and business will be as usual. And you should congratulate me; I had seen the error. Because I don't want to expose ourselves, Mr. Speaker. When things go wrong in this House, it is for everybody. I cannot come here and I shame everyone.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I'll be ashamed too. So, whatever you have said in negativity here about this House, you are the number one to be ashamed. So, some things will be done in-house for the sake of our people. With all respect, the people are my in-laws from the northern part there, they know nothing about the National Government. They know nothing about the County Government, what they want is service delivery. Timely and efficiently.

Mr, Speaker, instead of challenging my motion, because it is a motion for now, you should come up with, yours, we allocate money for civic education. Our people need civic education. Were it not for you, nobody would have known. They have known that this House has done dykes, done trenches, done the affordable houses, all that is on us. Even the affordable houses to remind you, they are building it on our land. But we are taking the credit. That is what you should know.

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We are not here fighting with anyone. We are here complementing. Just to remind you, and I'm not challenging you, the Health Department is devolved. But we get less than 10% of the budget that we are allocating for the National Government yet we take the blame. That is what we should be challenging and offering answers to our people, and a solution, but not challenging as if we are fighting here. I thank them, because I know they are going to vote for this motion, positively, for the sake of our people.

Then we can gamble, outside there, we can say what we say, what we don't want, who is coming to this House or not. But I thank God, because I got an opportunity to serve my people, regardless of everything. I love my work. If I were to be asked, we could be even working on a Sunday. Seven days a week, 24 hours, because that is what we desire. Nobody was called from home and come and get a seat. We all went to the field. Others were nominated, and they are grateful. So I'm grateful, Hon. Speaker.

I know we are working in the right direction. I'm positive regardless of what is happening in the world, I'm positive that we are heading to the right direction. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Temporary Speaker (Hon. Nicholas Mwaniki):** Thank you, Honourable Members, for the robust discussion that we have had.

*(Question put and agreed to)*

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Temporary Speaker (Hon. Nicholas Mwaniki):** The sittings of this House have been adjourned to the Tuesday, 30th September, 2025 at 10.00 a.m.

The House rose at 3.16 p.m.

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