

REPUBLIC OF KENYA
MURANG'A COUNTY ASSEMBLY
THE HANSARD

Wednesday, 16th October 2024.

The Assembly met at 10:05 a.m.

[Temporary Speaker (Hon.Kamwaga Mwangi) in the Chair]

PRAYER

STATEMENTS

APPROVED BUSINESS OF THE ASSEMBLY FROM THE WEEK
COMMENCING TUESDAY NOVEMBER 12, 2024 TO WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER
13,2024

Hon Pauline Njeri: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I wish to take members through the approved Business of House for the week commencing Tuesday 12th November 2024 to Wednesday 13th November 2024. I beg to issue the following Statement that; -

Pursuant to Standing Order 46 (2) (a), it is notified that the House Business and Rules Committee, at its last meeting, approved Business that will come before the Assembly on Tuesday October 15, 2024 to Wednesday October 16, 2024 as per the attached program. Tuesday 12th November morning sitting, we will have a Paper annual Report for Murang'a County Education Scholarship Fund for financial year 2023/2024. On the same day morning sitting we will have another Paper; a Report linking devolution with effective legislation at county level; we will have A notice of Motion on the same day morning sitting on adoption of annual Report for the Murang'a County Education scholarship fund for financial year 2023/2024.....(*technical hitch*)..... Thank you Mr. Speaker, on the same morning sitting of 12th November 2024 we will have a notice of Motion on adoption of annual Report on adoption on Murang'a County scholarship fund for the financial year 2023/2024. On the same day morning sitting we will have morning sitting we will have a notice of Motion on devolution with effective legislation at County level.

On the same day morning sitting we will have a Motion on adoption of Report on Committees second half progress for financial year 2023/2024 January to June 2024 and work

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plans for financial year 2024/2025 and local travel for financial year 2024/2025. On Tuesday 12th November 2024 afternoon sitting we will have Paper laying on Report on induction of training of members of the Powers and Privileges Committee held from 28th September 2024 in Nairobi. On the same afternoon sitting of 12th November 2024 there will be a Motion on adoption of a Report on the status of co-operative societies in Murang'a County as at July 2024. On Wednesday 13th November 2024 morning sitting we will have a schedule of statements on approved Business of the Assembly from the week commencing Tuesday 19th November 2024 to Wednesday 20th 2024. On the same morning sitting of Wednesday, we will have a Motion on adoption of annual Report for the Murang'a County Education Scholarship Fund for financial year 2023/2024. Thank you.

REQUEST FOR STATEMENT ON IMPLEMENTATION STATUS OF
RECOMMENDATIONS OF A REPORT OF PUBLIC PETITION BY RESIDENTS
OF KAHUMBU WARD REGARDING LIMITED ACCESS TO WATER

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Kamwaga Mwangi): Hon. Chefman you are welcome to the Table.

Hon. Chefman Njoroge: Thank you very much Mr. Speaker. I request for a Statement of implementation status of a recommendation of a report on public Petition by residents of Kahumbu ward regarding limited access to water. Standing Order 46(2)(1) I hereby request for a Statement from the Chairperson Committee on Implementation on the following; -

1. One, is the chairperson cognizant of a report of public Petition Tabled and adopted in the Assembly on June 18, 2024 regarding limited access to water by residents of Kahumbu Ward?
2. Is he aware that pursuant to the County Assembly Standing Order 195, 60 days have lapsed since the Assembly resolution on the matter was ordered to the County Executive Committee Member in charge of Water, Irrigation, Environment and Natural Resources for implementation?
3. Can the chairperson provide a status on the implementation process of the petitioners prayer which was undertaken by Murang'a South Water and Sanitation Limited and the County Department of Water, Irrigation, Environment and Natural Resources.

4. If the answer to the above is affirmative, what are the timelines for the implementation of the resolutions contained in the above-mentioned public Petition Report?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. John Kamwaga): Can the Chair, Implementation Committee Hon. Hillary, respond to that Statement?

Hon. Hilary Muigai: Thank you Honorable Chair for this opportunity to respond to the concerns from Hon. Member representing the people of Kahumbu and for the respect of the people he represents. Chair, I will request for 14 days to come and furnish the Hon Member with the Report of this concerns. Thank you Chair.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. John Kamwaga): Hon. Chefman are you contented with 14 days?

Hon. Chefman Njoroge: Yes.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. John Kamwaga): Hon. Hilary you have 14 days, he has agreed to give you 14 days in which you will give him a response.

Hon. Hilary Muigai: Thank you Chair

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. John Kamwaga): Next Order.

MOTION

ADOPTION OF REPORT OF AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND FISHERIES COMMITTEE ON STATUS OF THE NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL VALUE CHAIN DEVELOPMENT PROJECT (NAVCDP) IN MURANGA COUNTY

Hon. Pauline Njeri: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I beg to move the following Motion; -

That, this Assembly adopts a Report on the sectoral Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries on the status of the National Agricultural Value Chain Development Project (NAVCDP) in Murang'a County as at 30th June 2024.

Hon. Speaker, the document regarding the Report is in the Members phones, through a soft copy. Kindly if you allow me? Because there were issues with the toners. And you know Hon. Speaker we have also gone digital. So I decided so that Members are not left behind I just post, I sent it through the WhatsApp, through your permission, may I continue?

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. John Kamwaga): Go ahead.

Hon. Pauline Njeri: Thank you. Honorable Speaker, the NAVCDP is a joint World Bank and Government of Kenya financed project. The executing agency in the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Co-operatives, the state department for Crop Development and Agricultural Research while the participating Counties are the implementing agencies.

So Hon. Speaker, submissions by the County Executive Committee Member (CECM) on the status of the NAVCDP Murang'a County as at 30th June 2024 which is in page seven. The National Agricultural Value Chain Development Project (NAVCDP) is currently being implemented in all the 35 wards of Murang'a County and is promoting five value chains namely; avocado, coffee, dairy, poultry, and mangoes.

The following project activities have been implemented and others are ongoing. First activity, is ward *barazas* which as per the document the status is complete and 35 ward barazas were done. The other activity was (PICD) which stands for Participatory Integrated Community Development (PICD) and that has been done in all the 35 wards. Then there is the agri-prenuer model and 140 APs are onboarded. Then there is another activity of mapping of Savings and Credit Co-operatives (SACCOs) and Farmer Producer Organizations and it is still ongoing and so far, 287 cooperatives have been mapped and report writing is in progress. Another activity that has been carried out in the NAVCDP is the stakeholder forums and so far, three meetings have been held. Hon. Speaker, I do not think there is need for going through all the wards and the venue and the attendance of the members because it is already in soft copy.

Through your permission Hon. Speaker, I can go straight to the agri-prenuer model. The model represents a transformative approach where selected youths are expected to become agricultural entrepreneurs. These agri-preneurs will become conduits for innovative agricultural technologies, inputs, and market linkages, thereby playing a pivotal role in modernizing agriculture. This AP approach aims to maximize the program's impact, promoting agricultural growth and economic empowerment at the grassroots levels. A total of 140 Agri-preneurs will be on-boarded across 20 wards. Seven APs those are agri-preneurs per ward in phase one. Phase two will cover the remaining 15 wards whereby 105 APs will be on-boarded. Ward and county sub committees screened and selected 140 of agri-preneurs as per the selection guidelines. The APs mentorship program is expected to commence later in the month of July. The mentorship program will consist of three stages: there is bootcamp, incubation, and commercialization. The Agri-preneurs are expected to participate in a one-month boot camp. Each AP will be facilitated with

Kshs10,000 during the exercise. The incubation period will cover 11 months and the APs will be expected to engage farmers on extension services and technology adoption in their respective wards. They will be facilitated again with Kshs15,000 per month. The County will procure a digital kit per ward to be a shared resource. These kits include devices such as tablets, projectors, and power banks.

Hon. Speaker, there are sensitization meetings and the whole document is in our WhatsApp. Therefore, as per the report, the Committee had the recommendations that we made.

1. That the CECM in charge of Agriculture and the County Project Co-ordinator should ensure that NAVCDP is implemented transparently and effectively so that the identified benefits could accrue to residents of Murang'a county.
2. That the County Government to ensure full inclusivity and participation of all genders, including the marginalized communities in Murang'a County.
3. That the County Executive Committee Member for Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries submit to the County Assembly a list of all sacco and farmer producer organisations identified to provide affordable credit to the farming community.
4. That, the land on which projects will be implemented should be fully documented and due diligence done.
5. That, the County Executive Committee Member for Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries should ensure full involvement of elected members of the County Assembly in launching of various programs in their wards.
6. That the CECM. for Finance and Economic Planning should ensure timely disbursement of counter funds as per the operational agreement between the Murang'a County Government and the National government so as not to compromise the implementation of the NAVCDP projects.

That is all, Hon. Speaker, I wish to call one of the Committee member to second that Motion. Hon. Machigo.

Hon. Charles Machigo: Thank you very much Hon. Speaker. I stand to second this Motion and I urge the Hon. Members to support the Motion and I call upon the Committee on Implementation to take up this resolution to ensure that the CECM. for Agriculture and Finance take up the resolution and make sure they hasten implementing the same. Mr. Speaker, I stand to second.

(*Question Proposed*)

Hon. Chefman Njoroge: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker sir. I rise to support the recommendation of the Committee of Agriculture----

Temporary Speaker (Hon. John Kamwaga): Hon. Chefman, are supporting recommendations or the whole Motion.

Hon. Chefman Njoroge: I am supporting the whole Report. Especially on the side of recommendations, Mr. Speaker. With a rider of the issue, I would like the Committee of Agriculture to address in future on the issue of the *baraza* (informal meeting). Mr. Speaker, there was a small issue about the *baraza* as a result of most people not being aware about the whole issue. It is good for the Committee to realise and add that the CECM for Agriculture to make sure when we are holding this kind of a thing in our wards, it is well advertised, it is well informed, either through the churches that there should be a *baraza*. Because, when we are issuing the maize and fertiliser, there was an issue of the people not knowing what was going on. They had not understood that, there was the issue of being educated about what exactly the County of Murang'a was doing. I think the issue of the *barazas* has been an issue and that is why we had a lot of people coming for the service or to get the fertiliser and the maize, whereby I happen to have the Chair of agriculture come from my ward, and that was a challenge and that is why it had a problem. So, my request is that in future activities let us have a proper sensitization to our people, let the *barazas* be done in the right way, let them be advertised because it brought an issue whereby even most people did not know who these people were and again, the issue of registration of farmers somehow it was partisan. Some of the people were just writing their family friends and all that stuff. I am requesting the Committee to be very serious because this a flagship project, which we will use to create the food security of our County. If we start on the wrong foot, we go the bad way.

My request is, through the Chair, that the next *barazas* should be done and be given enough time. When it comes to the elections, it should not be to the chosen few and the issue of the sites or wards it will be distributed in future, should also be advertised so that people can understand and also checking on time and the days of doing it. I stand to support the Motion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Temporary Speaker (Hon. John Kamwaga): Hon. John Kibaiya.

Hon. John Ngugi: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. rise to support this Motion, but allow me Mr. speaker to indict the Committee on several issues. One, it is the issue that has been articulated by the honourable Chefman about communication. I was taken aback when I went to funeral in my neck of the wood and the area chief was announcing about the NAVCDP *baraza*. I know that the NAVCDP is a County driven program and the area MCA didn't know nothing about it. The question of the seven agripreneurs that have been selected. I don't know the criteria that was used to select those people and I would wish that the CECM Agriculture and the Committee insist on the executive working with our local offices, our ward offices because we have managers. We have people in our wards who can be appraised of this matters because some of us might want to be busy with other things. We have ward offices; we have ward managers who can be appraised on what is going on.

Mr. Speaker we must appreciate that outside of the funding by the County government on our own budget, the NAVCDP is one of the largest budgets aligned in our County and granted that our County is an agricultural County. Granted that we want to improve the welfare of our people then there is no way that can happen without the close co-ordination between the two arms of government. I would hope that is better communication between the executive and these Assembly and especially the Agriculture Committee disseminating this information to the members through their ward offices.

Mr. Speaker there was an exercise that was carried out recently of registering farmers for the maize and fertilizer. Most members of our society contend rightly that they never got an opportunity to register because we did not publicize that exercise properly and I agree with them a hundred percent. We also have inua mkulima card where we were giving co-operatives the E-Voucher to replace the M-Pesa money that we were giving milk and mango farmers to assist them in their production. That exercise was also carried haphazardly. In my ward particularly the lights went off at around 12. That exercise was conducted through a computer registration, when the lights went off there was nothing else that was done for that particular day. I got the information, I called the CECM and they assured me that they will they would arrange on another day when they will come and register my members. None of that happened. I came to realize later that some of the members who were in that program don't even own cows. We got to be serious about these things. I would beseech the Committee of Agriculture to request for the data, the raw data of the initial members that were receiving the support through Mpesa vis-a- vis the people who are now

registered for the e-voucher and crash those two documents. I bet there will be a lot of disparities between the initial report and what they have now.

Mr. Speaker as I support I ask the Committee on Agriculture and all the other various Committees in this Assembly to take these matters especially the flagship project that directly involve our electorate a lot more seriously. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Kamwaga Mwangi): I now call the mover to respond.

Hon. Pauline Njeri: Thank you very much Hon. Speaker, I wish to thank members for the support and even for the recommendations. Hon. Chefman Isaac from Kahumbu Ward I concur with you and about the *baraza* issue I have well noted. And I think it is very important for your own office to be involved and have proper communication about all the *barazas* that are taking place in your ward. That is well noted and I will ensure that it is well done next time.

About the sensitization about just concluded fertilizer and maize seed program, I have well noted that communication should have been done better. I was in your ward and I witnessed the same that most members of public were coming to know about it through other members. So, I will also pass this message to the executive. And through my Committee we will make sure that next time the communication has been very well done. Hon. Kibaiya from Gatanga Ward thank you very much ----

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. John Kamwaga): Honourable Member respond through the Chair.

Hon. Pauline Njeri: Chair, I also thank Hon. Kibaiya form Gatanga Ward. I have also noted his concerns about communication and also about criteria for selecting agripreneurs. I have also noted his concerns Mr. Speaker about executive working with ward offices through ward managers. I will ensure through our Committee the same will be implemented. I have also noted his concerns about the fertilizer and maize program, it was not well publicized. Next time it will be well publicized. I have also noted his concerns on inua mkulima card. I will ensure through our Committee on Agriculture that we get to bottom of this to scrutinize the registered members of public who has that card. As he has stated that most of them do not have cows and that is very serious. So, we will be getting to the bottom of this and ensure that we give feedback on the same.

Thank you very much Hon. Speaker and I ask and urge all members present to support this Motion for the good of Murang'a farmers and Murang'a County as a whole.

Thank you very much Hon. Speaker.

(Question put and agreed to)

[SUPPLEMENTARY ORDER PAPER]

PAPER

MURANG'A COUNTY GOVERNMENT BUDGET REVIEW AND OUTLOOK PAPER 2024.

Hon. Charles Machigo: Thank you Hon. Speaker, I beg to lay the following Paper;

That, the Murang'a County Government Budget Review and Outlook Paper 2024 be laid on the Table of the Assembly today Wednesday, October 16, 2024.

Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

(Hon. Charles Machigo laid the Paper)

MOTION

ADJOURNMENT OF THE ASSEMBLY.

Hon. Francis Kibe: Hon. Speaker, I beg to move the following Motion; aware that the approved legislative Calendar of the Third Session indicates that the Assembly is scheduled to adjourn for short recess from October 24, 2024, and resume on November 12, 2024, further aware that the fifth edition of the County Assemblies Sports Association (CASA) has been scheduled from October 18, 2024, to October 27, 2024, in Bungoma County, recognizing that the days allotted for CASA sports shall predominate the date of the adjournment for the short recess, noting the need for the Assembly to adjourn to a day other than the next normal Sitting day; this Assembly do now adjourn pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 33 and 54 (b) for a short recess from Thursday, October 17, 2024 to Monday, November 11, 2024 to allow Members of the Assembly and staff participate in the fifth edition of the CASA sports to be held in Bungoma County, the Assembly sittings shall resume on Tuesday, November 12, 2024 at 9.30 a.m.

Hon. Speaker, it is my hope that Hon. Members will fully participate in the CASA games in Bungoma and they will have a very good time there and as they come back here after the CASA, every one of us will be physically fit. I call Hon. John Ngugi to second the Motion.

Hon. John Ngugi: Thank you. Mr. Speaker, I stand to second the Motion.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. John Kamwaga): I will now propose the Question.

(Question Proposed)

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Kamwaga Mwangi): Hon. Pauline, I think you want to respond to what have been assured of the goodies you will find in Bungoma.

Hon. Pauline Muchiri: Thank you, hon. Speaker, I do not know why you have thought about that, but since the Speaker is always right then you are. I want to stand to support the Motion on adjournment and also especially because of the CASA games that the members will be attending, my prayer is that all the members will be facilitated prior together with all the staff that will be participating because last time when we went there it was big trouble, so it is my prayer that all the members will be facilitated together with all the staff. We do not want to get into the trouble that we were in last time, it is very important for the members to go especially now that we have taken so long before going anywhere. It will be a good time because even psychologically because members are stressed due to the delays from the national treasury in disbursing the money, it is a good time for the games and we can bond once again. I really support and we should ensure that the members are facilitated.

Hon. Chefman Njoroge: I rise to support the Motion with a rider, we are not going for leave, it is part of the Assembly activities to go and bond and know other areas and getting to know each other in terms of bonding here as members of the County Assembly in Murang'a and it will help us bond with the MCAs around and also have a magical Tembea Kenya that will make us know other areas and borrow and learn from the counties that we will pass through for those that will fly and those that will use ordinary means like matatu and buses. It will be a good time to reflect and come out of the busy schedules as honourable members, it will keep us more fit body wise and Mr. Speaker, it will also assist us to be more physically and mentally fit.

We have known and learnt so many things from our brothers from the other side and give us time to mingle with each other and the residents. Apart from the CASA we will reflect and go back to our wards to listen carefully and understand the challenges of our ward as we progress. I rise to support and as my chair Agriculture has stated we need to be facilitated as we go. pocket wise we need to be fit and I hope all the members will participate so that we can represent the County even if it is not about winning the medals.

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Kamwaga Mwangi): You seem like you want to give directions to Bungoma

Hon Boniface Mbau: When we are in recess it is the only time

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Kamwaga Mwangi): Are you supporting the Motion?

Hon. Boniface Mbau: I am saying that this is the only time we have to rest and I wish all members to participate in CASA games. Last time I witnessed honourable Hanna who was really good in handball, I wish you all the best as you prepare to go for CASA games.

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Kamwaga Mwangi): Honourable members you will not have a response because as you are aware, I have heard some of you requesting the mover to respond to your questions but as you are aware that a Motion on adjournment shall be proposed but there will be no question put. Standing Order 30 (3) states that on a day when Assembly is scheduled to adjourn to a day other than the next sitting day, in accordance with the calendar, the next sitting day, the leader of the majority of the party or minority party or a member of the House Business Committee shall move a Motion to adjourn which shall be debated for not more than three hours which we have not done, which we have done in a very short time after which the Assembly shall adjourn without question put. The house stands guided. Next order.

Hon. members this house stands adjourned until Tuesday November 12, 2024.

The House rose at 10:50 a.m.