

# MURANG'A COUNTY ASSEMBLY

## THE HANSARD

Thursday, 18<sup>th</sup> June 2015

The House met at 2:56 p.m.

*(Second Chair Hon. Catherine Mugo in the Chair)*

### PRAYERS

### NOTICES OF MOTION

#### REGISTRATION OF BROKERS OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE MURANG'A COUNTY

**Hon. James Njoroge:** Madam Speaker I am giving the notice on behalf of Hon. James Kariuki Ngugi.

Aware, that Murang'a County is basically an agricultural County that deals with a number of horticultural crops that are meant for the export market, further aware that there are a number of middlemen who are involved in the business of buying such agricultural produce from farmers in order to sell to exporters, cognizant of the fact that farmers have consistently and for many years received very low prices for their produce due to this exploitation by the middlemen, this Assembly urges the County Executive member in-charge of Trade, Commerce, Industry and Investment to register all the brokers who are involved in the buying of all agricultural produce in this County so that order can be realized in this sector thus translating into better prices for our farmers.

Thank you Madam Speaker.

### STATEMENTS

#### CONFIRMATION OF FORMER STAFF OF DEFUNCT LOCAL AUTHORITIES

**Hon. Duncan Njuguna:** Aware that the chair water is held up at Golden Palm Kenol because of the stakeholders meeting that was there earlier on, he directed me to request the statement on his behalf.

Pursuant to standing order 45 (2) (c), I hereby request for a statement from the Chairperson for Governance, Labour and Social Welfare and Justice and Legal Affairs on the following;

- a. Is the Chairperson aware that it's now two years since devolution took place and the former staff of the defunct local authorities have not been confirmed to their positions?
- b. When will the salaries scales and job groups of the former staff of the defunct local authorities be harmonized to be in line with the guidelines set out by the Salaries and Remuneration Commission.
- c. When will the salary arrears, pending leave allowances and other outstanding allowances be paid?
- d. Can the Chairperson give a clear timeline on when this will be done?

**Hon. Jesse Mburu:** I have gone through the requested statement and I feel that it will need some time before I bring a comprehensive answer to this House, so I ask for 14 clear days to bring the answer to this House, thank you Madam Speaker.

**Second Chair:** Hon. Duncan

**Hon. Duncan Njuguna:** Madam Speaker 14 days so be it, but I do not want to doubt the capability because I have two pending statements that I sought for last year and he requested the same number of days. Can the number of days be 14 if it is by the first week of July let it be so Madam Speaker.

**Second Chair:** Hon. Jesse, be advised accordingly. Next order

### MOTIONS

#### ENLARGING WATER INTAKES AND MAIN DELIVERY PIPES AND CONSTRUCTION OF WATER INTAKES IN MURANG'A COUNTY

**Hon. Samuel Wandia:** I thank you Madam Speaker .....

*(Hon. David Muhoro rose on a point of order)*

**Second Chair:** Hon. Muhoro

**Hon. David Muhoro:** Madam Speaker before the mover moves the motion we were in this House day before yesterday and there was a ruling that tis motion be struck out of the order paper because of his failure by committing this House to his business and then never availed himself in the House.

So it will be out of order for the mover to move this motion when he knew very well he was absent and when the motion was on order paper and he was not available to move it. Thank you Madam Speaker.

**Second Chair:** Thank you, Hon. Muhoro. I am sorry I am aware that the Hon. Speaker has given the mover leave to bring the motion today.

**Hon. Samuel Wandia:** Thank you Madam Speaker for that ruling. In actual fact I wanted to apologize to this House for what happened on that day because everybody got antagonized by what had happened.

I had a serious matter in my ward and I had informed the clerk to the Assembly and I had taken pains to inform the clerk who is responsible for the agenda to be brought to this House and indeed I spoke to the Speaker himself and he allowed the motion to be brought today so I think

*(Hon. Erick Kimani rose on a point of order)*

**Second Chair:** Hon. Erick

**Hon. Erick Kimani:** Thank you Madam Speaker. Is it in order for one of the hon. members to assume the file to be part of the clothing? Hon. Kabaka is assuming the file to be part of dressing but I do not think it is in order Madam Speaker; he does not have a tie.

**Second Chair:** Hon. Kabaka you know what to do, get out of the chambers.

*(Laughter)*

*(Hon. Kabaka walked out of the chambers)*

Carry on Hon. Samuel.

**Hon. Samuel Wandia:** I thank you Madam Speaker at this moment in time may I take this opportunity to move this motion that;-

Aware that Article 43 (d) of the Constitution of Kenya 2010, stipulates that every person has the right to clean and safe water in adequate quantities, cognizant of the fact that a good number of households in Murang'a County lack piped water supply; this House urges the County Executive Committee Member in charge of Public Works, Roads and Transport to;

1. Enlarge water intakes and main delivery pipes respectively in the County.
2. Construct new water intakes to increase the resource in order to meet the demand by the increasing population.

Indeed Madam Speaker, in the country side especially in my ward, the households that are having piped water are quite a few.

When I go outside there when I visit other places in the country, the cry is water everywhere clean water. It is upon this cry that I decided to come up with this motion especially now that we are in process of budget making and in the process of getting pipes.

I believe we are to get pipes and if we get them and we do not have big quantities of water to service them it will be ironical and everybody will start crying that the pipes are here and no water. So the first thing we do at this point in time as a county government of Murang'a is to increase the water intake so that when the pipes come we will have quantities of water.

When we went to Kakuzi last time when we had the Deputy President, everybody was talking about water and it is upon this that I decided to bring this motion.

When we went there for public participation on the budget I got astonished in my ward when everybody in the hall started shouting water and I assured them that water is coming. I have talked to my colleagues and they have told me that they had the same talk in their wards when they went for public participation. That amounts to a needful situation in this county so that our people can enjoy clean piped water.

It is very fresh in our minds that cholera is here with us and one of the causes of cholera is taking unclean water. If we want to fight cholera in this county the first thing we do is to ensure that our people are getting clean water at all stages.

I would urge that much as it would come up with water intakes we should also be mindful to come up with water treatment points. The two should go parallel because if you find out, we have the water intake but if you visit them we do not have water treatment points.

What is happening is water been drawn from the rivers direct to our people so I would urge this House to consider the construction of water treatment points in our respective sub-counties so that when we talk of clean water that will be the way to go. I urge my colleagues to take this motion seriously so that as a House when we will go to the budget meeting we shall allocate a lot of money to this vote for water. I urge this House to support this motion so that our people can have clean water. Thank you Madam Speaker.

**Second Chair:** The seconder of the motion?

**Hon. Samuel Wandia:** Hon. Mwicigi will second my motion

**Hon. Rebecca Mwicigi:** Thank you Madam Speaker, I stand to support the motion that we enlarge the intakes at the main delivery pipes and construct new intakes to increase the resource in order to cover the demand of the increased population.

I am very happy that I have been asked to second this motion as water is very close to me, and because we had water in Kandara and Gatanga, and when I was looking at the maps which were given to us the other day, I realized that in some of the areas, the same pipes that were put 20 or 30 years ago, were the ones being used by the people installing the water, and this motion will make them wake up and know that there is increased population and there is no way that those pipes would cater for the increased population.

Clean water is very important to the homes and as the mover has said that the water needs to be treated. There are areas with that water and immediately those people take the water they end up in hospitals, and water treatment is so important so that people do not get the diseases they are getting.

It is the high time we increase the budget from 600million to one billion so that we can take care of our people, because you hear the cries, even where we were in the morning, everyone is saying, let us take care of Murang'a county people, give them water so that they can be self-sustained, so that we can have food security. When you have water to drink you can use domestic water to grow vegetables and that also cares for our health, because when a

household is growing kitchen vegetables, they fight many diseases and they can do that from the waste water which comes from washing the dishes.

It is the high time, that Murang'a, being endowed with a good resource, the people should not go to the rivers to draw water, it is a lot of time and man hours wasted. When a woman leaves in the morning to draw water, it is quite a distance and the time is valuable and she would instead be doing something to bring food to her children and income to the family.

Some of the children are not studying, because even where there is water, it does not come regularly, they leave school and go out to draw the water and if, the prayer is granted I am sure Murang'a will be different, the children of Murang'a will have more time to study, women will be healthy, there will be happiness at home because the woman will not be overburdened, I is the high time that we start thinking about our people getting the water because we have water in Murang'a and we can divide up to Ithanga, Kakuzi and Kambiti, I am sure those people would be happy and appreciate this August house. Thank you Madam Speaker. I support the motion

**Second Chair:** Thank you Hon Mwicigi, do you support or second the motion.

**Hon. Rebecca Mwicigi:** I second the motion

*(Question proposed)*

**Hon. Jesse Mburu:** I rise to support this motion and congratulate the mover because it has come at the right time when we are talking about water, taking water from Murang'a County to Nairobi, even after a few minutes ago; we were in a meeting where we were talking about water.

My stand has always been, before we part with water from Murang'a, every household in Murang'a should have clean drinking water am then the surplus, can be given to our brothers in Nairobi. Everybody knows that water is life, when I turn around; I see everybody has a bottle of water we should not be selfish, we should be thinking about our brothers and Sisters out there, and ensure they have clean drinking water, this is an important motion and I urge my colleagues to see this and support it. I support.

**Hon. Duncan Njuguna:** I support the motion because the areas like Kandara and Gatangu in Mathioya that had piped water 20, 30 years ago, the main intakes, the source was structured for a population that is less than the present, when enlarging the intake, if the motion is adopted, they should consider the population increment in the larger Murang'a.

I would also like to inform the mover of the motion that not only enlarging the intakes or creating new ones, we need to take Statistics and know the number of pipes that we need to give each and every person in Murang'a clean water because we can say that right now, piped water from Aberdares comes all the way to Murang'a town but you find some areas in Makuyu Ithanga and Gatari, Kambiti do not have piped water, yet we are claiming that we have piped water.

The mover said that we need to take the motion seriously and I always think that we all take the business of the house seriously, on that he did not tell the house that it is only two months ago that he received a lorry load of pipes and think that is why he is moving the motion because he did not have anywhere to take the pipes. He need the intakes enlarged so that the people of Muthithi can have water, all the same the motion is very good and timely. If the intake is enlarged, the water will flow up to Kambiti and other areas as I have already mentioned. I therefore stand to support the motion, thank you.

**Second Chair:** Hon. Kabaka.

**Hon. David Kabaka:** Thank you Madam Speaker. First, I congratulate the mover of the motion. As my colleagues have said, it is a very important Motion because it is addressing the challenges of water and most of our areas need water. It is good to enlarge the pipes to

ensure that there is more intake of water. For example, we now have three sources of water. We call one of the sources Gikigie. If we ensure there are more in-takes, even those people from Nairobi will come and see that we do not have water for them.

We are also talking about the pipes and that is good. Today, there is a four inch pipe that is being installed at Kenol, that is the pipe that will be bringing water to Makuyu, Kamahuha and Kambiti. If the pipe is four inches, I think the water will have no pressure by the time it reaches Kambiti. That will be very bad for the people who are building high-rise buildings because that water will not help. I am one of the victims because I have a high-rise building in my area and I have no water.

*(Laughter)*

In fact, this motion is very good and I congratulate Hon. Dishon for this motion. I urge all the members to support it---

**Second Chair:** Hon. Kabaka, when a motion comes to the House, it is no longer the mover's motion, you should therefore not address him.

**Hon. David Kabaka:** Okay. I am not addressing him. Thank you Madam Speaker. I support.

**Hon. Esther Ngugi:** Thank you Madam Speaker, I am a nominated MCA. I stand to support the motion. By enlarging water intakes and main delivery pipes, this water will serve more people and we expect that if the budget allocation is increased and given to water, the government should ensure that all the residents who do not have water are provided with water.

Other than irrigation and domestic use, by providing piped water, it will save residents a lot of value time they use to go and fetch water. Other than cholera, this clean piped water will also save the residents from other water-borne diseases. Thank you Madam Speaker.

**Second Chair:** Hon. Erick.

**Hon. Erick Kimani:** Thank you Madam Speaker, I rise to support the motion and request the committee in charge of water to hasten the Water Bill so that it will contain all other forms of motions which might be raised by any other member in future. It will also have detailed information and also programs that will run our County in future. It is the right of every Kenyan to access adequate supply of water, therefore, this motion is timely and I support, thank you.

**Second Chair:** Hon. Wadome.

**Hon. Danson Mburu:** Thank you Madam Speaker. I also rise to support the motion and congratulate the mover because the motion is timely. As you remember, we were talking about water this morning in Golden Palm that is located in Kenol. We were told the aim of getting water from Murang'a to Nairobi is because they see that the population in Nairobi will increase in a few years; hence the people of Nairobi will lack enough water. That is the reason why the World Bank is coming to put in place the water collection from Murang'a to Ndaka-ini and consequently to Nairobi.

Madam Speaker, I think we in Murang'a should remind ourselves that the population in Murang'a is also increasing and unless things are put in place at the moment to replace the inadequacy of water, there is going to be a big crisis some years to come. When we were talking about piped water, there is no single pipe in Makuyu and the lower zone that is circulating water to the people around those areas. Therefore, when the mover of the motion talks about enlarging water intakes that is what should be recommended and should be hastened. He has also talked about construction of new water intakes and I am sure that when that is done on the upper parts, that water will slowly trickle to the lower part and we will enjoy piped water just like in the lower zones where we understand that water is already there.

Things should be put into motion to have water increased; not only in the lower side of Makuyu but also in the whole county so that we may enjoy clean and good water in every household so that we can be able to farm, do irrigation and have enough water for our livestock; hence improve our lives. I support.

**Second Chair:** Hon. Njoroge.

**Hon. John Gitau:** Thank you Madam Speaker, I also rise to support the motion and I will start by saying that water is a basic right to all people, including the people of Murang'a. When something is a right, it means that if somebody moves to court, they can force the government to give people water. It is necessary to ensure that all households in Murang'a county are connected with water. If you look at what is happening, somebody somewhere can see that we are not tapping our natural resources as we are supposed to and they are coming to help us do that.

Therefore, considering what is happening, especially where most of us are coming from, it is good that we take the advantage because these people need to be told that we are now enlarging our intakes and they should come and help us before they extract water. We should put conditions that they are not going to take any drop of water from Murang'a County when all the households are not connected with water.

I think this is a very good motion but the author ought to have also talked about increasing water reservoirs or storage tanks because, in some areas, I know water will not be flowing from the source all the time, sometimes it is necessary to have all the storage areas, especially from high points so that water can be supplied by gravity. It would also have been good if they talked of doing the wells and things like those. I therefore think that this is a very important motion because at this time of the century, we need to give our people water. As Hon. Esther said, this is also going to help to control cholera and other water borne diseases. I support the motion and request that once it is passed, it should be implemented almost immediately, thank you Madam Speaker.

**Second Chair:** Mover to respond.

**Hon. Samuel Wandia:** Thank you Madam Speaker, first, I express my gratitude to all those who have contributed and those who have not I know that we are together in spirit, so thank you all and I believe although the person responsible for implementation is not here but I am going to say it because the members implementation are here.

If this motion goes through, I would urge the members of the implementation committee because they are here to ensure that they move with speed and ensure that this information is passed to the Executive to ensure that it is implemented to the betterment of the lives of our people in the villages because they are crying for water. If that is not done immediately, the suffering will not cease and most of our people will still live in a world of hunger for water. I again thank members for remembering the population in the villages, thank you very much for you having minded the population we have in the villages.

*(Question put and agreed to)*  
*(Applause)*

**Second Chair:** Next order

## ADJOURNMENT

**Second Chair:** This House is adjourned to Tuesday next week.

*The House rose at 3:34 p.m.*