REPUBLIC OF KENYA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF LAIKIPIA

THE HANSARD

Wednesday, 27th October, 2021

The House met at the Assembly Chambers at 2.30 p.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: Sargent at Arms to ring the bell for ten minutes.

(Quorum bell rang for four minutes)

Speaker: Clerk confirm whether we have achieved quorum.

(Quorum confirmed)

MOTION

QUARTERLY REPORTS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS BY LABOUR COMMITTEE FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST MARCH, 2020

Hon. Patricia Muthoni through Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On behalf of the Chair Labour, Social Welfare and Community Services Committee I beg to move the following motion;

> THAT this Assembly adopts the Report of the Labour, Social Welfare and Community Services Committee on County Government of Laikipia (Executive) quarterly report and financial statements for the period ended 31st March, 2020 dated 19th October, 2021.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Preface.

Mr. Speaker Sir, on behalf of the Members of the Committee on Labour, Social Welfare and Community Services in pursuant to the provision of standing order No. 191/5 (f), It is my pleasure and duty to present to the house, the Committee's report on the County Government of Laikipia (County Executive) Quarterly Reports and Financial statements for the period ended 31st March 2020.

Committee Membership

The Committee as currently constituted, comprises of the following members:

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1. Hon. Patricia Muthoni -Chairperson
2. Hon. Christopher Mark -Vice Chair person
3. Hon. Joseph Suge -Member
4. Hon. Robert Maina -Member
5. Hon. Irene Wachuka -Member
6. Hon. Simon Kanyutu -Member
7. Hon. Lochimidi J. Esokon -Member

Committee Mandate

The Committee is established under the Standing Order No. 191 which provides that the committee shall investigate, inquire into, and report on all matters relating to the mandate, management, activities, administration, operation and estimates of the assigned departments among other functions.

Committee Meetings

Mr. Speaker, the Committee has held a meeting to scrutinize the document as required prior to tabling it in the house. Mr. Speaker, May I take this opportunity to thank all the members of the Committee for their valuable contributions during the entire process.

Committee Establishment

Mr. Speaker, the Committee on Labor, Social Welfare and Community Services was constituted by the House on 28th September 2017 during the First Session of the Second Assembly in Laikipia County.

Mr. Speaker, this is one of the Sectoral Committees established under Standing Order No. 191(g) with the mandate to make reports and recommendations to the Assembly as often as possible, including recommendations of proposed legislation.

Background Information.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, pursuant to the Public Finance Management Act, 2012 Section 166 which stipulates that not later than one month after the end of each quarter, the County Treasury shall;

a. Consolidate the quarterly reports and submit them to the Assembly.
b. Deliver copies to the Controller of Budget, National Treasury and Commission on Revenue Allocation
c. Publish and publicize them.

Fiduciary Management of the Funds

The key management personnel who held office during the financial period FY 2019/20 and who had direct fiduciary responsibility were the County Executive Committee Member for County Administration and Public Service.

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The Financial Performance

Mr. Speaker Sir, the County Government Financial Statement presents the recent actual fiscal performance for the second quarter of FY 2019/2020 and makes comparison to the budget that was appropriated for the said period. It also provides a comprehensive and financial review with sufficient information to indicate changes from the projections outlined in the latest County Fiscal Strategy Paper 2019/2020.

In the 3rd Quarter, the County Executive budgeted for Kshs. 2,163,290,361 of which Kshs. 1,691,852,814 was realized. This represents a 78% budget realization. The expenditure figures stood at Kshs. 1,437,594,577 against a budget estimate of Kshs. 2,063,815,267 which represents a 70% budget utilization.

Mr. Speaker, on the next page there is a table showing the programmes, sub-programmes, description, approved budget F/Y 2019, actual payments in 1st, 2nd and 3rd quarters and the variance in the last column. In overall the department spent a total of Kshs. 688,734,920 in the second quarter as compared to Kshs. 841,754,422 in the 2nd quarter F/Y 2020. It is worth noting that expenditures incurred are recurrent in nature.

Committee observations;

1. There is an increase in the compensation to employees vote. This vote encompasses the basic salaries of permanent employees, basic wages of temporary employees, personal allowances paid as part of salary and pension and other social security contributions.
2. The disaster reduction management sub- programme has an over expenditure of Kshs. 770,991. This means that other sub-programmes will be affected by this sub-programme.
3. The children's support programme had an increased absorption rate. This expenditure relates to the school fees that was paid for the students of the Laikipia Rescue and Rehabilitation Centre.

Committee Recommendations;

1. The department should ensure that optimal staffing levels are maintained so as to keep the current wage bill at manageable levels.
2. The department should ensure that the disaster reduction management sub-programme is within the allocated budget.
3. The department should ensure that the child support programme vote has been utilized so as to cater for the children's basic needs.

The committee concluded that the House do adopt the committee's report on County Government of Laikipia (County Executive) report and financial statements for the period ended 31st March, 2020.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker because I was presenting this report on behalf of the chair, it is also my pleasure to call upon the Deputy Speaker to also second this report on behalf of the Members.

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Hon. Daniel Nyausi: Thank you, Hon Speaker. I think this is one House that we have been doing several work together as members of this House. I then take this chance to second the report brought by Hon. Stephen Ndiritu, on behalf of the chair for Labour and Social Welfare and Community Services Committee. It is a very detailed report and as I said Hon. Speaker, we did it closely with all Members so I will expect Honourable Members to support the report because it is not new to all of us. Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I second.

(Question proposed)

Hon. Daniel Mugweru: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to support this report of this committee because it was not brought here for the Members of the committee but for the whole House. So whether all Members are not present, it was brought to us who are here so that we may make our contributions towards the same.

Mr. Speaker, we need to take this report seriously, because when we discuss about the year that ended 31st March 2020, it would be so unfortunate if some months to come we will find ourselves reading of year 31st 2021 while having the same challenges. These are some of the reports that we need to take seriously because they will help us understand how we are supposed to go about it and the failures we have had in the past so that in the future we may not find ourselves in the same. Mr Speaker, I support. Thank you.

Speaker: May the mover give a reply.

Hon. Stephen Nderitu: Asante, Mheshimiwa Spika. Nafikiri hii ni ripoti ambayo Wajumbe wamepitia na nafikiri ndio maana wamekimya kwa sababu tayari wameelewa hii ripoti na wameijua. Waliweza kuipitia na ninaelewa ya kwamba yale yote ambayo yako katika hii ripoti ni mambo ambayo sisi kama Wajumbe tunastahili kushughulikia.

Kama vile nimeweza kueleza hili Bunge ya kwamba, kuna programu ambazo unapata pesa imetumika zaidi ya zile ambazo zilipitishwa. Hiyo ndiyo huwa inaleta changamoto wakati tunaenda kufunga mwaka. Utapata kuna *vote* zingine ambazo hazitaweza kufanyiwa kazi ama hazitaweza kupata pesa ya matumizi kwa sababu zimetumika katika *vote* ambazo zimepita.

Ni vizuri idara zote katika Serikali yetu ya Laikipia ziwe zinatumia pesa kulingana na vile ilipitishwa. Mimi nafikiria ni sheria kwamba bajeti kama umepewa mia tano unafaa kutumia hiyo mia tano katika hiyo programu bila kutumia zaidi. Ukitumia zaidi kutakuwa na changamoto. Nafikiria Mwenyekiti na kamati yake wako na shughuli zingine wanafanya kwa niaba ya Bunge hili.

Namuona Mheshimiwa Lochimidi ambaye yuko katika Bunge hili na sijasikia akisema jambo lolote. Nafikiria ya kwamba pengine kama vile tulisema wapelekwe mahali kwa sababu Mheshimiwa Lochimidi ni mgeni na tunamtambua sana. Amekuwa mtu wa maana wakati tuko katika kamati na huwa anachangia na anatoa mapendekezo vile inavyostahili.

Hapa Bunge inafaa pia aweze kuingizwa kazi ili afike mahali sisi tumefika kama vile tumekaa hapa zaidi ya miaka nne. Nafikiri ni kijana shupavu mwenye yuko na ari ya kufanya kazi na kufanyia wanalaikipia kazi. Kwa hayo machache nashukuru, Asante. Naomba waheshimiwa...

Speaker: Which is the business that the Members of the committee have outside the House?

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Hon. Stephen Nderitu: Mheshimiwa Spika, unajua biashara ni mingi na kama walivyonieleza wako biashara, nafikiri wako katika biashara ya kamati ambayo siwezi dhibitisha kwa sababu mimi nimeelezwa nifanye kazi hii. Na mimi ni mtumwa wa watu wa Laikipia.

Kwa hivyo hata nikiambiwa kiti chako nitaendesha hii Bunge mpaka mwisho. Nafikiri nafanya kwa niaba ya Mwenyekiti bila kujua biashara hiyo ingine ni gani ameenda pamoja na kamati. Kwa hayo machache nashukuru na naomba Wajumbe awaweze kuipitisha kwa sababu ni ripoti inayoeleza kinagaubaga matumizi ya pesa za serikali. Asante

(Question put and agreed to)

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

VOTER REGISTRATION CAMPAIGN

Speaker: Hon. Ndiritu, do not allow yourself to be so much directed by people, because if somebody told you to sit on this Chair, I think it has to be through the orders of the House. When there is no Member of the Speaker's Panel and the Speaker and Deputy Speaker are not there, then the Members have to cast a vote and make you Chair for that particular day so that the leadership can be able to preside over the House. Campaign

I just want to remind you of what I said yesterday, that our voter registration numbers are very low and I hope the Members are still remembering that. We really need to talk to the people we represent to make sure that people register as voters in this County. I said that that is an exercise that has direct implications on how we live our lives for the next five years. Therefore, it is important to go asking people to come out and vote in large numbers so that they can be able to make decisions for the leadership that will be able to lead them.

I remember Hon. Ndiritu responded somewhere and said some of the reasons will be that maybe these Members have been promised so many times that there will be job creation; five hundred thousand jobs every year and maybe thirty thousand jobs at the County level. Whatever promises have been made, and maybe life has continued to be tougher. I think we have to go an extra mile and be able to talk to our people and encourage them because we have had a very rough time since last year when Covid came, and this year.

Many people would wish to blame it on the Government that we have been in a country with curfew; business did not go as people expected therefore we might be having a discouraged or demoralized citizenship. Therefore, it is important for us as leaders, because we lead and are influential, we can be able to go and give morale to our people and give hope to them. It is hope that causes many people to live each and every single day, therefore let us encourage our people. Let us show them that we can be able to make better decisions and even when we do not do something, when we do not register as voters and cannot vote in an election it means that we are not bringing any change. Therefore, it is important to make sure that as leaders we support that.

As I said yesterday, let us not only be seen in social media and Twitter, let us also go out there. At times we do it for the sake of us being seen that we also went out and are telling people to register, therefore I will just take a picture and tell people on social media or Twitter to register. It is okay. The people on Facebook and those who can access social media have really heard that gospel, but it is important also to reach out to those who have no access to the same.

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Therefore, as responsible and concerned leaders, let us continue to encourage our people to register as voters. I said yesterday that by 25th, that is the day before yesterday, we had only 10.7% of people expected to have registered as voters in this County. They are the only ones who had registered. I know some Members like Hon. Karuiru have a more difficult job encouraging people to register because in places like Ol Moran we have issues of insecurity. That means you must go an extra mile to see what strategies to apply to achieve that result. Otherwise thank you so much. I am also aware that there is a *kamukunji* today, therefore I would wish that we do it right away after this Sitting so that we can be able to finish on that and go to other businesses. Thank you.

ADJOURNMENT

Speaker: This House now stands adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday 28th October, 2021 at 2.30 p.m.

The House rose at 3.00 p.m.

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