

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF NAKURU

THE HANSARD

Wednesday 31st, May 2017

Assembly Building

The House met at 10.00 am

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

PRAYERS

PAPER

REPORT OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE ON THE VISIT TO PROVINCIAL

GENERAL HOSPITAL NAKURU

The Temporary Speaker (Hon Stephen Kiarie): Hon Members before we do that, you notice there is no quorum.

Hon Newton Wauthi: Mr. Speaker there is quorum

The Temporary Speaker (Hon Stephen Kiarie): We are nine Members in this House! *tuendelee?* All right Health chair;

Hon Joseph Lang'at: Mr. Speaker, I have a report of the Health Services Committee on the visit to the Rift Valley Provincial General Hospital.

When we heard that there was a looming strike we went to the hospital to find out what was the problem. So let me read the Report; The Health Services committee during its weekly sitting resolved to visit PGH Nakuru on Tuesday 23rd May, 2017 to assess on the following:

- I. The challenges encountered by the staffs
- II. The staff welfare
- III. Make recommendations on the way forward.

COMMITTEE MANDATE

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Mr. Temporary Speaker, on behalf of the committee, I wish to thank the members of this committee for their commitment to the work of this committee. Their diligence to accommodate divergent views and agreement demonstrates their commitment towards actualizing the spirit of devolution. I also wish to thank the office of the Speaker and the Clerk for their facilitation during the exercise.

COMMITTEE'S FINDINGS AND OBSERVATIONS

The committee during the visit to PGH Nakuru had a session with representatives from all cadres as listed below:

1. Medical Superintendent
2. Pharmacy
3. Maternity
4. Public health
5. Casualty
6. Labour ward
7. Labour clinic
8. Rehabilitation
9. Nursing
10. Social work
11. Occupational therapy
12. Physiotherapy

During the visit the committee found out that there are human resource and infrastructure /finances challenges faced as listed below:

Human resource challenges

The following were the human resource challenges cited;

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1. Staff shortage where before devolution there were 450 nurses and after devolution there are only 353 nurses a 25% decline.
2. Pending promotion and re-designation in all cadres
3. Delayed Salaries
4. Delayed statutory deductions that is NHIF account not being up to date
5. Wrongful deduction
6. Delayed pension payments whereby out of the retired 61 members of staff, only 1 staff has received the pension
7. Failure to replace officers lost by natural attrition that is resignation, retirees and death. A report indicates that since 2013 there are a total of 101 staff lose by attrition from medical specialist, Nurses, Medical officers and clinical officers.
8. Staff development where there are no funds set aside for staff training
9. Transfers without replacements

Infrastructure/Finance

In terms of infrastructure and Finances the following were the cited challenges;

1. Space is a challenge where there is congestion/bed sharing
2. Consumables/utilities/equipment are not enough
3. Vehicles/Plant and machinery are not enough
4. Finances where there are delayed reimbursement on

- Grant

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- Free maternity where the hospital is owed 76 million on maternity

5. Stalled project(s) especially the Trauma center where 20 million has not been implemented

The committee further observed the following

That;

There are departmental shortages in ICU and High Dependence Unit as follows:

1. In the ICU the capacity is six beds but currently operating 4 beds due to lack of the following personnel

- Nurses
- Physiotherapist
- Anesthetist
- Anesthesiologist

2. In the High Dependence unit it is non- functional due to shortage of:

- Nurses
- Physiotherapist
- Anesthetist
- Anesthesiologist

3. There are departments operating without specialists namely:

- ICU/Theatre where they lack Anestheologist
- Radiology department where they lack a radiologist
- Orthopedic Department where they lack an Orthopedic Surgeons
- Oncology where they lack an Oncologist
- Internal Medicine where they lack Physicians, Cardiologist
- Obs/Gyn where they lack Gynecologist

4. Currently there are only 40 medical officers and specialists unlike the required standard of 110 medical officers and specialists

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5. There was a noted case of malicious transfers of three staffs namely:
 - Julius Nyambaka
 - Cyprian Odera
 - Patrick Njuguna
6. There is an upcoming maternity unit that requires staff
7. In terms of staff welfare they are not motivated due to delayed salaries and lack of training
8. The facility was well maintained and clean

RECOMMENDATIONS

Arising from the oral and written submissions and observations made, the committee makes the following recommendations:

That;

1. There should be a replacement of 101 staff lose by attrition with immediate effect
2. Funds should be set aside to cater for staff training and employment of additional staff
3. In the ICU department, the following personnel should be employed 2 nurses, 2 physiotherapist, 2 Anesthetist and 2 Anesthesiologist with immediate effect
4. In the High Depended Unit department, the following personnel should be employed 1 nurse, 2 physiotherapist, 2 Anesthetist and 2 Anesthesiologist with immediate effect
5. The following specialists should be hired 2 Radiologists in Radiology department, 2 orthopedic surgeons in Orthopedic Department, 2 Oncologists in Oncology, 2 Physicians, 2 Cardiologist and 2 Gynecologist
6. The county government should take up the issue of stalled trauma centre and allocate a budget for the completion of the project
7. The county government of Nakuru should establish a county Public health management board

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8. There should be a budgetary allocation for purchase of additional vehicles and modern equipment to curb the shortages.
9. The county government should fast track issuance of employee's salary and disbursement of arrears
10. The county government should have a long term plan to curb the attrition of staff which results to staff shortage
11. The staff should be motivated through continuous staff training and staff welfare through the lunch Programme and staff clinic
12. The need to allocate funds for a storage building and wards to ease congestion and bed sharing
13. The county government should correct wrongful deductions and enhance timely update of staff's NHIF accounts
14. Dr. John Murima and Mr. Arphaxard Kemboi should be nominated for the presidential honor.
15. Four nurses should be hired for the upcoming Maternity unit.
16. The county government should desist from malicious transfers due to deferring opinions and the 3 staff maliciously transferred should be deployed back to their previous stations.
17. The ministry to utilize 5-10% of the Facility improvement fund (FIF) to motivate staff through staff training
18. The county government to establish primary health care (PHC) at every level one hospital and to include Dental health, mental health and eye health
19. The National government through the ministry of health to reimburse the 76 million for the free maternity
20. The need for the health ministry to utilize the expertise from trained staff.
21. The need to ensure timely reimbursement of pension to the retired staffs
22. The ministry of health to ensure timely reimbursement of conditional grants

In conclusion, the committee wishes to table these report for consideration in this honorable House. There is need for the County Government to move with speed in

line with the committee's recommendations and take the necessary steps in ensuring its implementation. With those few remarks, I beg to table this Report.

(The Report was laid on the Table)

The Temporary Speaker (Hon Stephen Kiarie): thank you very much Hon Lang'at. Hon Muriithi what is the matter

Hon Joshua Muriithi: Thank you Mr. Temporary Speaker for giving me this opportunity. The most important thing in our daily chores, the finances are scarce and the chairman Health Services Committee should follow-up on this issue because every year we budget a lot of money for health but we do not get audited reports on this sector yet the constitution requires us to do so.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon Stephen Kiarie): Hon Muriithi is that a new agenda or is it part of the report.

Hon Joshua Muriithi: I hope you have got my sentiment. I belong to Health Committee and we have been fighting for the sake of the county to ensure that the audited reports are released and we wish them to do the same. We are...

The Temporary Speaker (Hon Stephen Kiarie): Hon Muriithi I Think you are out of order. If the Report has been tabled, then there should not be any comment on it.

Thank you Members, the House stands adjourned until 2.30pm this afternoon.

(The House rose at 10.30 am)