

COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF BUNGOMA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF BUNGOMA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY DEBATES

THE DAILY HANSARD

TUESDAY, 10TH JUNE, 2025

Afternoon Sitting

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF BUNGOMA

THE DAILY HANSARD

TUESDAY, 10TH JUNE, 2025

The House met at the County Assembly Chamber at 2:30 p.m.

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

PRAYERS

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

Honourable Members in our Public Gallery today, we have students from Mungore Girls High School from Khasoko Ward, Bumula Constituency. They are 35 in number accompanied by four teachers. Students from Mungore Girls High School be upstanding for recognition.

(Students upstanding)

Kindly take your seats please.

(Students resumed their seats)

They are accompanied by four teachers, stand for recognition please;

1. Mr. Wamalwa Sostin
2. Mr. Reagan Vugusu, and
3. Ms. Claire Okuki

(Teachers resumed their seats)

Honourable Members, at the appropriate time on our Order Paper, I will allow Members present to make brief remarks about the visiting students. They have come to learn about the operations within the County Assembly of Bungoma, how the sessions are conducted and learn about the basic work of the Assembly

PAPERS

1. REPORT OF THE SECTOR COMMITTEE ON HEALTH SERVICES ON 1ST AND 2ND QUARTER FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE BUREAU ATTENDED ON 1ST DECEMBER, 2024

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Waiti Wafula proceed.

Hon. Wafula Waiti: Thank you Hon. Speaker. I rise on behalf of the Chairperson Committee on Health to table a report on consolidated financial statements for the period ended 31st December, 2024. I table.

(Paper laid by Hon Wafula Waiti)

Mr. Speaker: Honourable Members a report by the Sector Committee on Health on the consolidated financial statement for the period ending 31st December, 2024 is hereby tabled and becomes property of the House.

2. REPORT OF THE SECTOR COMMITTEE ON LABOUR RELATIONS, MEMBER SERVICES AND FACILITIES ON FIRST AND SECOND QUARTER FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE BUREAU ATTENDED ON 1ST DECEMBER, 2024

Mr. Speaker: Yes, Hon. Sheila.

Hon. Sheila Sifuma: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to table a report by the Sector Committee of Labour Relations, Member Services and Facilities on the first and second quarter financial statements for the period ended 31st December, 2024.

(Paper laid by Hon. Sheila Sifuma)

Mr. Speaker: Honourable members the report by the Sector Committee on Labour Relations, Member Services and the Facilities on the first and second quarter financial statements for the period ending 31st December, 2024 is hereby tabled and formally becomes the property of the House.

NOTICES OF MOTION

1. THAT THIS HOUSE ADOPTS A REPORT OF THE SECTOR COMMITTEE ON HEALTH SERVICES ON FIRST AND SECOND QUARTER FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED AT 1ST DECEMBER, 2024

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Waiti proceed to issue a notice. You will have the microphone from the dispatch. Just a minute, please. Proceed.

Hon. Wafula Waiti: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. Allow me issue a notice of motion that this House adopts a report of the Sector Committee on Health Services on 1st and 2nd quarter financial statements for the period ended at 1st December, 2024.

Mr. Speaker: Honourable Members a notice of motion has been duly issued by the Sector Committee on Health Services that the 1st and 2nd quarter financial statements for the period ending 31st December be adopted. I urge the Clerks at the Table to share this report with the Honourable MCAs. The same will come up as a motion on our Order Paper in the course of the week or when scheduled by the House Business Committee.

2. THAT THIS HOUSE ADOPTS A REPORT OF THE SECTOR COMMITTEE ON LABOUR RELATIONS, MEMBER SERVICES AND FACILITIES ON THE FIRST AND SECOND QUARTER FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED AT 1ST DECEMBER, 2024

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Sheila proceed and issue a notice please.

Hon. Sheila Sifuma: Thank you. I rise to issue a notice that this House adopts a report by the Sector Committee on Labour Relations, Member Services and Facilities on the first and second quarter financial statements for the period ended 31st December, 2024.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you, Honourable Members a notice of motion has been newly issued by the Sector Committee on the adoption of the Committee on Labour Relations, Member Services and Facilities on the 1st and 2nd quarter financial statements for the period ending 31st December.

I equally urge the Clerks at the Table to share this report with the Honourable MCAs on their gadgets. The same will come up as a motion in the course of the week or once scheduled by the HBC on the Order Paper.

QUESTION AND STATEMENTS

1. QUESTION NUMBER THREE OF 2025 BY HON. FRANCIS CHEMION, MEMBER OF KAPTAMA WARD.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Chemion you are supposed to get feedback from the Committee on Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, Irrigation and the Cooperative Development. Do you have a response? I can see a progress report. Hon. Waiti what are the issues?

Hon. Wafula Waiti (Chairperson, Agriculture): Thank you, Hon. Speaker. Allow me as the Chairperson of the Sector Committee on Agriculture read a progress report on the statement raised by Hon. Francis Chemion in relation to Cheriwet Coffee Factory in Kaptama Ward.

I hereby submit a progress report pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 54 of the County Assembly of Bungoma Standing Orders on the statement sought by Hon. Francis Chemion in relation to Cheriwet Coffee Factory in Kaptama Ward.

The Committee on Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, Irrigation and the Cooperative Development considered the statement and directed the County Executive Committee Member to provide a response on issues raised in the statement vide a letter reference, County Assembly of Bungoma of Section 2, Volume 3, 29, dated 8th of May, 2025.

The CECM, Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, Irrigation and the Cooperative Development, submitted the response vide a letter reference County Government, Department on Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, Irrigation and the Cooperative, Volume 1, 17. The Committee held a consultative meeting with the owner of the statement in its meeting on 10th June 2025.

The Committee took the owner of the statement through submissions from the Department and it was noted that some issues were not adequately responded to. The Committee therefore resolved to invite the Department in subsequent meetings to provide additional information and provide a report to this House.

I hereby request you for 14 days to enable the Committee to invite the Department and the management of Cheriwet Coffee Factory to provide additional information on the identified gaps. Thank you, Honourable Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Waiti you have sought for 14 days, let me first ask the owner of the statement to confirm whether he was in that meeting or not so that I am able to provide time frame. Hon. Chemion you ought to speak from where you are sitting. I don't know what the problem is. They are treating you as someone who was absent.

Hon. Francis Chemion: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. You have always been magnanimous. I want to concur with the Chairperson Agriculture that they are handling the issue with keenness. I participated in their meeting today. They invited me and there is good progress. Allow the 14 days so that a report that they will bring to the House will be satisfactory. Thank you.

Mr. Speaker: Based on the response by the owner statement, I grant them 14 days which takes us up to 24th of June when we expect feedback from the Committee on Agriculture. Hon. Waiti this time after meeting the Sector Department and the management of the said Cheriwet Coffee Factory in Kaptama Ward, give us the feedback in the House. You have up to 24TH of June, Hon. Waiti for the feedback from your department.

Honourable Members, I think that is the stage we will be able to allow some speakers to make brief remarks and I think the host MCA is Hon. Benjamin Otsiula, the Chairperson of Education. I am sure Mungore is in your Ward. So, you're the first one to go.

Hon. Benjamin Otsiula: Honourable Speaker, I am the substantive chairperson of that particular committee and the host member. I want to appreciate for this moment. Mungore Girls Secondary School is situated around 200 meters from my home. Indeed I confirm it is a school from Khasoko Ward and I think the first girls secondary school in Khasoko Ward having been established in the late 80s.

Honourable Speaker, I want to join the teachers and the students of this particular institution to thank them first of all for taking their time out of their busy schedule to come here for purposes of learning. On behalf of the Committee of Education and Vocational Training, I wish to point out a few things to the students seated before the House.

One, that this House performs three roles; the oversight, legislative and the representation role. In the oversight mandate, this House puts the government of the day that is the County Government of Bungoma on toes to ensure that it delivers on its mandate and the promises they made to the people. After we legislate laws in this House, the laws inform the day-to-day running of the County Government of Bungoma.

I want the students also to understand that the budget that runs the entire county of Bungoma is approved by this House. When they hear some of us talking about bursaries and scholarships, it is this House that appropriates funds for that particular purpose. It is after this

House has approved the funds that we now put the government on toes to ensure that the funds trickle down to ensure that our students are enjoying the services and are in school.

I want the students to understand that in our representation role, we come here having collected the views of our people and we formulate laws that in turn govern the running of the County Government. We also express their interests while exerting pressure on the government of the day to ensure that they deliver. Therefore, they have to understand that the laws governing the County Government of Bungoma are passed in this House.

Honourable Speaker, as I have said earlier, this is a school I know well. I have served on that board for a period of four years as the chairman of that institution and therefore, I have the history of the school. I know the teachers personally because I have interacted with them for a period of time. I know it as a school that performs well in football. They have represented Bumula Sub-County up to the county level for the last four years.

As far as matters of education are concerned, I know Mungore Girls is one of the best girls' schools within Bumula sub-county.

I want to encourage their teachers to continue working hard to ensure that they impart the knowledge and skills into the students. For the students, some of them are surprised, I have seen their faces. They normally see me at home in T-shirts and today they are shocked they are seeing me here putting on a tie and a coat, Hon. Speaker. I want to appreciate their parents because they had faith in me, voted for me in 2022. When they go back home, they must be able to tell their parents that the person that you elected was present and is indeed working to ensure that our interests are protected.

Honourable Speaker, as I sum up, because I know some of my colleagues will also wish to put a word of encouragement, especially the Vice-Chair of the Committee of Education and Vocational Training who is smiling at me. I want the teacher's seated before this House today to know that whatever they are doing is noble to the society. This House boasts of many teachers. Seated right in front of me Hon. Masai Chemion is a teacher by profession. On my left, Hon. Jacob Psero is the former Principal of Cheptais Boys. Hon. Tendet a teacher and Hon. Meshack Museveni is a learned friend who practices without a practicing certificate.

(Laughter)

We also have Hon. Allan, a teacher of mathematics, Hon. Cheseto, a teacher of Biology and Hon. Opwora here grew up in the servant's quarters of Mungore Girls Secondary School because the mother is a former Principal of Mungore Girls High School. They need to know that a teacher also has delivered another honourable Member from Luhya/Bwake. Finally, the most popular teacher in the House is Hon. Aggrey Mulongo, *Gumbaru* teacher in Kimilili and therefore, we also need to applaud him for the services.

As you prepare to go back to school, work hard, prepare well. As we meet back at home, I want to see changed faces. I want to see people who have visited the Assembly and I'll be

moving around the school now as your former board chair to see whether there is some change or not. Otherwise, I wish you the best. Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Meshack, proceed.

Hon. Meshack Museveni: Ahsante sana Mheshimiwa Spika kwa kunipa hii nafasi na pia niseme na wanafunzi wa shule ya wasichana ya Mungore. Masomo ni kitu cha maana sana na mumeona vile tumeketi kwenye hili chumba ninaomba pia nyinyi mkisoma kwa bidii wengine kesho mtakuwa kama sisi hapa.

Pili, nataka kuwaambia wanafunzi ya kwamba musome kwa bidii. Mzazi wangu aliniambia nenda shuleni usome nikakataa. Nilikataa nikaenda nikafanya kazi huko nje nikafikiria masomo haina maana lakini mwaka wa 2014 wakaniambia kama huna cheti cha kuhitimu cha shule ya upili huwezi simama kura 2017. Nikajiangalia nikajiuliza nitafanyaje ili nisimame kura 2017. Nataka niambie wanafunzi ya kwamba nilirudi nyuma nikafanya mtihani wa darasa la nane Mheshimiwa Spika.

(Applause)

Nikaenda nikafanya *subject* mbili hapa Mupeli. Nikafaya mtihani huo na nikamaliza nikafikiria 2015 nitafanya KCSE, wakaniambia hapana, kama umefanya huu mwaka utaruka katikati usome vizuri ndio ufanye mtihani 2016.

Nataka niwaambie wanafunzi kuwa usiposoma maisha huku mbele ni magumu. Nilirudi watoto wangu wenye nilizaa Mheshimiwa Spika ndio walinifunza ndiposa nikafanya mtihani mwaka wa 2016, Form 4 na nikasimama kura 2017. Sasa ninasema nini, msiposoma sahizi, huku mbele ni kugumu, ni giza. Nawaambia nilisoma na hii lazima niseme ukweli...

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Meshack the idea of disclosing some of the grades is not good

Hon. Meshack Museveni: No it is good lakini kwangu sioni haya. Nilipitia kwa hiyo changamoto, lakini nilifanya mtihani na moja ilikuwa ngumu sana, inaitwa hesabu na msiposoma hesabu kwa bidii, sahizi huku mbele pia ni kugumu. Nilirarua tu alama ya E

(Laughter)

Lakini mwisho nilishinda wale walisoma, wale walisoma kuanzia kidato cha kwanza hadi cha nne, walipata alama ya E Lakini mimi overall yote Mheshimiwa Spika nilipata D nilijaribu.

(Laughter)

Watu wengi hawataki kuambiwa hata vile wewe ulisoma unaweza kuwa vile uko hapo lakini kuambia mtu ulipata ngapi kwa hesabu wengi wao walipata tu alama ya E lakini hawataki kusema.

Nikimalizia naomba wanafunzi wa Mungore Girls ya kwamba wasome kwa nguvu. Rudi nyumbani ukitaka kusoma. Ukitaka mwanaume mzuri ni masomo na bure utazaa mtoto na ubebe kwa *T-shirt* ati unapeleka hospitalini.

(Laughter)

Lazima ueke bidii ndio usome. Kwa hayo machache Asante kwa kunipa nafasi Mheshimiwa Spika.

(Applause)

Mr. Speaker: Thank you Mheshimiwa Meshack. That is a testimony he has given and encouragement. Allow me invite the Vice Chairperson of the Committee on Education Hon. Simiyu then I will have Hon. Everlyne in that order.

Hon. Steve Kaiser: Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir for giving me this opportunity to speak to our girls from Mungore Girls.

First of all, I would like to appreciate the teachers who have brought them and who are nurturing them to be what they are supposed to be in future. Teachers we appreciate you.

For the girls, they normally say that education is the equalizer to life but you know that it can only be an equalizer if you work hard. You know you can say that it is an equalizer but you are not working hard the way my senior here has said Mheshimiwa Mukhongo.

Right now if you get an E in mathematics you have no future. You will go start bridging and wasting your time. I urge you girls to work hard and make sure the name of Mungore Girls from that village is put on the map of Kenya. Make sure that your parents are proud of you, make sure that the teachers are proud of you and make sure that Kenya is proud of you. Thank you.

(Applause)

Mr. Speaker: Thank you Hon. Simiyu. I will have Hon. Anyango.

Hon. Everlyne Anyango: Thank you Hon. Speaker for also allowing me to speak. First of all I want to appreciate Hon. Meshack Museveni for the testimony that he has just given the girls and this House in totality.

To the girls, welcome to this House. This is a House of law and order and I will speak and echo repeatedly the sentiments that Hon. Meshack Museveni has just said to the girls. Education might seem tiresome, a waste of time because right now our parents might be feeding you, giving you money, clothing you and making sure that you have everything that you need in school.

As I echo the sentiments of my senior Hon. Meshack, it reaches a time when in the life of a girl or in the life of a woman education is the only equalizer in your life. He has just spoken and said it reached a time in his life where he just admired or needed a class 8 certificate. You are in form three and your parents are putting in a lot of effort. My advice to you today as you leave, you have seen in this House we have women who also worked hard the same way you

are also working hard. They are here and we are sitting in the same seats in the same House with men.

You will not compare with this other gender or you will not compare yourself with this other gender if you don't have brains. Make use of the opportunity that your parents have given you. As you go back, I want you to tell your parents that they made a good decision to bring the member of County Assembly from Mungore to this House. We call him the learned friend though most of us are not lawyers, he is a lawyer. He has brains. He advises us on many issues. He offers good pieces of advice pertaining law. Some of you will be lawyers as him; some of you will be politicians as we are. Before we became politicians, we were students and we respected our teachers.

Teachers thank you for being good parents and as you go back, I just want that you tell the people of Mungore that we are proud of the member of the County Assembly that they gave us, the brain that they brought us. Thank you and God bless you.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you. I will have Hon. Sifuma, Hon. Aggrey and wind up with Hon. Caleb. Sifuma you proceed.

Hon. Sheila Sifuma: Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir for the opportunity to address our girls from Mungore High School. I think much has been said and just like our senior has mentioned Hon. Museveni, him he did not have the opportunity to go to school early like you guys have. Maybe to go back to the Chairperson of Committee on Education, he forgot to acknowledge children of teachers; I am a proud daughter of a teacher of Kiswahili so...

(Applause)

Mr. Speaker: If you do so make sure you also include me because mine are all teachers and are still alive.

(Laughter)

Hon. Sheila Sifuma: I have some good Kiswahili apart from the local Tachoni language that I come from. Our Senior Hon. Museveni has spoken about not having an opportunity early in life. You guys have an opportunity please make good use of it. Even if you run away from it, you will meet it somewhere because if you want to come to this House there are requirements that you need to meet. For example you have to have the documents like our senior indicated and many others.

You might assume that maybe a pipette, a burette, a conclave flask you might never meet them anywhere in life. Let me tell you the information and the knowledge that you get from learning these things helps you to be a better person. From how you reason, communicate and engage with people.

As I finalize, I just want to also let you know that I am a young girl in this assembly. I am actually a youth so you can actually come here at a very young age as well. I want to encourage you to work hard.

Finally you know that Khasoko is in Bungoma County but there is a bigger world out there waiting for you. There is a passport centre here in Bungoma. We want you to come from Khasoko and go to New York. We meet you in France, in Italy speaking through the nose. That is the dream we have for you young people. I wish you all the best in your studies. If there is nothing else you'll remember, please remember that you should go to the U.S, UK and speak through the nose. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

(Applause)

Mr. Speaker: Thank you Hon, Sheila. I will allow Hon. Aggrey but as you speak don't use the signs of *Gumbaru*, at least try. Proceed.

(Laughter)

Hon. Aggrey Mulongo: Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir for giving me a chance to contribute to these beautiful girls. First of all I take this opportunity to say that people of Khasoko gave us a wonderful speaker, a wonderful MCA and lawyer. When you go back tell your parents that he is on the Speakers Panel. He is my chairperson Education Committee. Why can't you applaud him?

(Applause)

You can see I am demonstrating *Gumbaru* way.

(Laughter)

Going to school means a lot. Girls if you want to go far discipline is key; from your home, school and everywhere.

Secondly, you must respect the opinion of any other person. We are debaters but you must respect someone else's opinion. When you want to counter, listen carefully before you stand and objecting what has been mentioned.

For teachers, teaching is a calling. I only taught in 1984 as a useless teacher; they used to call us useless teachers but we were UT Teachers. That was...

Mr. Speaker: Untrained Teachers not useless. Proceed.

Hon. Aggrey Mulongo: Thank you Sir. By that time teachers were not earning; they were just given something small, the reason I ran away from teaching.

(Laughter)

Teachers please it is a calling and therefore teach our girls well. Your Principal madam Jane comes from my Kibingei ward. I have 42 principals that I host, 24 head teachers of primary schools. *Gumbaru* we have two; myself and the other one.

(Laughter)

Teachers please take care of our kids and I know our girls are going to perform well. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Caleb.

Hon. Caleb Wanjala: Thank you Hon. Speaker for giving me an opportunity to also encourage students from Mungore Girls. First of all I would like to take this opportunity to appreciate the teachers and the parents of Mungore Girls for electing Hon. Otsiula Benjamin as the Member of County Assembly. Indeed he is a respected leader here and he is also the chair of Education.

Like my colleagues have said, students you need to know that you have been given an opportunity to write the picture of your life or your future. The opportunity you have now you must use it well because when you lose it, you may not get it. Even if you get it, you might not get it in a better way the way you could have gotten it in the first place.

Hon. Meshack Museveni said he worked so hard for his form four certificate. At the same time because of what he went through, when you go to his family there is a doctor, accountant, a soldier and other professionals. That shows that he tried to redeem the lost opportunity. It is a good example on someone who loves education.

This House is a cocktail of talent; we have soldiers, lawyers, teachers and business men and women. All of them are here because of education.

Lastly the way Hon. Mulongo said, teachers you have an opportunity to prepare these great wonderful young ladies. You never can tell who they will be tomorrow. If you prepare them well, some of them might be a door to your success in future because you never can tell what God has deposited in them.

Students, I want to tell you this, when you read the Book of Proverbs Chapter 1.7, the Bible says; *the fear of the Lord is the beginning of all knowledge, wisdom and understanding*. When you give God a first priority in your life, you will succeed and that is why your school was found on a holistic ground. The church is the one that began that school.

We are living at a time where majority of the young people are not ready to be corrected. Majority of the young people want to be on their own and the only thing that can govern you and help you to succeed in future is discipline. If you are not ready to be corrected even if you pass well and get employed, you will still be fired because you are somebody who cannot accept to be corrected.

I want to encourage you for that don't indulge in things that will destroy your future. As we speak right now, there are a lot of things going on in the social media and some of them are destructive. Work hard and know that some of your parents are selling cows; some have sold land and their properties so that you can have a better life. Mine is just to encourage you, don't disappoint your parents but make your parents happy and God will bless you. May God bless Mungore and I wish you all the best and success in your exams.

Mr. Speaker: Let me allow Hon. Chikati.

Hon. Timothy Chikati: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Much has been deliberated on about our girls from Mungore. I want to correct the member who has been on the floor that we don't have soldiers in this House. We have professional sergeant at arms, that have gone to school.

(Laughter)

They have been trained to take care of us in this House and also within the Assembly precincts. We don't have soldiers but professionally trained sergeant at arms in uniform.

Mr. Speaker: I do not know whether he meant some of our colleagues who retired from the forces but let me leave that one for now. You have spoken. Let me allow Hon. Chemion. Next time I will be asking that you speak from your Chair. Proceed!

Hon. Francis Chemion: Thank you Hon. Speaker. First, I want to thank the school for finding time to come here. It's not easy. Many students would wish to come to the County Assembly but due to unavoidable circumstances they don't come.

Secondly, the Honorable Member for Khasoko, Hon. Otsiula Benjamin is a focused and a visionary Member of this House. As a member of the Speaker's Panel, he runs the affairs of this House when the Speaker is having other duties. He is an important Member here before us.

I want to buy what Hon. Museveni said, for the students, there is a law of compensation, that if you don't do the right work today, you will repeat it in future. When teachers tell students to wake up early, come to school or go to the classroom, some of the students sometimes don't take those instructions seriously. When you leave school, there are conditions that will force you to wake up at a time that may be even what the teachers were telling you was a bit fair. There will be a compensation for that. If at all you run from this class to this other one, sometimes students think teachers are joking but outside here after you have completed school and maybe you did not follow the instructions, you do not do very well; the conditions outside there will force you to run.

A good example is when you go to the bus park here in town, those guys; are not told to run for passengers; when they see a passenger 50 meters away, they automatically run as fast as a hare. Yet when they were told to run in school, they felt that the teachers were not giving them proper instructions. You will find them running fast, carrying luggage that they have not even been told to carry and ensuring that it reaches where it is supposed to. The law of compensation will apply in future. Don't allow it apply on you. Please do the right work while at school.

That is why you could even hear the Honorable Member mention; I do not know where he has gone; he was compensating. He did not go to school early and you saw the things that he passed through. At his age, you could see he must have struggled to get the grade that he has mentioned here; it was not a walk in the park. He must have struggled to get that grade. Had he gone to school at the right age and time, he could have even scored more than what he has told us here today.

Please as students, do the right thing at the right time, at the right place. There is always time for everything. Even in the Bible, it is stated that there is time for everything. Time to study, time to work hard and time to enjoy the hard work and the sweat that you would have put in.

For the teachers, that is the only noble job. You have heard here we have many professions. We have those that have been mentioned but teaching is the only job that you are put in the same staffroom with Jesus Christ. That you are put in the same category because Jesus himself was a Rabbi, he was a teacher. It is a noble job. It might have issues but it is a fulfilling job. You enjoy doing it. I did it for over 22 years and I enjoyed. Although members were saying that we eat chalk dust but by the end of the day, we get something although it is not as lucrative as it is supposed to be. We thank you for what you are doing for our students and as an Assembly; we are always indebted to what teachers do in our schools. Thank you Mr. Speaker, for allowing me comment on this.

(Applause)

Mr. Speaker: Thank you Hon. Francis Masai Chemion. The only thing that Hon. Meshack can never mention is that while he was sitting for his KCSE exam in Mupeli Primary School, one of the people who were walking around to see how they are doing the exam was the Minister of Education by that time Hon. Matian'gi who told him, *mzee*, work hard, *huko nje ni kugumu*.

At your own free time, engage him and he will share with you that experience and they were given an additional 10 minutes for the interruption by the ministry officials.

Honourable Members, allow me on behalf of other Members who have not been able to speak and the entire Assembly of Bungoma wish our girls in the Public Gallery all the best in their end year exams. Our Honourable ladies have spoken their hearts; they have said that work hard for your future. There is no shortcut; there are no miracles or betting in education. Work hard so that you are able to have good marks at the end of your fourth form. For teachers we keep on appreciating you, we cannot pay you enough.

They have spoken of having teachers here, equally, some of us our parents were all teachers and they were strict to us. We wish that you keep doing what you are doing for us because not all of us can be teachers to take care of children. Do what you can; your reward will come from heaven not from us here. Thank you. Let's proceed!

MOTION

1. REPORT OF THE SECTORAL COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK, FISHERIES, IRRIGATION AND CO-OPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT ON THE FIRST AND SECOND QUARTER FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 2024

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Martin Chemorion, kindly come and proceed!

Hon. Martin Chemorion (Mover): Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir. May I confirm the quorum because I have heard my friend Hon. Chikati doubting...

Mr. Speaker: He may be using it as an excuse.

Hon. Martin Chemorion: Kindly, the committee members rise up!

(Members rose)

Mr. Speaker: The quorum is overflowing, proceed!

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

(Applause)

Mr. Speaker Sir, I rise to move a motion by the Committee on Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, Irrigation and Co-operative Development on the First and Second Quarter Financial Statements for the period ended 31st December, 2024.

CHAPTER ONE

PREFACE

Hon. Speaker,

The 1st and 2nd Quarter Financial Statements for the Financial Year 2024/2025 were tabled on 5th March, 2025 and committed to all sector committees for interrogation and reporting back to this House. The committee interrogated the department of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, Irrigation and Cooperative Development on 28th April, 2025 and therefore submits its report.

This report contains the legal framework and objectives that guided the committee in analyzing the financial statements. It also highlights the department's expenditure including the budget absorption for the department in the period under review.

Finally, it contains the committee's observations and recommendations on the 1st and 2nd quarter financial statements for the FY 2024/2025 for the period ended 31st December, 2025 with respect to the department of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, Irrigation and Cooperative Development.

Hon. Speaker, allow me skip the mandate of the committee because it is given in the Standing Orders .Let me move to 1.2

1.2 COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Mr. Speaker Sir, the Committee on Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, Irrigation and Cooperative Development as currently constituted comprises the following Members:

- | | | |
|-----|------------------------|----------------|
| 1. | Hon. Wafula Waiti | Chairperson |
| 2. | Hon. Idd Owongo | V. Chairperson |
| 3. | Hon. Busolo Sudi | Member |
| 4. | Hon. Everlyne Mutiambu | Member |
| 5. | Hon. Meshack Simiyu | Member |
| 6. | Hon. Anthony Lusenaka | Member |
| 7. | Hon. Simotwo Franklin | Member |
| 8. | Hon. Jerusa Aleu | Member |
| 9. | Hon. Alfred Mukhanya | Member |
| 10. | Hon. Caleb Wanjala | Member |

- | | | |
|-----|-----------------------|--------|
| 11. | Hon. Edwin Opwora | Member |
| 12. | Hon. George Tendet | Member |
| 13. | Hon. Benard Kikechi | Member |
| 14. | Hon. Martin Chemorion | Member |
| 15. | Hon. Nganga Sifuna | Member |

Hon. Speaker allow me skip the fiscal and legal framework because it's given under the Standing Orders and I move straight to...

TERMS OF REFERENCE

In processing the 1 st and 2nd quarter financial statements for the period ended 31st December, 2024 the committee based on the following:

- i. Revenue realized by the department in the 1st and 2nd Quarter FY 2024/2025(Exchequer, Local revenue and grants)
- ii. Detailed personnel expenditure of the P&P and contractual staff in the 1st and 2nd Quarter FY 2024/2025.
- iii. Status of on-going projects/ flagship projects
- iv. Status of the implementation of the procurement plan FY 2024/2025
- v. Detailed report on the pending bills settled in the period under review
- vi. Detailed report on status of the pending bills outstanding
- vii. A status report on the outstanding imprest, proof of surrender of imprest in the period.
- viii. Ward Based Projects implementation status
- ix. Detailed list of retentions paid in the period.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Committee is highly indebted to the Offices of the Hon. Speaker and Clerk of the County Assembly of Bungoma for the support received as it discharged its mandate. Special gratitude goes to members of the Committee for dedicating their time to examine the 1st and 2nd quarter financial statements for the FY 2024/2025 for the period ended 31st December, 2024.

It is therefore my pleasant duty and privilege, on behalf of the Sectoral Committee on Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, Irrigation and Cooperative Development, to table this report to this House for deliberation and adoption. The report is signed by Hon. Wafula Waiti Chairperson Committee on Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, Irrigation and Cooperative Development.

CHAPTER TWO

DEPARTMENTAL EXPENDITURE ANALYSIS

The department of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, Irrigation and Cooperative Development had an approved annual budget of Kshs.1, 061,347,822 comprising of Kshs.383, 577,441 recurrent and Kshs.677, 770,380 for Development expenditure programmes.

On other incomes Mabanga ATC the collection was kshs.13, 888,766.

The following are the programmes:

The department utilized Kshs. 181.47M on Human Resource Management and Development representing 53%

The department utilized kshs.16.06M on Administrative and Support Services representing 74%.

Crop Production and Productivity (Food, Industrial and Horticultural Crops) utilized kshs.61.75M representing 19%

Agricultural Value Addition and Agro Processing, utilized ksh.2.10M representing 21%

NAVCDP utilized Kshs. 8M representing 5%

Ward based projects, utilized 3.87m representing 5%

Kenya Livestock Commercialization Project (KeLCOP utilized kshs.15.55 M representing 41%

Cooperative Governance, Advisory and training services utilized Kshs. 4.38M representing 97%.

PERSONNEL EXPENDITURES

The personnel allocation for P&P in the 1st and 2nd quarter is Kshs. 333,250,069 and for Casuals is 11,405,127. The actual expenditures is Kshs. 159,821,821.27 for P&P which translates to 47.95% utilization. In contrast, the amount of Kshs. 11,405,127 that had been allocated for casual employees had no expenditure record.

Revenue Realised by the Department in the period under review

The department submitted that Revenue realized by the Department in the 1st and 2nd Quarter FY 2024/25 (Exchequer, Local Revenue and grants) is as follows;

S/No.	Description	Target FY 2024/2025	Actuals FY 2024/2025	Variance
I.	Exchequer release:	866,882,670	259,947,475.27	- 606,935,194.73
	Recurrent	383,577,441	179,338,663.27	-204,238,777.73
	Development	483,305,229	80,608,812	-402,696,417
II.	Local Revenue:	203,471,356	29,750,515	-173,720,841
	Agricultural Cess	100,014,389	8,521,733	-91,492,656
	Mabanga ATC	42,924,377	13,667,265.8	-29,257,111
	Mabanga AMC	5,000,000	221,500	-4,778,500

	Fish Trader Licensing and Sale of Fish	5,523,366	60,450	-5,462,916
	Slaughter House Fees	20,954,007	1,622,700	-19,331,307
	Meat Inspection and Cot	8,679,233	1,665,202	-7,014,031
	Livestock Movement Permits	1,750,000	256,675	-1,493,325
	Livestock Auction in and Out	15,596,617	3,572,240	-12,024,377
	Audit Fees and Pulping Licence	3,029,367	162,749	-2,866,618
III.	Grants:	194,465,152	12,890,354	

Accounts Receivables (Outstanding Imprests)

Un-surrendered Imprests for the department amounted to Kshs.2, 896,000 against a total outstanding amount of Kshs.152, 910,360 for the whole County.

Hon. Speaker,

During Interrogations the department submitted that most of the processed imprests during the period spilled over to the 3rd quarter and that the un-surrendered imprests for the department is Kshs. 496,000.

Pending accounts payables

Hon. Speaker,

The pending accounts payables for the department was Kshs.161, 564,488 and that for Mabanga ATC Kshs. 7,208,720. However, during interrogations the department submitted that the outstanding accounts payables for the department are Kshs.148, 293,615 broken down as follows;

Development: outstanding pending bill is Kshs. 100,805,649.27

Recurrent is Kshs. 26,631,250

Mabanga ATC and AMC is Kshs. 11,319,940

Ward Based projects; 9,536,776

(Detailed report on the outstanding pending Bills is annexed)

CHAPTER THREE

COMMITTEE OBSERVATIONS

Mr. Speaker,

The committee made the following observations;

1. The local revenue realized by the department in the two quarters was Kshs. 29,750,515 which is 14.6% from the annual target of Kshs. 203,471,356 which is low as compared to the potential of the department.
2. The un-surrendered imprest for the department was Kshs.2, 896,000 based on the financial statements reported by 31st December, 2024 and by the time the committee considered the financial statements the department submitted that the un-surrendered imprest stood at Kshs. 496,000. (Annexed)
3. The Committee noted that the implementation status of all ward based projects is at 0% as at 31st December, 2024 and the absorption rate of most programmes was below the 50% rate by the end of the period under review.
4. The Committee notes with concern the discrepancies in accounts payables reporting for the period under review. The County Treasury reported that the pending accounts payables for the department is Kshs.168, 773,203. However during interrogation the department submitted that the total accounts payables is Kshs. 148,293,615. (Annexed)

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr. Speaker,

The following were the recommendations made by the committee:

1. **THAT**, the Department should set realistic targets and put in place strategies to help improve its revenue performance.
2. **THAT**, the County Treasury and the Department should undertake a joint reconciliation of all outstanding imprests, and submit a verified report to the County Assembly within 30 days from the adoption of this report. Additionally, the department should ensure full compliance with the provisions of Regulation 93 of the Public Finance Management (County Governments) Regulations, 2015.
3. **THAT**, the department should fast-track the implementation of ward-based projects. The department should also begin the procurement process immediately after approval of the annual budget in order to ensure timely implementation of the development programs.

4. THAT, the department and the County Treasury should reconcile accounts payables reports and submit harmonized accounts payables reports to the County Assembly in its subsequent reports to avoid discrepancies. Furthermore, the Department should prioritize the settlement of legitimate and verified pending bills in compliance with Section 94 of the Public Finance Management Act, and ensure that such bills are given First charge.

Adoption Schedule

All Members of the committee appended the signatures. We also have some annexures. May I now invite Hon. Opwora to second the motion.

(Applause)

Mr. Speaker: Thank you Hon. Martin Chemorion for moving the report. Allow me to invite Hon. Opwora to proceed and second the motion accordingly. Hon. Edwin Opwora proceed and second the motion.

Hon. Edwin Opwora: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First of all, I want to congratulate Hon. Martin for taking us through the report eloquently bearing in mind that he's a key Member of the committee.

Based on the report, I want to second this motion by highlighting a few issues and I want to say agriculture actually is a giant that we are not realizing its full potential. In terms of revenue, when you look at what has been read, we are at 14.6% way below the potential of Agriculture. I believe despite the ceiling being high, there's more that the county can do to ensure that revenue is achieved.

One of the key issues also has been the issue of the implementation of the ward projects delay. I think it is important to first track this implementation especially after the budget has passed so that the rollout can begin and ensure that timely completion of the project is done within time. This will also help in reducing pending bills.

Lastly as I support this motion, there has always been an issue of the un-surrendered imprest and I believe it's high time we held the accounting officers responsible so that we can reduce this vice. Otherwise, I request the House to pass this motion. I second.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you Hon. Edwin Opwora for seconding the motion before the House. Honorable members, allow me able to propose a motion for debate;

(Motion proposed)

I propose. Honorable Otsiula!

Hon. Benjamin Otsiula: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. First of all, I wish to appreciate the Vice Chairperson Committee on Tourism and Environment for ably moving the motion as a Member of the Agriculture Committee. Hon. Nganga was surprised. He is my Vice Chair in that committee, he has done it very eloquently and he has taken precise time going through the report. I also wish to appreciate Hon. Opwora for seconding the report and bringing out the issue concisely.

If you look at that report and the observations especially about the local revenue, we are still doing 14% Hon. Speaker.

Agriculture is the backbone of the economy of this county. It is surprising that this report now puts the revenue collected at 14%, as at the time this report was compiled. It means we are doing badly. A case in point is that in Bungoma we are doing a lot of cane farming, we are doing a lot of maize farming and other agricultural produce. Therefore, it means that the department is still dragging its feet. This is now the third year of the government being in place. That means the government must pull up its socks ensuring that they implement whatever is passed by this House. Otherwise, we shall continue to sing the same song over revenue.

We are talking about matters of CESS. If you are not generating enough revenue, I expect to understand for example, is the CECM for Agriculture even aware? Is he even concerned about the issues of CESS? How I wish that he expands his thinking and casts his nets wide for him to realize the recommendation that has been put in this report.

Secondly, ward-based projects, we have all the time agreed in this House that our re-election shall be pegged on these ward -based projects. A report is putting the implementation of ward-based projects in that department at zero per cent. That is quite alarming. In Agriculture, we have projects like purchase of poultry. These are things that we need to do quotations and poultry supplied in Wards. If we come here and present a report where in a department they have done literally nothing; that is embarrassing; and I think the department must pull up its socks.

Otherwise, I want to laud the committee for the findings that they have put forth. I think it is a good report. I support Hon. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you. Hon. Joseph Nyongesa Leader of Majority Leader you can proceed.

Hon. Joseph Nyongesa: Thank you, Speaker. First, also allow me to appreciate the mover of this motion and the seconder of the motion. Equally, I appreciate the teachers of Mungore and the students for finding time to learn from this institution. We appreciate the Member for Khasoko and you should continue praying for him to continue transforming Khasoko Ward.

As I appreciate the committee, there is something we should also note; the issue of quorum in our committees especially the committee that has moved this report. If at all we shall have tendency standing up to confirm quorum and move, we shall not be helping the Assembly. At the moment Mr. Speaker, we only have 4 Members of this Committee and indication that they have moved out.

On the report my concern is on pending bills and I wish that when the mover will respond he should address the challenges in terms of pending bills. Mr. Speaker, by mentioning that development has pending bills amounting to Kshs.100 million without a supporting list of the projects is de-service to this House. Lamping the pending bills will not assist us Mr. Speaker. Moving forward they, should breakdown of specific pending bills so that we can make a follow up.

Otherwise, we support the report but request Members of this committee to be patient until we dispense with the report. I support Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Yes Hon. Sheila Sifuma?

Hon. Sheila Sifuma: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I just want to raise a concern...

Mr. Speaker: As Leader of Majority has indicated all the four whips have disappeared. Even if you call for quorum hitch, who is going to whip the Members back? I think the leadership should look at this issue of the whips for both coalitions.

(Laughter)

Hon. Sheila Sifuma: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I am not so sure if I may go on, who will I be addressing?

(Laughter)

Mr. Speaker: You are addressing the House. We are in session.

Hon. Sheila Sifuma: My observation is that, some of us who don't sit in that Committee would want to understand the negative variances on all their targets and what they actually achieved. For example; fish trader licensing they have a target of Kshs. 5.5 million but they only realizing 60,000. In terms of percentages it is not even 5 percent of what the target. Maybe we would like to know, what is the issue making them unable to attain their targets.

They have recommended that the department should come up with realistic targets. My concern is that if you already have a target of Kshs. 5 million and you are achieving only Kshs. 60,000. Meaning you might not achieve anything in the long run. As a matter of urgency we need to relook at our agriculture which is our backbone. There is much to comment about the negatives because even the auction rings we have negatives all through. The committee should advise us on these issues Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

Mr. Speaker: I now call upon the mover to respond. Hon. Martin Chemorion proceed.

Hon. Martin Chemorion (Mover to reply): Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir. I think my chairperson was coming to whisper something to me and as a member, I have to oblige.

I want to appreciate the contributors to the motion; first of all I want to appreciate my Chairperson - Tourism Committee for seconding the motion by expounding on the recommendations and observations that were made.

Hon. Benjamin Otsiulah actually raised an issue which we also raised on the revenue. The local revenue generated from this department was about 14 percent, which is actually an issue of concern which needs our intervention. Given that when interrogating this department, they talk about the revenue personnel who are not domiciled in the department. They are domiciled in the department of Finance and coordinating this function sometimes is a bit challenging because the revenue collectors are answerable to different department. Therefore, we need to have a common ground where this thing can be done. May be that is the issue making them not to realize the set targets as expected. As a County, we need to pull up our socks to ensure that we finance other activities using our own revenue because we have the potential.

Hon. Sheila Sifuma raised an issue that we should go beyond the targets and see establish why this targets are not realized instead of revising the set targets downwards. This is an avenue we have to explore in future.

The issue of zero percent on Ward based projects, is actually an issue that is why we are insisting that the procurement process should start immediately we pass the budget to fast track implementation of some activities. So by the time of first and second quarter that is at 31st December, the department had advertised the projects but most of this implementation was done during the third and current period.

Hon. Leader of Majority, I was also concerned when sitting down that my Members had disappeared. That is why my chairperson came to whisper to me and I didn't even get what he was trying to whisper to me.

(Laughter)

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Martin Chemorion, as you are lamenting that Members disappeared, they were led by the Chair himself.

(Laughter)

Hon. Martin Chemorion: Thank you Hon. Chair. I take note. On the issue of pending bills, as raised by the Leader of Majority that we should have highlighted the list of pending bills both for recurrent and developments. Next time we shall make it part of the main report and not as an annexure as we did in this report. I think, having said that Hon. Speaker, Sir, I beg that the House to adopt the report as it is. Thank you Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you Hon. Martin Chemorion, for your reply to the motion before the House. Honorable Members, allow me put a question;

(Question put and agreed to)

The Ayes have it.

I don't understand Hon. Sheima Sifuma, having been among the supporters of the motion to be approved, now you are opposing it, don't you think the committee should take action against you?

Now you know the tricky part Members, after signing a report supporting it, you cannot come here and oppose it. Now for Hon. Sheila Sifuma, she was among the contributors supporting the report for approval by the House. Honourable Members when she rose, she didn't say she is opposing the report.

Members let me guide you, the moment you sign the report, without signing a descending opinion, it means you are supporting the report with those negatives. Members I am not allowing you to speak, I am guiding you. The moment you append your signatures in support of the report, if you are opposing it, you sign a minority report opposing it. Now when you come here and support the report on the floor of the House, you don't turn up at the time of voting and say you are negating it. I am only guiding you.

Hon. Timothy Chikati I don't want you to speak. I will not allow you to speak, and it's already over.

(Laughter)

Now thirty seconds please.

Hon. Timothy Chikati: Speaker, I am sorry but you are not guiding us well. First of all Hon. Sheila is not a Member of Agriculture Committee. Secondly, Hon. Speaker, from a member's contribution, we can denote that even though did not say that she is opposing, her views were clear that she was opposing the motion. She doesn't have to say that she is opposing...

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Timothy Chikati now sit down, I said general guidance, I wasn't speaking about this report, generally once you sign a report, it means you are agreeing to the report. I did not say Hon. Sheila Sifuma opposed the report or signed it, it was general guidance. Therefore, Hon. Timothy Chikati you are out of order.

ADJOURNMENT

Honourable Members, looking at the Order Paper that was the only motion this afternoon session. We adjourn and resume tomorrow Wednesday 11th June, 2025.

The House rose at 4:13 p.m.