

**REPUBLIC OF KENYA**  
**MURANG'A COUNTY ASSEMBLY**  
**THE HANSARD**

Thursday, 8<sup>th</sup> June 2023.

The Assembly met at 2:46 p.m.

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

**PRAYER**

**STATEMENT**

APPROVED BUSINESS OF THE ASSEMBLY FROM TUESDAY, JUNE 13 TO  
THURSDAY, JUNE 15, 2023.

**Hon. John Munyua:** Thank you Hon. Speaker. I beg to give the following Statement on approved business of the House for the week commencing Tuesday, June 13 to Thursday, June 15, 2023.

That pursuant to Standing Order 46 (2) (a), the House Business and Rules Committee, at its last meeting, approved Business that will come before the Assembly for the week commencing Tuesday, June 13 to Thursday, June 15, 2023 as per the attached program. On Tuesday, June 13, 2023, morning sitting, there will be laying of Paper on report of the Auditor General on Municipality of Murang'a for the year ended 30 June, 2022. There will also be a Paper laying on the Report of the Auditor General on Murang'a County Education Scholarship Fund for the year ended 30 June, 2022. There will be a Paper on the Report of the Auditor General on Receiver of Revenue -Revenue Statements – County Government of Murang'a for the year ended 30 June 2022. There will be a Paper on the Report of the Auditor General on Fort Beverage Industries Company Limited for the year ended 30 June, 2023. There will be a Paper; the Report of the sectoral Committee on Health Services on a visit undertaken at Murarandia Health Centre in Murarandia Ward following closure of its maternity wing.

Tuesday, June 13, 2023 in the afternoon sitting, there will be a Petition on the status of Kimorori polytechnic, there will also be a Paper laying on a Report of the visit undertaken at Wanjengi Health Centre in Wangu Ward due to poor workmanship during construction of a new

hospital block. There will be a notice of Motion on adoption of a Report on a visit undertaken at Murarandia Health Centre in Murarandia Ward following closure of its maternity wing.

On Wednesday, June 14 in the afternoon sitting, there will be a Petition on a Report of a public Petition on maintenance of County roads on tea zone area, there will also be a Petition, Report on a public Petition on lack of an ECDE centre at Kiritu area in Kangari Ward, there will be laying of Paper on County Government of Murang'a quarterly Report on financial statement third quarter for the period ended March 31, 2023 financial year 2022/2023, there will also be another Paper on first quarterly Report, January to March 2023 on Murang'a County farm inputs subsidy and incentives Fund. There will a notice of Motion on adoption of a Report on a visit undertaken at Wanjengi Health Centre in Wangu Ward due to poor workmanship during construction of a new hospital block. There will be a Motion on adoption of a Report on a visit undertaken at Murarandia Health Centre in Murarandia Ward following closure of its maternity wing.

On Thursday afternoon sitting, there will be a Statement from the House Business and Rules Committee, there will also be a request for Statement on management of ambulance in the County that will be issued by Chefman Isaac Njoroge, Honourable from Kahumbu. There will be a Motion on adoption of a Report undertaken at Wanjengi Health Centre in Wangu Ward due to poor workmanship during construction of a new hospital block. Thank you.

### **MOTION**

#### **REPORT OF WATER AND IRRIGATION COMMITTEE ON STATUS AND DISTRIBUTION OF DAMS AND WATER PANS IN MURANG'A COUNTY.**

**Hon. Mark Wainaina:** I beg to move the following Motion;-

That, this Assembly adopts the Report of the sectoral Committee on Water and Irrigation on the status and distribution of dams and water pans in the County, laid on the Table of the Assembly on Tuesday, June 6, 2023.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the sectoral Committee on water and irrigation, it is my pleasure to present the Report on the scrutiny of status and distribution of dams and water pans in Murang'a County held at Sportsview hotel, Kasarani in Nairobi on the February 19 to 20, 2023. I will go straight to the Committee mandate; pursuant to Standing Order 204, the Committee on Water and Irrigation is mandated to consider all matters related to implementation

of specific national government policies on water for both domestic and industrial use, irrigation, water pans, dams, storm water and sanitation services. Further, Mr. Speaker, Standing Order 195 (5), provides that the functions of a sectoral Committee shall be to:-

1. Investigate, inquire into and report on all matters relating to mandate, management activities and administration, operations and estimates of the assigned departments.
2. Study the program and policy objectives of departments and effectiveness of the implementation.
3. Study and review of all county legislations referred to it.
4. Study, assess and analyse the relative success of the department as measured by results obtained as compared with stated objectives.

There are three more;-

5. That is to investigate and inquire into all matters relating to the assigned departments as they deem necessary and may be referred to them by the Assembly
6. To vet and report all appointments where the constitution or law requires the Assembly requires to approve, except those under Standing Order 189, that is the Committee on Appointments, and finally;
7. Make reports on the recommendations to the Assembly as often as possible.

I will go to the background and touch a few things, like a dam. A dam is defined as a structure built across a river or stream to hold back water. The purpose of a dam is to impound (store) water, waste water or liquid borne materials for any of several reasons, such as flood control, human water supply, irrigation, livestock water supply, and energy generation, containment of mine tailings, recreation, or pollution control and so on. I will go to water pans. Water pans are simple methods of storing water, particularly relevant for livestock farmers in arid areas. Pans are dug in low-lying land and normally flat areas. They collect water from small streams which flow over the surrounding land during rainfall.

I will go to item number three where we have scrutiny of the status and distribution of the dams and the water pans. They are quite a number; I am not going to touch all of them but I can mention just but a few. Like in Kimorori Ward, that is on page 6, you have Katipanga main/ Ngimu Dam in Kimorori/ Wempa which is supposed to serve eight hundred households, it is functional; domestic, minor irrigation and water; good. Has moderate water level, silted and dilapidated spillway but requires desilting, spillway rehabilitation and fencing. I will pick

another one on page nine, it is called Gikono. Which is supposed to serve around four hundred and fifty households; it is functional; it is used for domestic irrigation and livestock.

You see from the Report for that dam, the physical status is that the dam has been encroached , it has a lot of water but poorly utilized, no economic activities apart from small scale irrigation through siphoning of water. And the recommendation is that, spill way require redesign and construction, riparian reserves require protection since people have cultivated up to the dam edge and water project is necessary. I will go now to the Committee findings. The Committee Members came up with the following observations and recommendations;

1. The Members noted that most of the dams are located in semi-arid areas within the County.
2. It was noted that most of the dams are used for harvesting water for domestic, livestock consumption and irrigation purposes.
3. Most of the dams require desilting, fencing, rehabilitation thus increase reservoir capacity.
4. Members observed that most of the dams are particularly functional and non-functional hence serving the residents efficiently.

I will just touch a few of the Committees recommendations if not all, there are nine of them but I can touch a few.

1. That the County Executive in charge of environment to formulate Policies that will guide in the management and operation of the County owned dams and water pans to be adopted in the Assembly.
2. That the CEC in charge of water to factor the rehabilitation of dams and water pans which are particularly functional and non-functional in the next financial year budget of 2023/2024
3. I will go to point no. 6 that the CECM in charge of water and irrigation to consider construction of separate water drinking points from the main dams from the livestock consumption.
4. That due to the high increase in population in Mitubiri Ward thus increased water consumption the CECM to consider pumping water up from Mitubiri dam for irrigation purposes by the residents.

5. The CECM in charge of water and irrigation should submit quarterly Reports on implementation status of this dams and water pans for considerations and monitoring by the Committee.

Allow me Mr. Speaker to call the Hon. Hillary Muigai to second. Thank you.

**Hon. Hillary Muigai:** Thank you Mr. Speaker. I rise to second the Motion.

*(Question proposed)*

**The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Kamwaga Mwangi):** Hon. Members, the House is open for debate. Hon. Kamau Gaichanjiru.

**Hon. John Munyua:** Thank you Mr. Speaker for giving me this chance to say something regarding this Report and I can say they missed one; that there is a dam at Kagundu-ini that has the same problems that I can see they are talking of but also, we have a big dam that supplies water to Nairobi called Ndaka-ini; or it is not in Murang'a? I believe that dam should help our people. The people of Ithanga do not have sufficient water. It can be of great help to them. I would urge my friend who is standing in for the Chairperson for Water to relay that message to your Committee. Let us see what we can do with that water to help our people. And we understand that water is fully devolved and we need to do a lot and more in the coming budget. As people in charge in that Committee, you should lobby for more funds we deiseal these dams to help our people. I support the Motion; we are keeping on growing as time goes by. Thank you.

**The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Kamwaga Mwangi):** Hon. Mark, you should know that you will get time to respond. As the Mover, you will have a chance to respond. I hope you are not trying to bring the debate that you had in high schools where you had to respond immediately the debater wants to contribute. Hon. Hannah.

**Hon. Hanna Wairimu:** Thank you Mr. Speaker, first, I congratulate the Committee for the work well done, knowing very well that our County is growing at a very high rate where we have a high population increase where water consumption is also very high. I will juts highlight some of the things that if we can have more dams, if all these dams are dug, we shall, as a County, be able to hold more water and our residents will be satisfied in the use of domestic and irrigation. If we adopt this Report, we shall be able to produce more in our farms which will

produce more in our families and it will minimize drought and famine in our County. So, I rise to support and I urge my Members to support so that we can adopt this Report.

Thank you.

**The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Kamwaga Mwangi):** Hon. Naomi, you seem to want to say something.

**Hon. Naomi Maina:** Thank you Mr. Speaker, I rise to support the Motion, allow me first of all to congratulate the Committee for a job well done. You have brought a well detailed Report. I want to just press on the Committee recommendations that indeed if the water distribution will be prioritize more importantly on irrigation our county is going to develop in a big margin. Thank you.

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

**Hon. Mark Wainaina:** Thank you Mr. Speaker, allow me to respond to Hon. Kamau Munyua in regard to Kagundu-ini dam. I will say it could have been a miss but we are going to go back to the Report together with the Committee and have a look on the same and will be able to report back on the status of that dam. Ndaka-ini Dam is under the national government and our mandate at that particular moment was just for the dams and the water pans that are under the county government of Murang'a. As an assembly and as Members of this Honourable House each one of us has a contribution to make towards the fight for the good people of Murang'a to get water for domestic use and irrigation from Ndaka-ini dam. As you know at the moment the water is benefitting the people living in Nairobi. I know there is a lot of infights by one of the Member of Parliament (MP), Wakili Edward Muriu who is the Member of Parliament (MP) for Gatanga. He is among those MPs who are really fighting to make sure that the good people of Murang'a have a share of the water including the revenue.

I wish to thank Honourable Members for contributing towards this Motion. I pray that we pass the Report and we also urge that the relevant Committee on implementation see the Report that we passed in the Assembly are able to follow up on these recommendations and the Report because some of them we just pass them here but when they go to the executive they are not implemented. I beg these Members to pass this Motion.

*(Question put and agreed to)*

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## ADJOURNMENT

**The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Kamwaga Mwangi):** Honourable Members this House stands adjourned until June 13, 2023 at 9:30 a.m.

*The Assembly rose at 3:09 p.m.*