

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF NAKURU

THE HANSARD

Wednesday 13th April, 2016

Assembly Building

The House met at 9.40am

[The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Stephen Kiarie) in the Chair]

PRAYERS

MOTION

THAT THE HOUSE ADOPTS THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE ON FINGERLINGS
HATCHERY REVIVAL AT GILGIL AND KARAGITA

Hon. Joseph Waithaka: Thank you Mr. Temporary Speaker, I beg to move a Motion:

THAT this House adopts a Report of the Committee on Agriculture on Fingerlings hatchery revival at Gilgil and Karagita Fisheries departments tabled before this House on 7th April, 2016.

Mr. Temporary Speaker, the Committee on Agriculture visited the defunct hatchery at Karagita and we established that it is a viable hatchery as indicated in the Report.

Mr. Temporary Speaker, we also noted that each year, the fisheries department is buying fingerlings from as far as Sagana at a cost of Kshs. 10 per fingerling. If the County is to buy 1m fingerlings, the cost would be Kshs. 10m per replenishment.

Mr. Temporary Speaker, we established from the technical department that if we revive the hatchery that used to exist some time back, the said hatchery has a capacity of breeding 3million fingerlings every 3 months and the cost of breeding that number is around Kshs. 30m. To revive the two hatcheries, it will cost around Kshs. 15m; and for those reasons, we are going to have fingerlings in excess to be used in fish ponds that are already established in the County.

Mr. Temporary Speaker, last year the County spent around Kshs. 10m in buying pond linings that were distributed around the County. And they have not been used because the fingerlings have not been supplied. If we were to buy fingerlings from Sagana, this County would spend around Kshs. 4m to get the ponds operational and for that reason, the Committee found it viable to revive our own hatchery where our farmers from all the sub-counties will be getting the fingerlings and we will be able to replenish lake Naivasha and therefore we will not need to close the lake for 3 months for breeding purposes as we normally do.

Mr. Temporary Speaker, I urge this House to adopt the Motion so that in the fourth coming budget, the fisheries department will be allocated the money to revive the hatcheries.

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Thank you, I beg to move and I request honorable Virginia to second.

Hon. Virginia Gicanga: Thank you Mr. Temporary Speaker, I rise to second. The honourable Chair has cited the closing of Lake Naivasha for 3 months and Mr. Temporary Speaker the lake supports many families for their livelihood. It supports about 10 000 people, both directly and indirectly. And closing it for 3 months rises the level of poverty and even crime rate goes up during that time and when they are fishing, we are very comfortable.

So Mr. Temporary Speaker as I support the Motion, I would like to say that this is a source of revenue because apart from replenishing the lake, we have so many farmers who are doing fish farming and sometimes they build fish ponds but getting the fingerlings from outside the County is tricky because of transport challenges. Also in reviving the hatchery we will be increasing our revenue because the fingerlings that will be sold to farmers will bring income to the County Government. We shall also sell the fingerlings to other Counties and make a lot of money in the process. It will also support the youth like as you have heard, they import pond liners which have not been put to use because of lack of fingerlings.

So Mr. Temporary Speaker, I support and urge the honourable House to support and as we do the budget, let us include the cost of reviving the hatchery, thank you Mr. Temporary Speaker, I second and support.

(Question proposed)

Hon. Joseph Ng'ang'a: Thank Mr. Temporary Speaker, I rise to support this Motion and would urge the Committee on Budget now that we are in the process of budget making, that we should not be discussing things here and we do not allocate money for the same. The Budget Committee should allocate the money that is required for this very noble project Mr. Temporary Speaker.

Mr. Temporary Speaker if this project is realized, we are sure it will support many people in Naivasha and many other places that I have read in the Report. The ponds can be established even to other sub-counties like Kamara where I come from.

Mr. Temporary Speaker if such a project is realized, it is going to impact positively on the lives of people in Nakuru County, the youths will get jobs, we shall have food in terms of protein and I do not see any reason why we cannot support such a project. Thank you, I support.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Stephen Kiarie): Thank you honourable Ngware, let us have honourable Beatrice.

Hon. Beatrice Nyawira: Thank you Mr. Temporary Speaker, I rise to support this Motion that is coming from the Ministry of Agriculture and I wanted to correct my area MCA honourable Ngware on the issue of Budget because already we have put ceilings for all departments, and so the Agriculture department need now to prioritize its projects. I remember very well that last year there was Stimulus Projects and the honourable Speaker that time you were a CDF Chairman and you remember that there were projects that used to be given to farmers and the farmers used to be given 25 million so that they can have fish rearing projects, now that this projects have come to the County governments, I would urge the Ministry of Agriculture through the Chairman that

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this does not just end here, we have seen so many things happening here, we debate Motion and pass them and when they reach on the other side they are not implemented.

I am urging the Chairman for the Committee on Agriculture to make sure that when we pass this Motion, because it is a very worthy Motion, other than giving our youths jobs you very well know that we are moving from eating red meat to white meat and so when we get this project all over our County and our people will be in a position to eat healthy and affordable meat. So as I continue to support this Motion, our Chairman let us see action from the Ministry of Agriculture because we have had a lot of problems in the Ministry of Agriculture and we are hoping this time at least they can show us something.

I also urge even the revival of Pyrethrum projects, make sure that you also revive the places that we used to get seedlings for Pyrethrum, we also want to know where the Milk coolers went, the ones that had been put in the Budget for last year and the year before, we want to know, were they put where they were supposed to be put because they were so many and we have not seen anything. Chairman for the Committee on Agriculture we are supporting you very strongly but we really want a lot of action, thank you.

(Applause)

The Temporary Speaker(Hon.Stephen Kiarie):What is it honorable Waithaka?

Hon.Joseph Waithaka:I want to report to this honorable House that it is not the prerogative of the Chairman of the Committee on Agriculture to follow up whether the projects have been implemented or not but rather the prerogative of the Implementation Committee to follow up on whatever has been approved by this House is implemented to the letter, thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon.Stephen Kiarie):Yes honorable Florence.

Hon.Florence Njoroge:Thank Mr. Temporary Speaker, I rise to inform the honorable Members and the Chairman for the Committee on Agriculture that though we know that it is the work of the Committee on Implementation to follow the implementation of every project, it is also up to every Chairman and his Committee to push for the same. After presenting a Motion here and passing it the Implementation Committee does not just wake from nowhere, there are rules and procedures and he knows better, thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon.Stephen Kiarie): Thank you, honorable Warothe.

Hon.Jonathan Warothe: As I start by applauding the Chairman for this Committee on Agriculture and the entire Committee for the work done, this report is very comprehensive, there is that misconception that Nakuru is a city County like Nairobi because of the level of urbanization and that is very wrong, Nakuru is basically an agricultural County and we need to take Agriculture very seriously

We have been getting this fingerlings from Sagana and it actually is an expensive venture and it cost our governments a lot and it is something we can be able to do locally, if you go to Karagita where we have the headquarters of the Sub County Fisheries Office which used to be regional

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offices, you find that there are already ponds that can be used to become hatcheries and initially they were being used as hatcheries.

Mr. Temporary Speaker, as the Chairperson has said, every year there is a three month restriction that you cannot be able to fish and this one contributes to a lot of crimes because Lake Naivasha alone has employed to over four thousand young people directly, and those who come for business are just so many, there so many people who benefit from that lake and that is a resource that the County government is one of main stakeholder and should ensure sustainability of that lake and one important component is the issue of fish which is squarely a devolved function.

We need to take this one seriously and we also need to do what is called Smart Farming, I would also want to have a fish pond in my homestead and all these Members so that we can be able to get foodstuff for our families, I would be able to see that same fingerlings being introduced to areas like Kuresoi, Molo, Mau and Subukia. This is basically why the citizens brought us here so that we can be able to improve on what they already have, Mr. Chairman and your team we applaud you, you push for this things, this are very noble projects, we will support you totally and ensure that we really progress and also as one Member requested we want to revive the areas in agriculture which used to be very profitable to our people including Pyrethrum, including Processing Industry in Naivasha. We want to go back to where we were so that we make this County number one and number one in urbanization and the rest, we also need to strike a balance as we do Spatial Plan between urbanization and agriculture because that is the way to go, I be to support.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Stephen Kiarie): Thank you, honorable Steven.

Hon. Stephen Kihara: Thank you Mr. Temporary Speaker for this opportunity. I first of all want to echo the sentiments of most of my colleagues and say that this is a highly potential idea for this county. While I was young we read that Nakuru County was an agricultural County whether that still holds I do not know because we no longer seem to hold that idea dearly because if you look at how we budget in terms of the allocation of the money that goes to the Ministry of Agriculture, it leaves a lot to be desired. I at times ask myself are our priorities right, because even as we would want to do roads, we may not be able to exploit the usefulness of these roads if we do not invest heavily in Agriculture, those roads other than being used by human beings, they are also used to transport Agricultural produce. It is high time we start rethinking our strategies and agriculture in this county. It is also important to note that at the inception of this County Government there was revival project of pyrethrum.

I am shocked that my colleagues would want to thank the Chairman for Agriculture but this man has failed terribly

(Laughter)

That is a project that was started and money was invested but as we speak today there is nothing to write home about in terms of Agriculture.

Even though he has brought a very good Report which has recommendations and it is on papers and the people we represent do not want to hear stories of such papers they want to see actions.

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He would want to abdicate his role that pushing for issues of agriculture is a prerogative of the Committee on Implementation but that is wrong.

He has a mandate as a Chair to ensure that what he comes and convinces us here to adopt and pass, which we are doing, he must rise to the occasion and ensure that whatever ideas he has brought to us are realized.

In fact one of this day I personally will hold him to account for this Report because it is not only a matter of doing a fancy Report and tabling it here and we leave it at that. We need to see more of action and less of papers because I think paper work has been so much and the Hon. Chair here will attest to it there was a time he brought a report here, that the County buys a lot of maize when we had drought and we adopted that Motion, but to date I have never seen a single grain that has been bought by the County Government of Nakuru

(Applause)

So I will hold him responsible personally for this Report we are adopting today.

The idea is so beautiful and timely and I remember I have a fish pond in my ward and I had to get fingerings all the way from Kisumu. And because of communication breakdown and these fingerings needs oxygen while being transported, the oxygen got finished on the way and they all died.

I want to imagine that these fingerings we were getting them from Naivasha the oxygen would not have gotten finished before they reach the destination

(Applause)

And I want to believe these are some of the things that we need to be thinking about, things that will change the lives of our people, such ideas need to be emphasized and followed up for action.

I would be glad after six months to take this gentleman to task and he tells us that this project is up and running.

I beg to support, Thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Stephen Kiarie): Thank you... No one else wants to contribute? Okay Hon. Waithaka you have been mentioned but I would want to mention that you are holding a very important Committee and what Members are saying is that you need to pull up your socks. One area that the Members have mentioned is the fish ponds that were given by the economic stimulus project before we got into the County Government. But now that the ponds were given and a lot of money was invested, I think it would be prudent that this Committee takes up that aspect and come up with a report as to the status of those ponds because money was invested and farmers were given and since there is no follow up, many of them are disappearing, so if this Committee would liaise with the Director of Fisheries in this County I am sure we would come up with something.

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Probably also the status of the pyrethrum propagation farm that is somewhere in Molo, there is also that aspect of pyrethrum

The Minority Leader (Hon. Daniel Ambale): On a point of order. Mr. Temporary Speaker you are not supposed to be contributing on a Motion

(Applause)

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Stephen Kiarie): Hon. Member I am not contributing I am commenting on something that was raised by Members. And I am directing the Chairman to give us a report on that

(Applause)

Hon Hilary Korir: Thank you Mr. Speaker. As I stand, I want to say that I support the report of the committee and more so support the issue in place. I want to say that as hon Steve wanted to refute on the same. I want us to look broadly in this new government and realize that the budget has been tabled in this House and we have tried to defend the committee of agriculture, so that the department be allocated 10 per cent as per the Maputo protocol. The same budget allocation has not been allowed to go through. In last budget we were given 6 percent. I want to inform the Member who has just sat that we need to support the budget implementation process, otherwise, the good reports that we come with will not see the light of the day. Also, Mr. Temporary Speaker, what the Agriculture Committee has done is a great job. We see that in the previous budget we implemented Milk coolers and the process is almost through and I want to say this will have an impact not only to the few areas covered but across the county. I support this Report and I would wish any other time we have budget process we support the agriculture department in project implementation process.

Hon Joshua Muriithi: Thank you Mr. Temporary Speaker for catching my eye. I am pleased to see this Motion being debated today. I was the first person to raise the issue being discussed in this House. I would also want the chairman Committee on Agriculture and that of Education go to public schools to educate children about fish farming.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon Stephen Kiarie): It appears that we have had enough and I will put it to question that.. Oh Sorry; Hon Chege I did not spot you.

Hon John Chegwe: Asante sanaMheshimiwaSpika wa Mudakwakuniona. Mimi nimwanachama wa kamatiyakilimonanilipatanafasiyakwendahadi Naivasha. Tumebarikiwakuwanaziwahiloambalolinamajimasafi. ukiendaziwa Nakuru na Elementaita zikonachumvi. Ziwa Naivasha nikitengauchuminahuwakunawekwamarufukuyafuajikutokamwezi wa sitahadi wa tisa. Nashukurukamatiyakilimokwasababuyakushughulikiaswalahiloambapowaliongezakadriyanyavu zakufuakutokakiasi cha upana wa sentimitatatuhaditanoilisamakiwadogowasivuliwe. Tulitoambinunamikatihii Ili mradihuu wa ufuaji wa samakiufaulunatuwenailituzalishesamakiwengihahasakatikaKiragitana Tarambete. Nimeonahapatutakuwatukipatasamaki 500,000 kilabaadayamiezisitanahivyobasiutapatakamwawakatutapatasamaki 2 milioni.

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Wavuviwatavuakwamwakamzima. Mimi naungamjadalahuukwasababuni wa manufaakwakauntiyetu

The Temporary Speaker (Hon Stephen Kiarie): Thank hon Chege.

We will put it to question that this House adopts the Report of the Committee on Agriculture on fingerlings hatchery revival at Gilgil and Karagita Fisheries departments tabled before this House on 7th April, 2016.

(Question put and agreed to)

Thank you members; Alright, I have some announcements that House Business, Liaison, Rules Committees meeting will start promptly after this sitting. The House stands adjourned until this afternoon at 2.30 pm.

The House rose at 10.15 am