REPUBLIC OF KENYA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF LAIKIPIA

THE HANSARD

Wednesday, 9th August, 2023

The House met at the Assembly Chambers at 9.20 a.m.

[The Speaker (Hon. Lantano Nabaala) in the Chair]

PRAYERS

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

PLENARY DELAY

Speaker: Hon. Members, I want to take this opportunity to give an apology as we had delays in starting the House as we were ensuring Members had copies of today's deliberation.

CPSB SELECTION PANEL

Secondly, allow me to communicate Section 58(a/1) –County Government Amendment Act, 2020;

> *"Whenever a vacancy arises in the County Public service Board, the Governor shall nominate and with approval of County Assembly, appoint Members to a selection panel for the purpose of selecting suitable candidates for appointment as Members of County public Service Board."*

Pursuant to the above provision, I wish to inform this House that the Governor has forwarded to the County Assembly through the Office of the Clerk names of the Members of a Selection Panel tasked with the recruitment of the Secretary, Laikipia County Public Service Board through a letter dated 1st August, 2023 and received on 2nd August, 2023 for consideration by this House.

The names of the nominees and their respective capacities forwarded by the Governor as follows;

1. Dr. Naomi Watetu Mbacho - Chairperson
2. Mary Mairimu Kinyanjui - Accountant
3. Robert Kaburia Miano - Union representative
4. Ann Naitiku Kiroku - Private Representative
5. Joseph Mwangi - Advocate representative.

Pursuant to Standing Orders No. 191 (5/f); and the first Schedule of the Standing order, the aforementioned Members shall be vetted by the Committee on Labour, Social Welfare and Community Services. I therefore urge this Committee to adhere to the timeframe as set by the Public Accounts County Assembly Approval Act, 2017. Thank you.

PAPER LAID

VETTING REPORT OF MS. PURITY KENDI GITONGA, ADMINISTRATION AND PUBLIC SERVICE CECM NOMINEE

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor*

Hon. Simon Kanyutu: Thank you Mr. Speaker. On behalf of the Chair, Appointment Committee I wish to lay the following Paper;

Report by the Committee on Appointments on the approval for appointment of Ms. Purity Kendi Gitonga as County Executive Committee Member for County Administration and Public Service.

NOTICE OF MOTION

VETTING REPORT OF MS. PURITY KENDI GITONGA, ADMINISTRATION AND PUBLIC SERVICE CECM NOMINEE

Hon. Simon Kanyutu: Hon. Speaker, I beg to give notice of the following motion;

THAT, taking into consideration the findings of the Committee on Appointments in its report on the vetting of the nominee for Appointment to the Office of County Executive Committee Members and pursuant to the provisions of Articles 179(2) of the Constitution, Section 35(2) and Sections 4 and 9 of the Public Appointments (County Assemblies Approval) Act, 2017, This House approves the appointment of Ms. Purity Kendi Gitonga as County Executive Committee Member for County Administration and Public Service.

MOTION

VETTING REPORT OF MS. PURITY KENDI GITONGA, ADMINISTRATION AND PUBLIC SERVICE CECM NOMINEE

Hon. Simon Kanyutu: Hon. Speaker, being a Member of the Committee on Appointment I beg to move the following motion;

THAT, taking into consideration the findings of the Committee on Appointments in its report on the vetting of the nominee for Appointment to the Office of County Executive Committee Members and pursuant to the provisions of Articles 179(2) of the Constitution, Section 35(2) and Sections 4 and 9 of the Public Appointments (County Assemblies Approval) Act, 2017, this House approves the appointment of Ms. Purity Kendi Gitonga as County Executive Committee Member for County Administration and Public Service.

The Committee on Appointments was constituted by the House on 18th October, 2022 comprising of the following Members: -

1. Hon. Lantano Nabaala - Chairman
2. Hon. John Gichuki Maina - Member
3. Hon. Parleto Lekopien Sammy - Member
4. Hon. Simon Kanyutu Kimani - Member
5. Hon. Moile Eunice Salaten - Member
6. Hon. Nicholas Mwaniki Muturi - Member

Mr. Speaker, the procedure for appointment of County Executive Committee Members is outlined under the Constitution, The County Government Act, 2017 and the Public Appointments (County Assemblies Approval) Act, 2017. Issues of consideration during the approval hearing were properly laid down. The procedure we used to arrive at the nominee is to confirm whether;

i. Is a Kenyan citizen;

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor*

ii. Is a holder of at least a first degree from a university recognised in Kenya;

iii. Satisfies the requirements of Chapter Six of the Constitution; and

iv. Has knowledge, experience and a distinguished career of not less than five years in the field relevant to the portfolio of the department to which the person is being appointed.

Mr. Speaker, we really questioned the appointee as per the guidelines. Ms. Purity Kendi Gitonga, appeared before the Committee on Monday 31st July, 2023 at 9.30 a.m. and was informed by the Chairperson that, pursuant to Section 7(10) of the Public Appointments (County Assemblies Approval) Act, 2017, the Committee invited submissions from the public on her suitability or otherwise for Appointment to the position of County Executive Committee Member. However, by the deadline date of 28th July, 2023, the Committee had not received any submission or memorandum from the public contesting her suitability.

On self-introduction, the nominee is a Female Kenyan born in 1989 in MiaMoja Village, Umande Ward, Laikipia County. She went to Kaliati Primary School. She attended Kimachia Secondary School for her A levels Certificate and completed in the year 2008. She holds a Bachelor of Commerce degree (Finance Option) from Meru University, 2015. Her Professional experience. She has worked in the following entities;

i. Currently a member of the Board of Management, Kalalu Secondary School.

ii. Participated in Community Volunteer services for Economic Empowerment as from 2016 to date

iii. Sales Consultant, Faulu Bank (Nanyuki) in the year 2016.

iv. Attached to Finance and Accounting Department, Laikipia County Government in 2014

v. Self-employed in the hospitality industry from 2011 to 2013.

On Honours and Awards the nominee has been awarded the following;

- Received an award from National Chamber of Commerce (Laikipia Chapter) as the best social empower.
- Received an award from PLO Foundation as the best social empower
- Received an award from "Laikipia awards" as the best social empower

Mr. Speaker, on Professional Association and Membership, the Nominee is the Chief Executive Officer Taifa Peace Ambassadors. Income and Net worth the nominee estimated her net worth to be Kshs.15 million, with her sources of income mainly from her businesses.

The nominee has neither been charged and convicted in a court of law for a criminal offence nor mentioned in an investigatory report of County Assembly or any other Commission of inquiry. She has also never been dismissed or otherwise removed from office for any conflict between personal interest and public or official duties.

Mr Speaker, we had a general sector and specific questions. There was something that she really elaborated and made us happy on Stagnation of staff and public wage bill. The nominee noted that the Public Finance Management Act, 2012 provides for a 35 percent on the recurrent expenditure of which currently the County Government have exceeded so. She informed the committee that there's need for staff assessment to ascertain the requisite

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor*

personnel for promotion depending on the availability of funds. She also noted that there's need for capacity enhancement of staff conduct staff appraisals.

There is another issue that has been a thorn in the fresh within the county on Addressing Alcohol and Substance (Drug) Abuse. She stated that she will use a multidisciplinary approach involving the administration and the leadership from the County. She further blamed alcohol and substance abuse on idleness among the youth and applauded the Governors efforts to engage the youth through sports. She informed the Committee that she would address the Drug abuse by rolling out Mental health programs affected by the Substance Abuse.

On how she would manage politics and her role as a County Executive Committee Member was a concern since she had contested as an independent candidate during the previous elections. The nominee underscored that other than vying for a political seat, she also aspired to be a leader and this has given her a platform to serve. She stated that she would refrain from political ambitions and major on her roles and responsibilities.

Committee's Observations

The Committee having considered the nominee's Curriculum Vitae and heard her oral submission during the vetting exercise/interview, made the following observations: -

1. She has satisfied the requirements of Chapter 6 of the Constitution of Kenya on leadership and integrity.
2. She has been cleared by the Criminal Investigation Department (CID), Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC), Kenya Revenue Authority on tax compliance, Higher Education Loans Board (HELB) and the Credit Reference Bureau.
3. In accordance with Article 78(1) (2) of the Constitution of Kenya and Section 35(3) and 35(4) of the County Government Act, she is a Kenyan citizen and does not hold dual citizenship and is therefore fit to hold office as a Member of County Executive;
4. Her academic credentials, and experience are impressive and in compliance with Section 7(8) of the Public Appointments (County Assemblies Approval) Act, 2017;
5. She has never been charged in a Court of Law.
6. As stipulated in Article 75(1) of the Constitution, she has no potential conflict of interest;
7. She satisfies the requirements of Article 77(1) of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 and Section 35(4) of the County Government Act in that she does not intend to participate in any other gainful employment;
8. She has never been dismissed from office for contravention of the provisions of Public Officer Ethics act which deals with conduct of public officers.
9. She has not been adversely mentioned in any investigatory report of County Assembly or any Commission of Inquiry.
10. She holds a Bachelor of Commerce degree (Finance Option) from Meru University.
11. She is the Chief Executive Officer Taifa Peace Ambassadors
12. She is not a member of any political party neither does he hold any political office.

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor*

13. The nominee exhibited impressive knowledge of topical issues touching on the County Administration and Public Service Department and had the requisite abilities, qualifications and experience.

Mr. Speaker, Pursuant to Article 179(2) (b) of the Constitution, Section 9(2) of the Public Appointments (County Assemblies Approval) Act, 2017 and Standing Order No. 184 (4), the Committee recommends that, this House approves the nomination of Ms. Purity Kendi Gitonga, for approval by the County Assembly for Appointment as County Executive Committee Member for County Administration and Public Service Department. I request Hon. Moile to second.

(Hon. Eunice Moile seconded the Motion)

(Question proposed)

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Asante Bwana Spika kwa kunipatia nafasi hii. Kwanza nataka nipongeze Bi. Kendi kwa kuteuliwa kama CECM Administration. Pia kamati kwa kufanya upeuzi wa Purity Kendi Gitonga. Namfahamu kama mmoja wa wanalaikipia ambaye amejitolea na kupigania haki za wanalaikipia na kuwania kiti katika Laikipia. Ninaposikia ameteuliwa nafurahia kwa sababu najua kama CECM atafanya kazi kwa njia ambayo inafaa.

Utawala (Administation) ni mambo ya kupanga na kuhakikisha Kaunti imesimama vizuri, kusaidia Gavana na kupanga mambo ya hii Kaunti. Kendi akiwa mmoja wa wale walisimama na kuwania kiti cha mwakilishi wa kina mama ni mojapo ya kazi ya kutawala. Niko na Imani akiwa CECM Administration, ataweza kuangalia mambo yote ya wafanyakazi wa Kaunti na kuangalia mambo inayohusiana na serikali tekelezi.

Bwana Spika, nimeona Bi. Kendi ni mtu aliyefaulu mtihani. Amepita mambo ya uadilifu iliyos sura ya sita katika katiba. Ana sifa ya kitaaluma na hivyo atafanya kazi bila kuegemea upande wowote. Yeye ni Mkenya. Mkenya ana haki ya kufanya kazi mahali popote. Kendi ana haki ya kufanya kazi hapa Laikipia na katika ofisi yoyote. Yeye ni mwenye shahada ya kwanza kutoka kwa chuo kikuu tajika Nchini. Masomo yake ni Kenya na anafahamu mambo ya Kenya.

Amehitimu kama Mkenya mwingine yeyote. Hili litamuwezesha kuhudumia Wakenya wa kawaida. *Has acknowledged experience and distinguished careers of not less than 5 years in fields relevant to the portfolio to the department the person is being appointed to.* Hii inatosha. Ana uzoefu wa miaka mitano. Mtu aliye maliza shule anapata kazi sembuse aliye na uzoefu wa miaka mitano? Ukiwa na uzoefu wa kutosha ina maana uko sawa.

Ripoti iliyowasilishwa na Mheshimiwa Kanyutu, inaeleza mambo yake kwa kina. Mambo ya utawala inahusika na mambo mengi. Kulingana na Ripoti, kuna jambo la *Professional Experience. Currently she is a board member of Kalalu Secondary school.* Hii ni shule inayofaulu vizuri na iko Laikipia. Purity Kendi akiwa waziri wa Administration, Laikipia itafaulu kama shule Kararu.

Naamini kwamba atafanya kazi. Nimeona pia ameshiriki katika *community volunteer services for economic empowerment as from 2016 to date.* Mimi kama Stephen Ndiritu, mwakilishi wa watu wa Thingithu napitisha. Namtambua Purity kwa kuwa ametoka Laikipia East. Tumekuwa na waziri toka Likipia North na West na sasa tumepata wa Laikipia East. Najivunia Purity Kendi sana pamoja na Laikipia East. Mwishowe tumepata mmoja kumanisha tunasonga mbele.

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor*

Leo naweza inua mikono niseme tumeshinda. Tukiwa na Kendi ina maana tumewakilishwa. Ipo wakati watu wengine walifanya hizi lakini leo ni siku yangu kufanya hivi. Naunga mkono uteuzi wa Kendi. Ikiwezekana baada ya kupitisha Ripoti hii awe ameapishwa. Nina uhakika atafanya kazi na yuko tayari.

Purity Kendi ni wa jinsia ya kike. Yeye ni mama na ambaye atafanya kazi. Naamini uongozi wa akina mama. Nyumbani kwangu niliwacha mama. Ninapoondoka naye mama anatawala. Nikirudi nitapata mambo yote yako sawa. Watoto na wafanyakazi wamepangwa na kupikiwa. Tukiwa na Bi. Kendi kama mama katika uongozi, sisi tutapangwa. Wakati Gavana hayuko, Kendi anatupanga. Mama akiwa mahali, kila kitu inapangwa.

Niko na imani na Kendi. Naamini atafanya kazi. Nawapongeza akina mama wote. Huyu ni mwenzenu. Mshikeni mkono na kukaa na yeye. Mfunzeni mambo yote mpaka kila kitu kiwe laini. Napenda akina mama sana. Siwezi kukaa kwa boma langu bila mama, afadhali nihame. Tunapenda wanawake kama nyama na chapati. Ni vizuri tupitishe Kendi ili mambo yote iwe sawa. Naunga mkono uteuzi wa Purity Kendi. Asante.

Speaker: Hon. Leshuel.

Hon. Paul Leshuel: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I stand to support the Report of Mrs. Purity Kendi. I am privileged to know Mrs. Kendi. She is energetic and a performer in areas she has worked. She is a youth and she represents the minority tribe of the Ameru in this area. It is a privilage to have Kendi especially in the department of Administration. It cross-cuts all the other departments.

I stand to support. The reason we have the power of approving people in the Assembly is because we are able to screen, look and interview the person. According to the law, the Governor is the appointee. We have the power of vetting those people he appoints. This enables us to know the qualifications and integrity of the nominees by how they answer the questions.

I am glad that the Committee gave us a very comprehensive Report about Mrs. Kendi. I am sure after her approval, she will perform. I stand to support. I know Kendi personally. If you want to know the intelligence of a person, you either interview them or give them a position. You can learn of a person if they are quiet. You will know a person when you interview them or give them a position.

Giving a person any position will surely tell you what kind of a person they are. For those who watch the US politics have seen the Presidential candidates going for public debates. This tells the country exactly what the person has in mind. If you go to US, security and economy are among the key issues of consideration. When a person speaks, you learn about them.

You must tell the direction and measures you shall put in place to hit your achievements. This is the reason why we have a committee of appointment for vetting. This is why we have a Report of the answers given by the nominee. We have no reason of objecting a Report that is so clear. It has given everything concerning Mrs. Purity Kendi.

For any Member who did not know Purity can easily know what kind of a person she is through the Report. From her qualifications, integrity and the way of answering questions are well elaborated in the Report. You can easily know that she is not bad and can perform. I am happy and I appreciate the Governor for considering the Ameru tribe.

In the Constitution we have affirmative action that takes into consideration the minority people. We also have regional balance and diverse of communities as a County. If you consider

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor*

all this, you will have no reason of not appreciating the Governor. That is the Law. If we comply with all perimeters of Law, it is clear that he is taking care of other tribes that are not the majority. Mr. Speaker I stand to support.

Speaker: Thank you Hon. Leshuel. Kindly allow me to jump to the other side of the House. In this sense, I will therefore invite Hon. Mugweru.

Hon. Daniel Mugweru: Thank you, Hon. Speaker for giving me this opportunity. I want to support my friend and a person I know very well. I can call her my favourite. I make my contribution to support her to be approved by this House to be a County Executive Committee Member for the County Administration and Public Service.

As Hon. Kagondu has said, today should also be my day to raise my hands like him to show my victory. This is a great day for Laikipia County for having the name Purity Kendi in this House. I want to thank the Governor for nominating her for the appointment. I also thank the Committee for having listened to her to come up with the Report we have today.

I will not go deep into this Report because I know Kendi more than this Report. Whether she answered wrongly or correctly or whatever she said, I know her better than what she can say in a committee. I may not dwell much on what she said or never said. Whatever she said, I believe it is the best. A time comes when a friend or someone you know well said something which became a gospel true for you.

Whatever was said to the Committee was the best from her. It is also the best we can get from this Region. I have come across the fact that Kendi schooled her lower classes in Umande. That makes me feel better. Currently, Mia Moja School is in Mukogodo East it but it was in Umande previously. Just like Segera and Mukogodo East which was in Umande. I am in the middle of them.

This is why normally as I make my contributions, I feel good being associated with the people of Mukogodo East and Segera. I am in the middle and am comfortable while in Segera or Mukogodo East. This were all parts of Umande. When Purity says she schooled in Mia Moja in Umande, she is right. The IDs of the people from Segera, Umande and Mukogodo East are all written Umande. I am proud that she schooled there and is currently located in Nanyuki Ward which is also my neighbour.

Today is my happiest day having Kendi being discussed in this Assembly. I have a lot of faith that she shall be approved and sworn in as early as today. I have heard of a question you asked her on how she will manage her role and politics. She does not need to manage. The fact that she vied for Women Rep gives her a higher notch to work for the people of Laikipia.

As she was campaigning, she went to every village. This made her understand Laikipia better. She is the best CECM. When you just wake up to tell her my village is this in Marmanet, she will be able to know where you are talking about. She understands the whole of Laikipia. During her campaigns she understood the challenges of the people of Laikipia. I would not even ask her to manage the role and politics. They correlate.

We work on our roles and we are in politics. These things are there Mr. Speaker. Nothing stops us from working because we are politicians. The House recognizes politics. We should not demonize politics. You find the daughters being in the side of the father while the son is on the side of the father. Politics are there even in the house and in the hospitals. Politics are everywhere. We cannot fail to engage in politics.

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor*

At the end of the day, you are the one who interprets whether it is politics or not. Even in churches you will hear people say that the sermon was pure politics. We might talk about active politics and but about the ambitions; there is nothing we can do about it. She will remain ambitious. You cannot remove ambitions from anyone. She will remain and work as an ambitious person. I believe that one day she shall get the best for herself and the people of Laikipia.

In the Report she responded on the issue of alcohol. We all know the damage of alcohol in our County Laikipia. I believe that she being a candidate understands how to manage alcohol in this County in a more prudent way.

Even those people who are drunkards are our voters and because she understands her role and also knows their value, she will be able to understand how to handle the issues of alcohol in this county. Waking up and start saying that we want zero alcohol, it is lying to ourselves because even the people who are fighting always say that we should always be thinking of minimizing and advocate for responsible drinking.

Hon. Speaker, because you went through the system of politics, she understands how to handle the issues of alcohol in this county and she is also able to understand the number of bars we are supposed to have in this county. Therefore, this is the best person suited for this position for this Department of Administration. We really needed someone who understands what we go through as Hon. Members.

Previously some years back, we used to talk about street ights and they were managed by the Department of Administration because security is in their docket. So, the streetlights and security go together. In a certain shopping centre, if you tell somebody that they need streetlights, they do not understand but today we have somebody who understands those villages. Maybe she campaigned during the night and she saw the hardship in those shopping centres.

Hon. Speaker, that is why we expect all these things sorted out by her because God has given her this position. Secondly, we should even be proud of one of us because tomorrow I might lose in politics or somebody else. In 2013, I vied but I lost and I would have felt better if I were made a CECM then. You never know the outcome of the next elections and therefore we need to embrace our career. We chose the career of politics and therefore we do not need to be demonized but we need to be felt as leaders who can deliver in this county.

It would be so unfortunate that one day someone can say that you cannot become this or that because you were once a Speaker and a Speakers position is in the field of politics. So, Hon. Members, let us support her to be the CECM for County Administration. It is for our own good and we are also Hon. Members and as people who went through the election process and God gave us positions. Therefore, we should also appreciate even those who lost because we do not know the outcome of tomorrow. We really support Purity Kendi to be approved in this House and it is my prayer that she be sworn in soon so that the County of Laikipia may start working in that department.

A very strong message in this county that politics is not a bad thing and being a politician does not make you lesser than other individuals. Mr. Speaker, therefore approving it is a message by itself to the people of Laikipia and the leaders in this county. So, I call upon all the Hon. Members to support her to the end and make sure that we approve her as soon as this morning waiting for swearing in. Thank you.

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor*

Hon. Joseph Gitahi: Thank you, Mr. Speaker for this opportunity. Before I delve to the core matter, let me first say that it is a deep reflection for us as elected Members of County Assembly. It is exactly one year since we got elected and this morning I was reflecting on the same since early in the morning. So, I might not be able to throw my hands in the air as Hon. Mugweru said or Hon. Stephen but I want to say that there is a lot we are reflecting on the performance as the Assembly and the County Government of Laikipia from which our people have hope.

Having said that Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate the Committee on Appointment for the report that they have assembled and presented before us today. I want to say that I am pleased and I would want to also congratulate the nominee, Mrs. Purity Kendi as the CECM County Administration.

Hon. Speaker, I want to say that Mrs. Purity Kendi comes at the right time. You will realize that as you go across the department of the County Government, we have some of the best public servants. The County Executive have appointed some of the best people that we would have as administrators. However, we need constant streamlining of these people so that we have goals and visions where our people will all point to and we are able to deliver to our people.

Mr. Speaker, I want to say that the appropriateness of Mrs. Purity Kendi is also anchored in the qualifications that we have had and also in her spirit of working. Having gone to school and attained the degree that we heard about from Hon. Kanyutu, we believe that she has the best mental infrastructure to argue out things, bring policies before Executive and to ensure that these policies are sound to our people and not for today but also for the futility of Laikipia.

Thirdly, I also want to say that her appropriateness is also based in her spirit. We have just heard from the report that she has volunteered to be one of the board members for Kalalu Secondary. I am a board member of several institutions in my ward and I understand the sacrifice that comes from it and the magnitude of understanding issues that comes with such volunteering.

Additionally, I also want to say that our nominee is appropriate by virtue. I want to say just like Hon. Mugweru has said. Getting into politics is not a mistake and it is not worshipping the devil. So, we would wish that that perception be gotten from the appointing culture. I applaud her for being a politician. She has traversed this county to understand the issues facing the target person of public service delivery.

Previously, I have known Purity Kendi during the campaign period and even before while working as a journalist at a local station. I have interviewed her in the local stations and I know her capabilities in terms of understanding certain issues and providing solutions.

Having said that, I also want to state that last week I had mentioned in this House while approving the appointment of Chief Officer of the Administration in the Office of the Governor, I had said that I have an open letter to the appointee. Last Sunday I handed the letter to him pointing the issues that I feel should be concentrated much and of great importance. So today I would wish to say to Purity Kendi that let her be different. Let our people feel that there is a government in position and let them feel secure.

Mr. Speaker. You will realize that her docket extends to issues of security and administration. As we are speaking, I am happy to see that Hon. George Karuiru, Hon. Benson Kuria, Hon. Salim and all other Members whose wards have been affected by insecurity are

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor*

around. We would wish to appeal to the nominee, please do not wait like it has been done in the past, where we come appoint people, shower praises on them but when we are crying for help from our wards, they cannot even listen.

That is why I am happy that the nominee is a politician and has traversed this county. She has heard the cries of women from our wards and she understand the magnitude of the problem. May she do it differently. If anything was to be forgotten from what I am presenting today, let her understand to be different from what we have seen in the past.

As I sit Mr. Speaker, I also want to say that I am happy as I was listening to Hon. Mugweru make his presentation. Hon. Salim my neighbour here was doing his calculations. I asked him whether he is doing calculations and he told me that he has calculated and realized that Purity Kendi is only 34 years. I want to state that it is good that the County Government of Laikipia is committed to including youthful people to work in different offices. I want to say that this is the best gift we can have as people from that special interest group.

Previously in the past and I have raised it here before, I would seek forgiveness if it hurts anybody but I would like to say that there is a generation that does not just get things in the way they are happening in the current world. That is why I am happy with the inclusion of Purity Kendi as a youthful person in the County Government of Laikipia. We beseech her that she does not forget the predicament of the current youth.

I am also happy on the inclusion of women in the County Government of Laikipia. Numerous studies and literature have pointed to the strength of diversity when it comes to gender, age and other issues. So, I wish her well and I would want to ask this Assembly to kindly support her. There are a lot of issues but I would like the Assembly to get blind to all the other issues that are going on and we approve her appointment for the service of our people. All other things will come to an end but I believe that good service for our people will remain in their hearts. Thank you.

Hon. Nicholas Mwaniki: Thank you, Mr. Speaker for giving me this opportunity to support this motion. Being a member of Appointment Committee, I was present on the day we were vetting Mrs. Purity Kendi. As a member of that committee, I saw an appointee full of energy, vigour and a person who is ready to work for the Laikipians.

While we were doing the campaigns, I had interacted with her on the ground and she had a manifesto. Purity Kendi is a person who does not shy off while dealing with the public or when she has an issue which she wants to drive through to the minds of the community. As we have witnessed from the day the elections were done up to date, she is still serving the community in various capacities in our county. She is a great advocate for education and support for young people in our schools.

So being appointed by the Governor to the position of administration is a step forward in Laikipia County Because we have got a person who is self-driven in-service delivery in our county. For her being a youth is an added advantage because we are in our digital days in this country and therefore need to embrace new technologies and ideas from our young people in this country. If at all we do embrace diversity in this country, we are headed nowhere because the world has already revolutionized in terms of technology and ideas. These young people are the driving force in this country and therefore our Governor appointing a young person is a step forward and we congratulate him.

We also congratulate the appointee because she has been pushing this from the day she was in the elections and wanted to lead this county. She sat down with the Governor and gave

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor*

him her ideas on how to lead Laikipia County in terms of administration and he saw a person who can deliver change and add substantial development to our county. So having her in this county, it is a step forward. Being in finance and a hustler as a young person as you can see in her income and net worth of Kshs.15 million, she shows that she has got something in her. She has the energy and brains to work out even if she is in self-employment. She has got an idea to where she is headed to. So being an appointee in this county, she has got a lot to offer in this county. She is also a vocal leader and stands her ground.

She drives her points through no matter what and this are the changes that my fellow Hon. Member Hon. Gitahi has advocated her. Change is inevitable in this county and we need people who can sit down and support the ideas but we do not need people in this government who just sit down and be given old ideas that have been outdated. We need to embrace new technologies and ideas and this is a kind of person who does not shy off driving her points through. Being appointed in the Administration Section in this county, it is a great step and I being a Member of this Assembly, I do support her appointment and I wish her the best in service delivery in this county. Thank you.

Hon. George Karuiru: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is only that you did not finish to mention Wairimu and Kanyi. I stand to support the report on the appointment of the nominee, Purity Kendi. I would like first of all to congratulate the Committee on Appointment led by you Mr. Speaker, knowing that it has been a big task, burning the midnight oil so that as we head to adjournment of the Assembly, we can approve the nominee in place.

Mr. Speaker, as the Hon. Members know, the heart of the county in terms of departments is the County Administration because it holds so many issues that actually would not be ran well without having a good representation. I would as well want to congratulate H.E the Governor, Joshua Irungu for seeing it good to appoint a lady, especially in this department.

Mr. Speaker, it has been a long tough journey now that we know the County Administration touches matters on disaster management. It is the overall department that manages all the employees and other things. So, having Kendi as the nominee who has been approved by the Governor and has been brought to this Honourable House to be discussed by a county in front of the whole House, is the right direction.

I have seen the nominee at a personal level. I have known the nominee for sometimes. It was worrying when the said nominee went to vie for the women representatives' seat in Laikipia County. I knew her as Kendi from Taifa Peace Ambassador. Mr. Speaker, she has been an advocate of peace such that when the campaigns were not at climax, she was came to my Ol Moran Ward to visit many welfare groups for the women.

Maybe it was campaign plans but I knew her as a person who has a heart for Laikipians. I know she is a Merian and that is why we congratulate the Governor for making sure there is community diversity. Laikipia County has all the representatives from the tribes that we have. Mr. Speaker, Kendi holds a Bachelors Commerce, Finance Option. She is a graduate and I know the balancing of every county. I will not say the others but Laikipia County need such a person to manage.

We know some departments learn slowly and I believe this lady with her energy and expertise in social welfare, she is going to take Laikipia County higher. Mr. Speaker, I have seen the recommendations and what has enticed me is that the nominee doubles up as a social worker with more than eight years' experience. She has played a big role in community development in Laikipia.

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor*

Most of the adverts I have seen lately is the KDF recruitment and most qualifications put across are five years' experience. She is overboard because she has eight years in the development sector in Laikipia and she is a great advocate for womens rights as well as women and youth empowerment. Mr. Speaker, the key department is the County Administration in our county.

Every week we have fire disasters and having her in place and going on with what we did, we might not have done what she would expect, but she is going to harmonise this. As Hon. Gitahi for Githiga Ward has said because we lie in a common problem, when we are crying because of fire because most of our building are wooden and from bandit attack, we will have quick responses.

Some of these things lies in the County Administration Programme. She has diversely explored Laikipia County and therefore she will organise that. Mr. Speaker, without giving much, I know Kendi is equal to the task. She is a Godly woman. In a particular meeting when we were taking tea with Hon. Members, I heard that in church *Harambee's* she has contributed for the same not knowing that she will be discussed.

Mr. Speaker, I might be misquoted but that is not bribe. That is showing a sign of godliness in that person. What we want because this department is a very sensitive and godly person, I am hoping that as the committee has approved and has brought the report on board, we are going to embrace and accept Kendi and we shall go on well. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I support the nominee.

Hon. Salim Edung: Asante, Mheshimiwa Spika. Kitu cha kwanza ni pongezi kwa Kamati ambayo inaongozwa na Spika. Pili napongeza Gavana kwa kuleta hili jina katika Bunge hili. Aliangalia majina mengi lakini akapendekeza hili jina. Wakati alipendekeza hili jina, kuna jambo aliona na kujua kwamba anaweza kupatiwa hiyo nafasi na atafanya kazi bila shida yeyote. Naunga mkono hili jina liletwe katika Bunge hili ili tuliipitishe .

Wenzangu wanajadili kwamba ni vizuri tumpatie hii nafasi kwa sababu wadi zetu ziko na changamoto na usalama wa Kaunti hii. Hii nafasi itawanyamazisha wengine kutoka sehemu zingine katika Laikipia. Wakati tulipitisha nafasi ya Stephen Napian, niliangalia kwa makini na ninapomwangalia Kendi ninajua kwamba vijana wakiingia katika Bunge hili ili kufanya kazi, watafanya kazi kwa nguvu zao kwa sababu ni vijana ambao tumewatafutia kazi.

Katika Kitongoji utasikia vijana wakisema wametengwa lakini nikiangalia hizi vijikaratasi na miaka ambayo vijana wako nayo, sisi tunasema huko nje kwamba tunapeana kazi kwa vijana na vijana pia wajitokeze ili wapate kazi. Nashukuru mwenyekiti kwa sababu kamati yako ilifanya kazi na kuelewa kwamba Purity Kendi anastahili kupatiwa hiyo nafasi. Napongeza sana kwa sababu Purity Kendi alikuwa mwanadada ambaye alijitolea kila mahali.

Uchaguzi uliopita, tulijaribu kukutana na yeye maeneo mbalimbali na ilifika mahali nikashangaa wakati alikuwa akitafuta kura kwa sababu tulikutana na yeye Doldol usiku wa saa tano. Huyu ni dada mwenye nguvu na anastahili. Nikiangalia nakala yake yeye ako na mapato ya milioni kumi na tano. Kijana ambaye anapata mapato ya hiyo pesa, jua ya kwamba anatafuta kwa bidii na si mtu ambaye anakaa.

Anatafuta hii pesa kwa bidii ili aimarishe maisha yake. Nikiangalia kwa makini sana anapopatiwa hii nafasi, ataweza kupiga hatua. Atakuwa amepiga hatua nyingine katika maisha yake. Pia mahali ametoka ni sehemu za Umande, na kwa mara mingi Mheshimiwa Mugweru pia ametaja Segera na Mashariki mwa Mukogodo. Huyo ni ndugu yangu na pia tunafanya kazi

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor*

pamoja. Saa hizi nikimwambia ya kwamba nimetoka Umande kwa kitambulisho changu nimetoka huko lakini nimehamia Segera.

Ningetaka kuambia Mheshimiwa Mugweru ya kwamba mahali ambapo Mungu ametuweka, ametuweka ili tusaidie wananchi wa Laikipia. Ni pongezi kwa kutambua sehemu za Segera kama vile natambua Umande na pia vile unatambua Mashariki mwa Mukogodo. Sisi ni viongozi ambao tunastahili kuangalia jirani. Kitu kingine nimeangalia katika hii ripoti ni kwamba alikuwa akitembea sehemu mbalimbali hasa vile Mbunge wa Ol Moran alisema kwamba alikuwa anaingia katika vikundi.

Pia alikuja Segera ili kusomesha akina mama *civic education* ili waelewe haki zao. Pia ni mtu ambaye ukimwelezea kitu ataweka hilo jambo. Tukimpatia hii kazi, Kaunti ya Laikipia itasaidika. Naomba Wabunge wenzangu wapitishe hili jina ili hiyo nafasi isikuwe na mwanya. Tuzibe huo mwanya ili kaunti yetu iendelee vizuri. Mungu awabariki. Asante sana.

Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Salim. Before I call upon the mover of this motion to reply, I will give this chance to Hon. Catherine Kibue.

Hon. Catherine Kibue: Asante sana, Mheshimiwa Spika kwa kunipatia hii nafasi ili niweze kutoa mchango wangu. Kwanza nashukuru maulana kwa kufanya akina dada wakumbukwe na waweze kupata vyeo vikuu katika Serikali. Kwanza nashukuru kamati ambayo imefanya hii kazi. Kwa uhakika wamefanya kazi muhimu. Ni pongezi kwao na pili ni pongezi kwa Gavana kwa kuona umuhimu wa kutuweka sisi akina dada katika vyeo vikubwa. Ukiweka mwanadada kwa cheo chochote utakuwa umeweka familia na jamii.

Hii ni kumaanisha siku ya leo wadada wote ambao wako katika Bunge hili na wenye hawako tunajivunia kuona mmoja wetu akiwa mahali pale. Bwana Spika, Purity Kendi ni mchapa kazi mkamamavu. Tumefanya kazi na yeye, tumezunguka Wadi ya Ngobit wakati alikuwa anatafuta kura na nina uhakika kwamba Purity Kendi atafanya kazi na atatekeleza yale yote ambayo inastahili kwa utawala.

Ninahakikishia wajumbe wenzangu hapa. Nimesikia Mheshimiwa Gitahi akisema ya kwamba anamuomba sana asisahau na wale watu ambao wamempitisha na asisahau kufanya kazi na sisi ili tuweze kuokoa Laikipia kwa sababu ni yetu sisi wote. Tunastahili sisi Waheshimiwa kuungana na mawaziri na afisa wakuu, tufanye kazi pamoja ili tuone matokeo. Mheshimiwa Gitahi nakuhakikishia kwa sababu nimefanya kazi na Purity, namjua kama mcha Mungu na najua atafanya kazi pamoja na sisi.

La mwisho Bwana Spika, najua bado Gavana ataguzwa na Mungu kwa sababu najua kuna nafasi ambayo imebaki ya Waziri wa Elimu, atakumuba akina dada pia. Nimekaa katika Bunge hili na nimepitisha majina yote ya waziri na afisa mkuu ambayo imetoka kwa wadi zote lakini katika Wodi ya Ngobit hatujapitisha hata jina moja.

Najua akiwa penye ako, sisi watu wa Ngobit tumepiga magoti, tumeomba na kwa sababu Mungu anasikiza maombi ya watu wote, atatujibu na atatupatia hiyo nafasi. Haswa najua atapea dada. Asante sana, Mheshimiwa Spika. Namtakia kila raheri Purity Kendi.

Speaker: Thank you, I now take this opportunity to invite the mover of the motion to reply.

Hon. Simon Kanyutu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I feel proud because the work I am doing ought to be done by the Leader of the Majority Party in the House. Mr. Speaker, I even thought of relocating to sit on the labelled Chair. What I am doing, from you the senior person is the Majority Leader then the Leader of the Minority Party. This is the work I ought to be

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor*

doing in the Transport Committee, I being the Chairperson. In future, that issue should be properly addressed.

Mr. Speaker, I am happy with the Members on how they have talked about Kendi. I observed her during campaigns. I have heard Members talking about their experiences but I cannot say much. The only thing I can attest to is that when we were doing politics, she was an independent candidate like I am. That is why I have this obligation to present the report in the House rather than the person who was supposed to be given.

I am happy because Hon. Members from Laikipia East have expressed their happiness because she is from their end. Mr. Speaker, when I was going through the report, she is a minority from Meru community but she was very eloquent. She performed well when we were vetting her. She was able to answer to all the questions that we were asking.

Unfortunately, I did not do the calculations like the Honourable Member to know that she is a youth. What I got is that she is married and with children. Even if she is a youth, she is well mannered. I appreciate because Honourable Members have been able to go through the report well. They have checked on all the issues. On performance, we can attest during campaigns she really tried to perform. What we are waiting is to see to it that once given the opportunity, she will perform as per the requirements.

Mr. Speaker, I never thought the Meru community are minority in Laikipia County. It is the Honourable Members that have attested to the same but now, if given a chance, with the vibrance that I saw when we were interrogating her, I really thank the Members. Whatever they have given about her, I really admire the sentiments from the Members on how they have talked about this lady.

The only thing that I have remembered when I was seated here is that there was a time that she gave books to my school in Gatirima which is at the far end of my ward. Having such people who have the passion to serve our people even before they are given opportunities, given the opportunity will be a privilege. Mr. Speaker, as a Chair of this House, you need to put our House in order.

In future, we need to be working as a team. The House must be put in order. Whenever we have any government report that ought to be tabled in this Assembly, there should be the right person who should do it. For a government appointee, if the Governor does it and brings to this House, a member of the committee is supposed to be supporting the Majority. We need to put this into order so that in future, when we are trying to bring the reports, everything is done in order.

Mr. Speaker, as a Member of the Committee, together with the other members who we are with, I support. I beg other Members, if this position is given to Kendi, we see that she will perform. We should not seem to be the people who are delaying the work of the Government. If the services are not provided on the ground, we might be made the scapegoats. If we do not have these officers, they might start claiming that we are the people who are objecting to the government functions.

I beg Honourable Members, let us do our work so that later we start doing our oversight role. We will be able to oversight and see that work is being done the right way. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I beg all Honourable Members to support Purity Kendi. Let us get her in office and I hope if we approve her in the afternoon, the Governor will call us for her swearing in so that we can share the glory. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

(Question put and agreed to)

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor*

ADJOURNMENT

Speaker: The sittings of this House now stand adjourned until later today Wednesday, 9th August, 2023 at 2.30 p.m.

The House rose at 10.40 a.m.

Disclaimer: *The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor*