REPUBLIC OF KENYA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF LAIKIPIA

THE HANSARD

Wednesday, 29th September, 2021

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

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

PRAYERS

PAPERS LAID

BUDGET IMPLEMENTATION REVIEW REPORTS

Hon. Joseph Kiguru: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a paper to lay;

1. National Government Budget Implementation Review report for the first nine months for the financial year 2020/2021.
2. County Governments Budget Implementation Review report for the first nine months for the financial year 2020/2021.

(Hon. Joseph Kiguru laid the Papers on the table)

Speaker: Hon. Members, the two papers stand committed to the Budget and Appropriations committee.

MOTIONS

QUARTERLY REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF WATER, ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST MARCH 2020.

Hon. Simon Kanyutu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I beg to move the following motion;

THAT, this Assembly adopts the report of the Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources Committee on County Government of Laikipia (Executive) quarterly report and financial statements for the period ended 31st March, 2020 for the 2019/2020 financial year for the department of Water, Environment and Natural Resources dated 15th September, 2021.

The committee comprises of the following Members;

1. Hon. 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. Lochimidi Esokon – Member

The approved Budget, expenditure and Absorption rate are in the table underlined;

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Program/ sub program	**Approved budget 2019/2020 FY (A)**	**Percentage Absorption Rate D/A* 100**
Rural water supply and sanitation	182,736,995.00	7.1
Administration and planning Services	11,019,589.00	54.6
Personnel services	5,000,000.00	61.8
Strategic Project Monitoring and intervention	2,000,000.00	67.8
Total	221,056,584.00	0.106

We had pending bills as at 31st March, 2020

Type of Pending Bill	**Paid Bills as at 31st March, 2020**
Construction of Civil Works	35,740,617.00
Supply of goods	5,617,350.00
Supply of services	10,427,046.00
Total Pending Bills as at 31st March, 2020	51,785,013.00

The Outstanding Imprests as at 31st March, 2020; At the end of the reporting period ending 31st March, 2020, the department had an outstanding Imprests amounting to Kshs. 3,868,925.00.

The committee observed the following;

1. The department had a total annual budget of Kshs. 221,056,584.00 out of which only Kshs. 17, 411,408.00 was expended during the period under review. This represented 7.9% absorption rate of the total budget. The cumulative expenditure (Quarter 1, Quarter 2 and Quarter 3) was Kshs. 23,502,600.00 representing a total absorption rate of 3.3%.

2. The department did not spend on two subprograms namely Solid Waste Management; and Human Wildlife Conflict Prevention in the 1st, 2nd and 3rd quarters of the 2019/2020 financial year.

3. Three programs namely Administration and Planning Services, Personnel Services and Strategic Project Monitoring and intervention were able to spend over 50% of the allocated budget as at 31st March, 2020.

4. From table 2, the total pending bills at the beginning of the period under review was Kshs. 79, 383,522.00 out of which Kshs. 51,785,013.00 was paid leaving a balance of Kshs. 27, 598,509.00 as at 31st March, 2020.

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The department was not able to absorb its budget within the quarters. The committee recommends that; the department to implement projects within its allocated budget timelines and also ensure proper plans are put in place. This is to avoid projects spilling over to the next financial year. The House adopts the committee's report. Thank you Mr. Speaker and I call upon the Hon. Member, representing people of Thingithu to second.

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

[Temporary Speaker (Hon. Chris Mark) took the Chair]

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Asante, Bwana Spika. Nasimama kuunga mkono na pia kuafiki huu mjadala ambao ni wa ripoti ya robo, Idara ya Kilimo. Mwenyekiti ameeleza vile idara ilitumia pesa, na kama vile nilivyo sema hapa juzi, hizi ripoti wakati tunaziangalia tuwe makini sana. Hizi ripoti ambazo tukipitisha upande ule mwingine wa ofisi ya mtendaji, wanaweza kutumia pesa vibaya. Nilisema pia ni vizuri tunapo tumia pesa kama hizi, kamati husika iweze kupewa nakala ambayo ni muhimu kama *exchequer*, na nakala ambazo zinaonyesha vile pesa zilitumika.

Tunaweza kuwa tunasomewa takwimu ambazo mtu amepiga chapa vile anafikiria, lakini tunaposoma ripoti tunasoma vile yeye amefanya. Ningetaka kamati husika, wakati tunaleta ripoti kama hizi tuwe makini na tuwe na muda wa kuangalia matumizi ya pesa. Kwa hayo machache nataka kuunga mkono huo mswada, na naomba Bunge iweze pia iweze kujadili na kuupitisha kwa wakati huu.

Mimi nimeafiki kama rafiki wa kamati, maanake Mwenyekiti anaelewa huwa natembea wakati wanakaa kwa vikao. Hiyo ndiyo maana nasema nikijua nyumba yao vile inakaa, naelewa kila kitu cha hiyo nyumba. Nimeona ni vizuri niweze kuafiki huo mswada kwa sababu ni wa maana kwa wakati huu. Asante.

(Question proposed)

Hon. George Meshami: Asante sana, Mheshimiwa Spika. Nami pia nasimama nikiunga mkono. Kwanza kabisa nataka nishukuru kamati kwa ile kazi njema wamefanya. Kulingana na makadirio ya matumizi ya pesa ya serikali, kamati husika inafaa watilie mkazo zaidi. Bwana Spika na kuangalia utekelezaji ya kila idara kwa kila kamati. Wapate jukumu ambayo wanaweza kutuletea taarifa na ripoti ambayo ni kamilifu. Kwa hivyo nasimama nikiunga mkono. Asante.

Hon. Simon Kanyutu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I admire because all the members have been able to go through the report and they have seen the work that we have done and am sure they will also support that we pass it. Thank you.

(Question put and agreed to)

QUARTERLY REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND FISHERIES FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST MARCH 2020.

Hon. Simon Kanyutu: Mr Speaker. I beg to move the following motion;

THAT, this Assembly adopts the report of Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources Committee on County Government of Laikipia quarterly and financial statement for the period ended 31st March 2019/2020 financial year, for the Department of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries dated 16th September 2021.

Mr. Speaker. I had stated earlier the Members it comprises of with an addition of Hon. Peter Thomi and Hon. Lochimidi as stated. As the report has clearly stated, we have the table

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showing the financial performance on approved budget and expenditure for quarter 1, 2 and 3 of the said department for the period of review.

The table is very clear and elaborate and what we can now deal with is the pending bills. The following table shows the amount of accumulative pending bills of quarter 1, 2 and 3 of the financial year 2019/2020. The pending bills are as stated in the 2nd and 3rd quarter. On 5.3 grants from international organizations for three quarters of 2019/2020, the following table shows clearly the agriculture, livestock and fisheries for three quarters. The grants are as stated in that table.

Mr. Speaker, on outstanding Imprests, the department had a total outstanding imprest of Kshs. 350,000 as at 31st March, 2020.

Committee observations;

1. The department was allocated an annual budget of Kshs. 510,310,120 for the F/Y 2019/2020 out of which the expenditure for the 3rd quarter was Kshs. 74, 475,487. This makes the cumulative expenditure for the three quarters to be Kshs. 136,914,481 representing 26.83%.
2. Animal health and disease management and control sub- programme had the highest budget allocation of Kshs. 248,061,388. The expenditure for the quarter amounted to Kshs. 54, 891,100 representing. Total expenditure on the programme for quarter 1, quarter 2, and 3 was Kshs. 60, 395,767 representing 24. 35% absorption rate.
3. Irrigation development and management had an approved budget of Kshs. 14,900,000 and had only expended kshs. 108,700 cumulatively for the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd quarters.

The cumulative pending bills for all the three quarters amounted to Kshs. 123,197,760.

The total received grants for the three quarters were Kshs. 64,985,840. It is also important to note that no grants were received by the department 1st quarter of 2019/2020 financial year.

On recommendations;

1. The department to explain how and why the pending bills accrued to Kshs. 123,197,760.
2. The department to ensure that all projects committed are done within the actual budget allocation and time frame.

The House adopts the committees report for the period ending 31st march, 2020. Mr. Speaker, I call upon Hon. Wakahiu to second the report.

Hon. Wilson Wakahiu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to support the report by the Agriculture Committee on the quarterly report and finical statements ending 31st March, 2020 for the financial year 2019/2020. I just want to appreciate the Chair of this committee because of taking us through. When we were trying to come up with this report, we were verifying the expenditures of this department and the observations as recommended by the committee.

I believe that the Members will be able to understand that there was under absorption rate in the said quarter and ¾ of the year. The committee found it important that the CEC concerned should come and have a meeting with the committee to explain how they have failed to absorb as per the allocated budget of the said F/Y. So I appreciate what the committee has done and I support the report.

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(Question proposed)

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Asante, Bwana Spika. Kama rafiki wa kamati, ningetaka kutoa maoni yangu kwa sababu katika hii ripoti tunaangalia vile ambavyo utumizi ya pesa inafanyika. Kwanza ningetaka kupongeza kamati kwa sababu wamefanya kazi bila kuchoka na nafikiria ya kwamba hii ndiyo kamati ambayo imeleta mahesabu siku moja na kujadiliwa tu kwa siku mbili pamoja. Nampongeza mwenyekiti kwa vile yeye yuko na upendo wa kuendesha hii kamati.

Bwana Spika, katika jedwali la kwanza, *approved budget expenditure and absorption rate* katika robo ya kwanza, ukiangalia kuna vile wameweza kueleza *percentage rate* na *approved budget*. Kwanza nikaona ya kwamba *solid waste management* iliweza kuwa na milioni kumi na mbili. Ukiangalia huo mstari mpaka mahali palipo na *percentage absorption rate,* utaona ya kwamba kwa hizo miezi tatu hawakuwa wametumia pesa zozote. Unashangaa kwa sababu katika huu mji wetu kuna kazi ambayo inafanywa ya kuokota takataka.

Hiyo takataka inapookotwa yote huwa inapelekwa katika Wadi ya Thingithu mahali kuna mbolea. Kama watakuwa na pesa ambazo hazijatumika, ni kumaanisha ya kwamba hata wale ambao wanafanya kazi huko hawapati mishahara na magari pengine haikuwa na mafuta. Hili ni jambo ambalo hii kamati inafaa kuangalia kwa undani kwa sababu tunaweza kuwaachia mambo zingine na tukose kuwa makini halafu baadaye tuwe na shida.

Watu wanaweza anza kuandamana kwa sababu kuna takataka kwa ploti. Hio ni laini ambayo inafaa kuangaliwa sana. Pia nikaona kulikuwa na ile *Human Wildlife conflict.* Walikuwa wanaweka shilingi 5,000,000. Katika utekelezi tunaona hakukua kitu. Mahali Mheshimiwa anatoka huko Marmanet, ndovu wanasumbua Wananchi. Pia Doldol na salama na pia wadi zingine ambazo zinapatakana na hizo misitu wawe wameshughulikiwa.

Bajeti ikipita kitu cha kwanza ni kuhakikisha zile miradi ilikuwa imetengewa pesa zimefanywa. Utakuta wale wafanyikazi wameenda polepole na mwisho wa mwaka unapata zile pesa zinarudishwa. Mwenyekiti anafaa kusukuma kuhakikisha zile pesa zimetumiwa na kwa njia ambayo inafaa. Wanaweza tumia kwa raha zao. Tunataka zile pesa zitumiwe kwa njia ambayo inafaa.

Ukiangalia mambo ya Utawala *(Administration)* ni mahali ambapo kuna hamu sana. Tunapata matumizi ya robo ya mwaka inaenda hadi 54%. Hapo lazima tuangalie. Wingi wa wafanyakazi *(Personnel services)* ni 61%. Kumaanisha tukienda mwisho wa robo ya mwaka watakua 154%. Kumaanisha watakuwa wametumia hii pesa *solid waste management*. Wanatumia zile pesa kulingana na kile kiwango kimeingia ile wizara.

Sio tu Wizara ya ukulima bali wizara zote. Katika upande wa utawala *(Administration)* wanajua kutumia pesa sana. Ni kama wameenda masomoni ya kutumia pesa. Yale mambo ni muhimu ni kumpea huduma ambazo zinafaa. Wakati tunafanya kazi na tunaweka mapendekezo ya ripoti ambazo tunaandika mahali tunapata wafanyakazi wanaenda polepole ama uzembe kuwe na pendekezo ambayo iko na uzito. Hata kama ni kufukuza. Hio ni haki. Wengine wetu tutafukuzwa hapa kwa sababu ya yeye. Kama tumepitisha daraja iwekwe na hakuna lazima tuangalie yale mambo. Lazima kila mtu afanye kazi yake anavyostahili.

Kama tutazembea hapa, hata huko chini tutazembea na hio ni kumaanisha yule Mwananchi anatungoja huko hafanyiwi kazi. Nampongeza mjumbe ambaye ameingia saa hii ndio tuburudishe hii kazi hadi iishe. Karibu sana. Asante sana.

Hon. Catherine Nyawira: Thank you Hon. Speaker. I wish to make my contribution on the report laid by Agriculture Committee. Allow me to refer from the previous report that

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was passed before in this House a while ago. The outstanding imprest as 31st March, 2020. One report says they stand at Kshs.3, 000,000 the other one was Kshs.350,000. Mr. Speaker, the Agriculture Department must be demoralized and working under stress. I don't see you don't pay staff all these money. I don't see how pending bills are not paid, staff not paid and when a supplementary budget comes in this House you actually supplement that money to take it elsewhere forgetting where it was.

Mr. Speaker, human-wildlife conflict prevention was money that was not spent yet there was a lot of conflict in Laikipia North. People were killed by elephants and crops destroyed. After the first quarter, that budget was brought before this House yet the money was supplemented and put elsewhere. That means when an Hon. Member from that area stands to say "*watu wao hawajalipwa*", they must remember that they are the same people who supplemented that budget and put the money elsewhere.

It is also amazing that the committee chooses to tell us that the department should explain how and why the pending bills accrued to Kshs. 123 million. I would have expected that the department could have called the Executive to explain this and not recommend this. When the report is brought before you, I believe you have a work plan that you are looking at and you should be telling us that according to the work plan that was submitted, the projects were not followed.

When a committee presents recommendations telling us that they should explain, I actually don't understand but I believe they are the ones who should be explaining to this House why the money was supplemented and how they have not been paid but not tell us the recommendations. Hon. Speaker, Agriculture…

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Chris Mark): Just a minute Hon. Nyawira, Hon. Chair you will still make pronouncement when moving…

Hon. Simon Kanyutu: Mr. Speaker, we have already passed the Report on Water…

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Chris Mark): Is it a clarification?

Hon. Simon Kanyutu: Yes.

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Chris Mark): Okay.

Hon. Simon Kanyutu: Now we are dealing with the Agriculture. The other issues pertaining to water have already been passed.

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Chris Mark): Maybe just to give some guidance I heard the Hon. Member talk about a recommendation which says the department to explain why the pending bills accrued to Kshs.123 million. It is in the recently read report on Agriculture dated 16th September, 2021.

Hon. Simon Kanyutu: The one that I am dealing with is for Agriculture.

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Chris Mark): On the part of recommendations.

Hon. Simon Kanyutu: That is why I am mixing up. As I was following how she has made her contributions, the pending bills are in both committees but the one that she has referred to is for Water Department and the Report for Water Department has passed already.

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Chris Mark): Hon. Member, you can make a clarification where you are pointing out recommendations.

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Hon. Catherine Nyawira: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. When I was beginning to make my contributions, I clearly said that I will refer to both documents because even in my contributions I am referring to the Supplementary Budget. I believe this is information that is contained in the archives of this Assembly which a Member can refer to at any time. Whether it is a report that has just been laid or a supplementary budget passed in 2019, I believe it is information that is valid. I had earlier said that I will use the same to enrich my contribution.

Therefore, as I was looking at this I did not want to be interrupted because it interrupts my line of thought. However, I was talking about the pending bills and the staff. I wondered how they have accumulated to such levels and also whether they will even be paid. As at now, there are many people complaining. Many people have been contracted and they are still complaining yet this year's budget did not have projects that were expected to be done apart from paying pending bills and Imprests.

Mr. Speaker, I feel that departments are failing to put the Executive on toes and on time. These are reports for 2019/2020. There is nothing they can do about them. They cannot contribute, recommend and put our inputs because it has already happened. The budget has been closed and the books have been closed.

Were we discussing a quarterly report for example this quarter that is just about to end, it would be very relevant because that way we would be able to work with the current budget and be able to ensure that the budget is implemented. Thank you.

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Chris Mark): Mover to give a reply.

Hon. Simon Kanyutu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the members who have made their contributions and I am also grateful because every person is concerned with the issues pertaining to pending bills that have become a thorn in the flesh to all of us not only Members of this Assembly, but even the contractors who have worked with this county.

Mr. Speaker, I am happy because when we were doing the budget these were the priorities that we made that all pending bills should be cleared. On the issues pertaining to Members being demoralized due to accumulative pending bills; that is true and we will try to follow up not only in the county. Even the National Government has issues of realising funds. That is why we are in the first quarter and no money for development that has been dispatched.

Sometimes, we have to agree with the status as per what the county cannot afford to do on its own because it has to rely from the National Government. I call upon Hon. Members because we have given the truth, we would not have lied to you Members to be happy. We have to state whatever we got from the records and this is what is in the books of records. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

(Question put and agreed to)

ADJOURNMENT

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Chris Mark): This House now stands adjourned until later today Wednesday, 29th September, 2021 at 2.30 p.m.

The House rose at 9:36 a.m.

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