COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF BUNGOMA COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF BUNGOMA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY DEBATES

THE DAILY HANSARD

WEDNESDAY 29TH NOVEMBER, 2023

Afternoon Sitting

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF BUNGOMA THE DAILY HANSARD WEDNESDAY 29TH NOVEMBER, 2023

The house met at 2:30 p.m.

(Mr. Speaker [Hon. Emmanuel Situma] in the Chair)

PRAYER

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

REORGANIZATION OF ORDER PAPER

Mr. Speaker: Honourable members, on our Order Paper the last motion, motion number 10 is a report from the committee on Lands, Urban ,Physical Planning and Housing on the protest letter against the transfer of the manager Bungoma municipality. The said motion is removed from the Order Paper. The letter was never brought to my attention and referred to the committee from this House. It was taken to the committee directly by the Clerk which is procedural and we cannot act on such reports in this House.

We remove the same on the Order Paper and it will be taken back to the relevant officers because it's a statutory document. We proceed!

Hon. Francis Chemion: Hon. Speaker, thank you for your guidance. From the beginning, that was the position, we had recommended and took to the clerk for onward transmission to the department but later on we were instructed that it's brought to the House by the Office of the Clerk. That is where the problem came from but as we knew it is a protest letter and we were just supposed to communicate to the department.

Mr. Speaker: So, you have gotten the proper position, we cannot handle that document so it's settled the way it is.

Hon. Francis Chemion: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MOTION

REPORT BY THE SECTORIAL COMMITTEE ON YOUTHS AFFAIRS AND SPORTS ON THE STATUS OF MAENI YOUTH EMPOWERMENT CENTRE AND CHEMOGE HIGH ALTITUDE TRAINING CENTRE

(Resumption of debate as per standing Order 35)

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Cornelius, now that you have come back from lunch energized, Proceed! I thought when you came in you had logged in! No that is the side effect of having a very good meal during lunch break.

Hon. Cornelius Makhanu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker Sir for allowing me to resume where I left contributing about the report on Youths and Sports motion. As I was saying, this County is endowed with a lot of talent. As I was saying this is the County that has got a lot of talent but I do not know why we have not been allocated money in this department to harness that talent. Those who have made it nationally and internationally have been able to access these training facilities.

I was saying, African Champions 100 metres champions come from this County that is Tongaren Sub County, 800 metres Champion comes from Trans Nzoia County but he is the son of the soil. As I was saying, even Harambee Stars, among players there is the son of the soil and that is a son to our own CEC of Water and Environment.

When you come to basketball, we have a champion again he plays even internationally. He is also a son to one of our MP's representing Webuye West. This is where we thrive most. The Simiyu's from Bukembe East Ward, I can count and but the list continues.

Chemoge High Altitude Training centre, in the BQ's we are supposed even to erect a monument to remember our own Ben Jipcho who was the champion in early seventies. So this is a County that has got allot of talent. We would be very happy if that Chemoge High Altitude Centre is completed and operationalized, so that our own sons and daughters can access those training facilities.

As we speak even from the Mt. Elgon region, it has got a lot of talent but these talented youths are forced to travel long distances to go to Rift Valley for training. Others have even relocated to Uganda where they are representing Uganda as we speak.

I would only urge that we give seriousness to this department. As we speak, that Chemoge is yet to even have a running track and the way we looked at it, it's not even enough we need to expand. As the area MCA said, we saw some stamps, people had cut down trees and they continued to cut. I want to bring to the attention of this house that the whole project is still under the contractor's authority. It's yet to be handed over to the County. Whatever has happened there without our knowledge maybe we shall have to ask the contractor who is still on site.

When it comes to Maeni youth empowerment centre, I don't know why. it's standing on a half an acre of land, it doesn't even have a playground And when we made some inquiries, if there is room for expansion, it seems there is none if we are to get a playing ground so that our youth can access, it will have to be maybe another parcel of land, not even next to the centre. Otherwise, as we have been complaining all throughout the workmanship, Maeni Youth Empowerment Centre also the workmanship is wanting as indicated in the report. Otherwise, I support the report.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Cornelius. Hon. Psero,

Hon. Jacob Psero: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First of all, I want to thank the mover and the seconder of the same motion for moving the motion very well and all the contents are well understood.

The majority of the population that we have here consists of the youth and since there are many, we need to ensure that we look for ways to tap the energy of this youth. I have been a Principal for a number of years and I am aware that the youth if they're not well take a taken care of; they can easily misuse the energy and bring damages to the society.

So let us ensure that facilities like that of Maeni and Chemoge are well utilized. Let us complete them in good time and allow these young men and women to do their practice and remove the excess energy in their bodies.

Chemoge High Altitude Training Centre, was started in 2014 the way it has been said by the report, that time I was a principal of Kaptama High School just us next and I remember that the area of Kaptama is endowed with athletes.

During the time I was principal there. The school almost turned into a campsite for the athletes. A number of them were coming into the school because I was supporting them and finally, we are taking them to Nationals and the same time after the Nationals they are going to Iten for further training. Many of them succeeded to represent our country elsewhere and are able to earn a number of dollars. That is why they are able to build big hotels in Eldoret and other towns. The way Hon. Chemion said, we are losing a lot of resources.

Uasin Gishu County is bragging that it is a home of Champions and yet most of the athletes that building hotels there, a good number come from Bungoma County. Let us utilize our resources well, like Chemoge High Altitude has taken nine years and we have spent a lot of money to the tune of 98 million and we have not utilized a single cent of that particular money in terms of the Youth Affairs. Let us complete this project and ensure that we use it to train our young men and women for us to get resources and I'm very sure if that is done, we can be able to benefit all of us as county.

Chemoge provides a good environment for the athletes and once it is started. I believe even people from Bumula will be able to join up that camp and be able to proceed well.

Maeni being one of the resources again for the youth should also be completed in good time, particularly on ICT. This country is short of ICT and it's good to engage a youth in that particular area. Just like the president talked of ICT hub in every sub County, so it is good that we start with Maeni so that it becomes a role model for other sub counties to learn what is going on. Otherwise, I support the report and believe this House will adopt it. The way recommendations have been done for us to benefit as a county. Thank you

(Applause)

Mr. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Psero. Allow Hon. Allan to reply to the motion accordingly.

Hon. Allan Nyongesa: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. Let me first start by thanking Honourable members for being there for us as Youth and Sports Committee and supporting the report. I want to start by thanking my seconder Hon. Chemion for doing it excellently well.

Mr. Speaker: The HANSARD reads something else. Who was your seconder?

Hon. Allan Nyongesa: I mean sorry, I mean Hon. Chemorion, Speaker those names...

Mr. Speaker: Now suppose reaching the age of Okasida and Psero... Proceed.

Hon. Allan Nyongesa: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to thank those members who have contributed positively towards this report. There is some number of issues mentioned by Hon. Chemorion, One of them being the name of the village. We take note of not have that it is not Chemoge village but Kongit Village as you rightfully put it. When it comes to many contractors being awarded the tender, we asked and we are told it is because of the capacity. Most of them were lacking capacity to do it.

On hostels, I want to agree with Hon. Chemorion. It is true phase two is not yet to be done and even the first floor is not yet done as it is rightfully put in the report. Then on trees being cut, I think they were cut after our site visit. Then it is also true on budget that we have been slashing on budget when it comes to youth. I want to take this opportunity to urge this House to consider the Department of Youth and Sports.

Actually it's taking so long to be completed reason being the budget issues. For example here Masinde Muliro is sitting now a number of years. Chemoge is now taking nine years reason being the budget issues, so I want to urge this house when it comes to budget let us consider the Department of Youth and Sports.

Hon. Makhanu has talked about a need for talent search which I agree with him that as a county we need to up our game on the same.

On the playing ground at Maeni, actually it is a half an acre which cannot host a volleyball pitch or any game. Therefore, there is need to expand. I agree with Hon. Psero who has also talked about talents. Therefore, without taking so long I want to thank the honorable Members who contributed to this motion and I urge the House...

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Allan, before you urge the House to adopt this report; you said you are a Maths teachers, I thought during your reply you could have given exact figures on the balances of the expenditures in this report.

Hon. Allan Nyongesa: Hon. Speaker, there was a correction on the balances; 2013-2014 there was a contract that was terminated...

Mr. Speaker: What I want you to tell us, down there is total contract amount, amount paid and the balance yet to be paid. That is what I want you to confirm and correct on my document.

Hon. Allan Nyongesa: Hon. Speaker, from the arithmetic's down there, the total sum of the Chemoge project was supposed to be Kshs. 136.0 million, the amount paid so far Kshs. 98 million. Therefore the correct sum should be, let us just do the subtraction...

Mr. Speaker: That is the work you were supposed to do as you prepare to reply.

Hon. Allan Nyongesa: Hon. Speaker, this figures when we had interrogations with the department the figures brought problems and they asked for more time give the correct figures...

Mr. Speaker: And you gave them more time?

Hon. Allan Nyongesa: Yes and up to now Mr. Speaker...

Mr. Speaker: So, you took your time right from the interrogations and brought the problems to the House. You are supposed to give exact the outstanding balance.

Hon. Allan Nyongesa: Hon. Speaker, I conform to the department.

Mr. Speaker: What happens to the adoption with these mistakes?

Hon. Allan Nyongesa: According to us as a committee the balance due is Kshs. 37 million but to them we are still waiting for the answer.

Mr. Speaker: We will go with your record but here it is indicating Kshs. 2 million.

Hon. Allan Nyongesa: We will change that Hon. Speaker. I therefore urge this House to adopt the report as it is.

(Applause)
(Question put and agreed to)

The ayes have it. The report by the Sector Committee on Youth Affairs and Supports on the status of Maeni Youth Empowerment Centre and Chemoge High Altitude Training Centre is adopted as a report of this House for forwarding to the relevant department for action.

MOTION

REPORT BY PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND INVESTMENTS COMMITTEE ON THE AUDITOR GENERAL'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF BUNGOMA COUNTY TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT FUND FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30TH JUNE 2021

Hon. Timothy Chikati (Vice Chair): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am here to move a report on the Auditor General's report on the financial statements of Bungoma County Trade and Development Fund for the period ended 30th June, 2021.

I will skip page 2 on table of contents, same to chapter one on the mandate of the committee and move to page 4 on the committee membership

1.2 Committee membership

The Public Accounts and Investments Committee as currently constituted comprises of the following members:

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1.	Hon. Everton Nganga	Chairperson
2.	Hon. Timothy Chikati	Vice-chairperson
3.	Hon. Stephen Kaiser	Member
4.	Hon. Bernard Kikechi	Member
5.	Hon. John Wanyama	Member
6.	Hon. Everlyne Mutiembu	Member
7.	Hon. Alfred Mukhanya	Member
8.	Hon. Violet Makhanu	Member
9.	Hon. Jerusa Aleu	Member
10.	Hon. Metrine Nangalama	Member
11.	Hon. Anthony Lusenaka	Member

Hon. Speaker, I will skip guiding principles as well as page 6, 7 and 8. Allow me go to page 9 on the acknowledgements.

Acknowledgments

In conclusion, the Committee wishes to express its gratitude to the Offices of the Speaker and the Clerk of the County Assembly for the support rendered to it in the quest of discharging its mandate and compiling of this report.

The Committee further wishes to thank the fund administrator and the chief officer for dutifully appearing before it and also for their cooperation.

Allow me, Honourable Speaker, to applaud each single Honorable Member and the secretariat of this key Committee for their dedication and exemplary work which made the interrogation of the said financial statements and production of this report a success.

I congratulate you all, distinguished Colleagues!

On behalf of the Public Accounts and Investments Committee, I now wish to table this report and urge this House to adopt it and the recommendations therein. This report is signed by Hon. Everton Nganga, MCA...

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Chikati, who has signed that report?

Hon. Timothy Chikati: I have seen it is Hon. Nganga.

Mr. Speaker: Are we reading the same report? To my understanding the signature appearing to the one you are reading is not for Hon. Nganga, because I know his signature. They have not been signed by him, all of them, one is signed by Hon. Nangalama the other one I don't know who has signed it.

(Applause)

Order members, why I insist on adoption of the reports at the venue, that is where we are, none of the reports has been signed by Hon. Nganga, one is signed by Hon. Nangalama the other one by an unknown person to me so I am wondering if they were in the same meeting? At that rate you have to put your house in order, we can't allow that one to go on as a House.

He can't sign in this House, they were in Kisumu or Kitale or Eldoret where they are supposed to have signed from, not here. Allow me allow you to go and rectify things. They must seek for time to go and do the documentations; I won't allow them to go on this way.

(Laughter)

Yes Hon. Nganga

Hon. Waiti Wafula: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I am on...

Mr. Speaker: No, it is Nganga I want to give, the chairperson himself first.

Hon. Everton Nganga: Thank you Speaker, this is a mistake and honorable Speaker I request that you allow Hon. Chikati to move the motion...

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Mr. Speaker: He will be moving a report signed by who? By Nangalama or the one signed by unknown member, because it is supposed to be the same report, if the chairperson has signed he signs all the 4 copies, so we are having 2 reports here one signed by your member or two members differently

Hon. Everton Nganga: You know Honourable members when you look at the adoption schedule I signed

Mr. Speaker: The question is the forwarding person is who?

Hon. Everton Nganga: I am not the one Hon. Speaker

Mr. Speaker: if you are not the one you disown your own report and that is good for me we will adjourn this report now. Proceed and move in

Hon. Everton Nganga: Hon. Speaker please, if you just give us time we rectify this mess then we proceed

Mr. Speaker: You go and expunge those pages and you bring them afresh.

Mr. Speaker: The interesting thing is both of them have not been signed by you so you must confirm before signing all of them, and by the way there is no other business on the Order Paper, when you go out we will be adjourning and resuming tomorrow at 2:30pm. Members must take the business of the House seriously; if you cannot take the business of the House seriously then I think we are joking here.

Hon. Everton Nganga: Hon. Speaker please with your guidance...

Mr. Speaker: The guidance is simple, look at Standing Order 64; that is the guiding principle that you are supposed to ask me now. Going to correct we should be doing some other business. You are lucky that I am not sanctioning the committee, I am only giving you room to go and rectify your mistakes, Yes Hon. Tony,

Hon. Tony Barasa: Hon. Speaker allow me move a motion under Standing Order 64(b) motion of adjournment of the house/debate. Honourable Speaker, this House wanted to debate a very important debate and document but because of the anomalies, I beg the wisdom of this House that we adjourn the debate until the time the PAIC is going to work on its documents so that it can be properly brought to this House. Thank you.

Mr. Speaker: You must call a seconder.

Hon. Tony Barasa: I want to call Hon. Francis to second.

Hon. Francis Chemion: Thank you Honorable Speaker, based on what you have seen the committee will rectify after we give them that time so the committee should not feel

embarrassed. You have time just correct that area then you will bring back following the procedure, I think now it will come back to the Speaker and it will be brought here. So I second the motion that we adjourn debate.

Mr. Speaker: Honourable members I will allow the motion it will be on the Order Paper at 2:30pm as the first item, you have been given time to go and rectify but be sure of one thing, I am always keen whenever we have these reports for one simple reason, whenever we go to the Senate committee and Nganga you are aware of that the chairperson PAIC accompanies the Service Board to the Senate, imagine I giving a report to the Senate and what you are carrying is different because you always carry your own copy. They will be asking are you from the same Assembly, the board and chairperson of PAIC, they will be different individuals.

As the motion is taken out is rescheduled to tomorrow at 2:30 p.m. as the first motion.

ADJOURNMENT

Anything else, we adjourn and resume tomorrow at 2:30 p.m.

(House Adjourns)