

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

NYANDARUA COUNTY ASSEMBLY

2ND ASSEMBLY- 2ND SESSION

OFFICIAL REPORT

Thursday 1st March, 2018

The Assembly met at the Assembly Chamber at 2.30 pm

[The Speaker (Hon. Ndegwa Wahome) in the Chair]

Prayer

QUORUM CALL AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE SITTING

(The clerk-at-the-table confirms that there is quorum)

Speaker: Very well, Hon. Members, quorum having been recognised, we can proceed to transact the business for this sitting.

First order.

STATEMENTS

STATUS OF THE DISTRICT TRADE DEVELOPMENT JOINT LOANS BOARD SCHEME

Member for Charagita, Hon. Wairimu Njane.

Hon. Wairimu Njane: Thank you Mr Speaker. We do not have the statement ready. I therefore seek leave that my committee be given one week to come up with the statement response. There is information we wanted from the Executive, which we received today.

Speaker: Well, Hon. Members, I think we can grant the committee leave. Nonetheless, if you are seeking leave for failure of the Executive to provide information, you should establish why provision of such information was delayed. Actually, the information you asked for must be there. The statement was sought some time ago. As we have always said, we should be taken seriously as an Assembly. When we ask for information from the Executive, we expect it should be given within the requisite time, failure to which very good reason(s) should be given. The Chairperson of the Committee on Industrialisation, Trade, Cooperatives and Enterprise Development, we shall not push very hard but we shall expect that you will indicate in the statement response why the

delay happened and what steps as a committee you took against the officer who occasioned the delay.

What time do you require to table the statement response?

Hon. Wairimu Njane: Mr Speaker, we require one week since we already have the information.

Speaker: The clerk-the-table should note that the committee shall be allocated time to present the statement response in the afternoon of Tuesday the 13th day of February 2018. Before we move on to the next business, I can see that the Member for Njabini Kiburu is here and I believe he received the communication from the chair, that was given yesterday on the requirement for him to withdraw the remarks that he made on the 21st day of February, 2018 relating to the Member for Murungaru, Hon. Kariuki Muchiri. The Member for Njabini Kiburu, you are required to apologise to both the Hon. Member for Murungaru and to this House for the same.

Hon. James Gachomba: Thank you Mr Speaker. I was not even aware that I was supposed to apologise because I was not in the House when you gave the directive. Nonetheless, I wish to withdraw the remarks I made on that day (the 21st day of February 2018) in relation to the Member for Murungaru. Mr Speaker, I believe that matter was settled when you said that I could relocate to another seat. I thought the Member (for Murungaru) was actually comfortable with what you said. However, I wish to withdraw Mr Speaker.

Speaker: Show complete compliance the Member for Njabini Kiburu.

Hon. James Gachomba: I wish to withdraw and apologise. I do not need to add much on what I have said; I have said that I withdraw the statement I made last week. I wish the same message is not expunged from the Hansard because I have already withdrawn. Let it be there for future reference.

(Laughter)

Speaker: The Member for Njabini Kiburu, how can something that has been withdrawn remain on record? If you withdraw money from the bank, does it remain there? The Member for Njabini Kiburu, withdraw and apologise to both the Member for Murungaru and to the House.

Hon. James Gachomba: Thank you Mr Speaker. I wish to withdraw the statement that I made and therefore apologise to the Member for Murungaru and to this House.

Speaker: Very well; Hon. Members, as was directed yesterday the clerkship will ensure that that particular statement made on 21st February 2018 by the Member for Njabini Kiburu relating to the Member for Murungaru is expunged from record.

(Hon. Wambugu King'ori rises on a point of order)

What is it the Member for North Kinangop, Hon. Wambugu King'ori?

Hon. Wambugu King'ori: Mr Speaker, as a matter of clarity, does the status quo remain after the Member for Njabini Kiburu has withdrawn? If he uttered the statement from his heart it means there was something deeper than it appears. Further, will the two Members continue sitting together or will one of them be relocated to another sitting position?

Speaker: Actually, there are directions on that; I said that the seats have so far not been customised and therefore I advised the Member for Njabini Kiburu that he could have changed seats.

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(Hon. Rimui Kaiyani rises on a point of order)

What is it the Member for Githabai, Hon. Rimui Kaiyani?

Hon. (Eng.) Rimui Kaiyani: Mr Speaker, Sir, with all due respect if the Member is required to move to another seat, could the allegation have been true? I seek your direction. Thank you Mr Speaker, Sir.

Speaker: Whether it was true or not true, it was unparliamentary and unprecedented, and therefore it could not be allowed.

MOTIONS

1. DISPOSAL OF COUNTY EQUIPMENT AND MACHINERY

Yes the County Member from Karau Ward, Hon. Esther Nyambura.

Hon. Esther Mwangi: Mr Speaker, Sir, I beg to move the following motion:

Aware that with the advent of devolution, Nyandarua County Government inherited many unserviceable, obsolete and obsolescent equipment and assets from the defunct local authorities. Further aware that some other equipment and assets procured in the past five years have become unserviceable, obsolete and obsolescent.

Noting that the National Assembly enacted the Public Procurement and Asset Disposal Act, 2015 which *inter alia* establishes mechanisms for assets disposal through asset disposal committees.

Concerned that many officers and especially the accounting officers have not complied with the provisions of this Act in relations to disposal of assets.

Appreciating that these equipment and assets would be of great use in County's youth polytechnics and other institutions as learning materials and for refurbishments.

Now therefore, this House does resolve:

1. That all County Government entities do comply with the Public Procurement and Asset Disposal Act, 2015 in relation to disposal of assets;
2. That the County Executive Committee does initiate the process of disposal of all unserviceable, obsolete and obsolescent equipment and assets; and
3. That pursuant to Section 165(1)(a) of the Public Procurement and Asset Disposal Act, 2015, the accounting officers do give preference on the transfer of the assets to youth polytechnics and other institutions in the county without financial adjustment.

Mr Speaker, Sir, all the departments of the county government have equipment and assets that they use to execute day to day activities. Some of these equipment and assets depreciated and became obsolete. These include chairs, desks, electronic appliances, computers, tippers, graders, bulldozers, ploughs, et cetera.

The Transition Authority, for example, estimated that a total of 294 pieces of furniture and fittings were transferred to the County Government of Nyandarua and that most of them were worn

out and old. Though most of them are still in use, a sizeable number of them are unusable and need to be disposed. Further, the Transition Authority estimated that about sixty pieces of equipment were transferred. Though the Authority did not give the conditions of the equipment, it is presumed that most of them are now obsolete. This is the same case with thirty eight computers and thirty computer accessories. Mr Speaker, we were suggesting that the thirty-eight computers be refurbished and be used in learning institutions or probably in the same government offices.

Of the thirty-eight vehicles listed by the Transition Authority as having been transferred to the County Government, seven were broken and not in use since 2014. I believe more than ten other vehicles and vehicle equipment have gone into a state of disrepair and are therefore not in use. For example, according to information provided by the CEC Member, there is a Shantui Dozer whose cost of repair is Kshs.800,000 and its purchase cost was about eighteen million. We recommended that this machine be taken for repair as it can be of use to the county. There is a Daewoo Tipper whose estimated value is about and Kshs.7million. Its cost of repair is Kshs.2,300,000. The information given indicates that this tipper was inherited from the national government in 2015. The tipper has never been functional, so it has been recommended for bonding because it is very old. We recommend that such equipment be bonded since they are not of any use to the county.

There is also another Daewoo tipper in a very poor mechanical condition. It lies in a garage in Nakuru. Comments given on this are that it was inherited from the national government in 2015 and that it has not been operational. It has therefore been recommended for bonding because it is very old.

Mr Speaker, Sir, the Transitional Authority recommended that the motor vehicles, plants and machinery, furniture, tyres, tubes, spare parts, trailers and other assets that are not in use or in a state of obsolescence should be disposed in accordance with the law. Most of the equipment can be used for learning purposes by the students in polytechnics while others can be donated to special schools for instance desks and chairs. Some of the notable institutions with obsolete equipment are the agricultural training centres and agricultural mechanization service centres where there lies bulldozers, shovels and planters.

(Hon. Sambigi Mukuriah rises on a point of order)

Speaker: What is it the Member for Githioro, Hon. Sambigi Mukuriah?

Hon. Sambigi Mukuriah: Mr Speaker, I think there is a lot of altercation between the two Members in front of me. It is the high time that you intervened and settled this once and for all.

Speaker: I have actually not noted it, but if it is happening, it would be very unfortunate. This is because the two are ranking Members in this Assembly and they should be a very good example. ‘Altercation’ is a very strong word; it shows disorder and I will be keener about what is happening in the environment around the place. I know that the Majority Whip and his deputy are there and so I do not need to go to any depth.

The issue has been raised and it must be of concern to some Members. When the Member for Githioro was making the statement, I have seen some nodding from members around the area. This matter is settled and when it has especially been settled with an apology and withdrawal, we do not expect anything more. We have gone a step further to expunging the remarks from the record and that did not emanate from any member — that was a ruling of the Speaker. It should be respected and that matter brought to rest. I am a bit suspicious of where the altercation could be

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coming from. Nonetheless, since I never witnessed, I will not draw any conclusions. Proceed the County Member from Karau.

(Hon. Gathure Wambui rises on a point of order)

Speaker: What is it the Member for Kaimbaga?

Hon. Gathure Wambui: Mr Speaker, mine is on the same matter. I have heard that you made a ruling on this and I think we need to do something more on this. I have heard the Member for Njabini Kiburu saying that he is going to dislodge the Member for Murungaru the way (H.E.) Mugabe was dislodged. He (the Member for Murungaru) is normally called Mugabe and Museveni. I think something should be done.

(Hon. Hussein Kassana rises on a point of order)

Speaker: The Member for Magumu, this one is a point of order.

What I can assure you is that the Member for Njabini/Kiburu has no capacity to dislodge the Member for Murungaru. Proceed the County Member from Karau Ward.

(Hon. Kariuki Muchiri and Hon. Hussein Kassana rise on points of order)

I will first give the chance to the Member for Magumu

Hon. Hussein Kassana: Thank you Mr Speaker, I echo the words of Hon. Sambigi. These two Members have always been quarrelling. I think it is high time we separated them. Whenever we are in the Assembly, I do not know what they discuss, but it is not a healthy discussion. I request you to separate them.

Speaker: Okay, I have heard the sentiments of the Members; the Member for Murungaru, I know you were on your feet but I want you to hold your peace. With the sentiments raised by the Members, obviously, the Chair will be very keen to observe the environment around the two Members and the necessary action will actually be taken. So proceed the County Member from Karau Ward.

(Hon. Kariuki Muchiri rises on a point of order)

Speaker: What is it the Member for Murungaru?

Hon. Kariuki Muchiri: Mr Speaker, I think Hon. Gachomba on this ground hurts my ego; he has walked out, gone to his car, brought with him toothpaste and a toothbrush, and shown them to me. They are in his pocket and we have the sergeants-at-arms who can confirm that what I am saying is true. This is an attack to my personality and it is very unfortunate. I am hurt. *The Standing Orders* is very clear; this is a joke that is prohibited. Standing Order No. 107 is very clear that when a Member insists on and persists in misbehaving the Speaker should take action on that Member and these amounts to gross misconduct.

I need to be respected in this House. I am a father and my respect is paramount.

(Loud consultations)

(Hon. James Gachomba rises on a point of order)

Speaker: Order the Member for Njabini Kiburu! What is it Hon. Kiiru Gachomba?

Hon. James Gachomba: Thank you Mr Speaker. I have risen on a point of order because I am also not happy with Mr Maguna, especially for what he is talking about. Mr Maguna (Hon. Kariuki Muchiri) is trying to insinuate that I have walked out to collect toothpaste and other products, which he is not even supposed to know that I am carrying. The toothpaste I have carried with me is mine, it is meant for me and for my own use. I cannot take this anymore. I think he has a grudge with me and I am ready to face him. We can meet outside there. What is he talking about? I am also a father just like he is a father and he doesn't have to insinuate my name. If he has got grudge with me, let us go out and face each other. This is not right...

Speaker: Order the Member for Njabini Kiburu! You are actually saying in the House that you want to go out and chase each other?

(Hon. Sambigi Mukuria rises on a point of order)

Order the Member for Githioro! The Member for Njabini Kiburu do you have toothpaste and a brush in your pocket that you have shown to the Member for Murungaru?

Hon. James Gachomba: Mr Speaker, I have not shown him, it is just that I have told him that I had carried them. They were just right here, and they are mine and not his. I do not know what the problem with him is. I have the toothpaste and a brush and they are mine...

Speaker: Actually, the Member for Njabini Kiburu, you are telling me that the Member for Murungaru has seen them from your pocket?

Hon. James Gachomba: They were on my desk, just here!

Speaker: You place toothpaste and a brush on a desk in the Assembly? Anyway, I do not want to give any particular directions now, I think I have to give a comprehensive communication on this. The direction you are taking is not right; I have never seen this. This is ignominy and this kind of ignominy is unprecedented. It can never happen in an August House. We have never gone this low. Actually, we are collecting dust, we are on the ground, and we will not allow people to bring us down to this level. It is not fair for this House, for history and for record. I will give a comprehensive direction on this issue. I am saddened by this kind of conduct. It is not right!

Proceed the County Member from Karau Ward.

Esther Mwangi: Mr Speaker, Sir, that is quite unfortunate. We continue, some of the notable institutions with many obsolete equipment are: Agricultural Training Centres, Agricultural Mechanisation services where the where about of some machines cannot be established. There was a bull dozer, face shovel and planters after they were grounded. Public works department, hospitals among other departments and institutions.

The County has twenty four youth Polytechnics, out of this fifteen polytechnics are operational while four are functional. I believe this four can become functional again if they are issued with learning equipment. Some of the course offered in this institutions are, car Mechanical course, Carpentry and jointly, Electrical installation, Fashion Design and Garment making, Masonry ,Cosmetology, Plumbing, Metal works and fabrication, and computer Application. With the computers that we have in store, after refurbishment we can be able to use them.

It is notable that some of the obsolete machines such as motor vehicles, tractors and graders among others are packed in former town councils. Some of them have even been parked for the

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past five years. Considering the provisions in section 165 (1a) of the Public Procurement and Asset Disposal act 2015 which states that, “An accounting officer of a procurement entity may dispose assets via a method which may include any of the following:

1. Transfer to any other public entities or part of a public entity with or without financial adjustments,
2. Sale by Public Tender
3. Sale by Public Auction

We have some reservations on the sale by Public Auction because once these machines are merchandised on the auctioneers table, they are going to lose value and will be bought at very low prices. I know the games played here, some of these machines will be given prices that will not make sense, and report brought here will be having very high figures. There are still machines that require very little money for repair and can still be used by the County.

Therefore, what we are advocating for is since there are places that we cannot get into and some information we cannot easily access, we are therefore asking from the department a comprehensive audit report on the machines so that we can know the vehicles that will go for public auction and those that will be given to the polytechnics.

- b. They can be traded in.
- c. Follow the waste disposal management or as maybe described.

Hence, I take this opportunity, to ask the County Government Executive arm and the Assembly’s accounting officers to transfer many of the unserviceable, obsolete, and obsolescent or surplus store equipment or asset to youth polytechnics for learning purposes. I now wish to call Hon. Mbogo Mburu.

Speaker: Very well, Member for Weru, Hon. Mbogo Mburu

Hon. Mbogo Mburu: Thank you Mr Speaker for this opportunity to second the motion. I am supporting the motion on values that we got when we travelled for a retreat in the county councils, during the retreat, we noted that some machines had a higher maintainer cost than the original purchase value. For example we found a grader that had spent 20 Million on repair and maintenance. A cost that is higher than the estimated cost of buying a new machine. We are bringing this information into this house so that we can reach a decision on what we can do to these machines for them to avoid losing value and lose more money in maintaining them. Some of our machines that originated from Nakuru were serviced at a cost of two Million and it worked for two hours only. The members should adopt this report so that we remain with the serviceable machinery. With the few remarks, I wish to second the motion.

(Question proposed)

Speaker: Yes member for Githabai Hon. Rimui Kaiyani.

Hon. (Eng.) Rimui Kaiyani: Thank you Mr Speaker, I rise to support the motion with the following few remarks; One, we did observe that some of the assets still held under the asset inventory for the county do not have any significance. For this reason, some of them need to be gotten rid of and should be donated to polytechnics. I am also aware that there are still machines

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held in yards and garages for repair. We are concerned that some of the costs charged could have skyrocketed because of the time they have stayed there, and for this reason, some of these machines may not even find their way back to the County Government. It is therefore important that the department moves swiftly and disposes these machines before they accrue further costs, and remove them from the inventory. There is no need of having machines that are not working. Especially at this time when our roads need to be maintained, we need working machines. I am aware that in the previous budgets, we made a provision to buy new machines, this is truly necessary. It is therefore important that these machines be gotten rid of immediately. With these remarks, I support.

Speaker: Yes the Majority Leader and the Member for Leshau Pondo Hon. Peter Kamau Gathungu.

Hon. Gathungu Kamau: Thank you Mr Speaker, I stand to support this motion and I would like it to get into record that this committee has done a good job. I would urge all the committees to follow suit. They went out one weekend and they did a good job. I am proud because I was an amicus curiae in that committee meetings, I was in Nakuru when they were discussing these things and I am happy that all they discussed got to the floor of this house. If all these recommendations are implemented, I want to tell you that this assembly will set record in Nyandarua County.

All the same, it is sad Mr Speaker, when you go the County offices just here in Ol'kalou, so many vehicles are lying idle around, and the same case applies to garages in Nyahururu. One of them is called Nyandarua Garage opposite Shell petro station. The second biggest Polytechnics that happen to be in my ward, students are being trained to become mechanics using a display box. This is sad. After six months, they cannot even be able to change the wheel of a vehicle yet we expect them to be mechanics, these cars could help them. If by passing this motion will help these students, then let it be so. These machines lying idle will be put into good use.

(Lights go off)

And if I may ask, is all we are saying getting into the Hansard? If it is not I think it will not be recorded.

Speaker: Hon. Member for Leshau Pondo, I can confirm that the recording is going on, it's only the lights that are out and they will be back.

Hon. Gathungu Kamau: I am asking this because this is a motion whose resolutions should reach the Governor so that implementation can be done.

We have Mirangine Polytechnic where some members as far as Ndaragwa Sub County are taking students to go and train. We would therefore be proud as an Assembly if some of these machines are taken to the Polytechnic for repair and this will even benefit the trainees from the repairs that they will have done. Some of these machines need very minor repairs.

There were also the obsolete desks, especially in Leshau Pondo, I keep referring to Leshau Pondo because it is in my ward. Some of these kids train while standing. If this motion sees the light of day, I assure everyone in this house that we will have done a very good job. In addition, Hon Ester Mwangi will be remembered to have brought a motion in this house that changed the face of Nyandarua. With these remarks, I support.

Speaker: Yes the Member for Wanjohi, Hon. Isaac Kung'u

Hon. Isaac Kung'u: Thank you Mr Speaker, I want to start by thanking the committee for this good motion. I have a few remarks I would like to support this motion with. One is that we have to realise that if we do not have good policies on how to dispose these equipment, we are left without security in the several garages, and the cars are vandalised, eventually what happens is that they all end up as scrap metal. It is therefore important to service these cars while they can still be serviced and if they are not in condition to, let them be donated into our learning institutions.

The other thing we need to note and be very careful about is, this is an area that can easily become the cash cow for these officers. Every year we set aside a huge budget for maintenance, even after realising that some of this equipment cannot be serviced, some officers will go ahead, bring them for service, and get money in the process. This is the reason you find a car that costs seven million being serviced with over seven million. This does not really make sense, or it would have been easy to procure a new machine that would have been of more benefit. We should not just pass money in this assembly for the sake of passing it. Therefore having these obsolete equipment disposed is a good move. I support.

Speaker: Yes the Member for Charagita, Hon. Wairimu Njane.

Hon. Wairimu Njane: I rise to support this motion, I first start by commending the committee for this good observation. This is a motion that will see our polytechnics get practical skills rather than just study theoretically only. Another reason for supporting this motion is because I want to echo what the Hon. Member for Wanjohi has said, this can truly be an avenue where some of the officers will use to get money. This is not right and with these few statements, I support that these equipment be used in our youth polytechnics.

Speaker: Yes, the Member for Rurii, Hon. Mburu Githinji.

Hon. Mburu Githinji: Thank you Mr Speaker, Sir. I rise to support the motion. It is true that there are many unserviceable vehicles and machines belonging to the county government. They should be sold out and money be used in other development activities. At J. M. Memorial Hospital, for instance, there lies an old vehicle that was used as an ambulance. The vehicle is unusable. There are several unserviceable vehicle such as this in the hospital's compound and their presence there might even hinder construction works. What are they doing there? They should be disposed. They should be given out to polytechnics as equipment for carrying out practical lessons. I support the motion. Thank you.

Speaker: Yes the Member for Kipipiri, Hon. Paul Ngeche.

Hon. Paul Ngeche: Thank you Mr Speaker. I first congratulate Hon. Esther Mwangi for bringing the motion that offers a solution to disposal of unusable county government machinery. The unusable machinery and equipment should be donated to polytechnics to aid innovativeness.

I wish to let you know the kind of innovativeness that is generated by youth polytechnics; Miharati Youth Polytechnic, for example, devised and actually made a milk-dispensing machine. I support the motion.

Speaker: Yes, the County Member from Wanjohi, Hon. Jane Waweru.

Hon. Jane Waweru: Thank you Mr Speaker. I rise to fully support the motion at hand that has been moved by the County Member from Karau, Hon. Esther Mwangi. Regardless of the county government department or institution the unusable machines belong to, they should be transferred to other institutions where they can be put to good use. When we visited the polytechnics as the Committee on Education, Labour, Culture and Social Services, we found out that almost all of them do not have enough facilities and equipment to train students. We should put ourselves in the shoes of the managers and instructors of the youth polytechnics. Some of them

told us that during exams time they move their students to other counties to sit their exams because their polytechnics are not registered and certified as examination centres. As my colleagues have said, it is important that these polytechnics are well equipped. I beg to support and I call the mover to respond.

Speaker: Yes the mover and County Member from Karau, Hon. Esther Mwangi.

Hon. Esther Mwangi: Thank you Mr Speaker. First I wish to thank the Members for appreciating the work of the Committee. I also wish to thank my chair for the elaborative comments made. With permission from the relevant quarters, the machines that need to be repaired will be repaired and those that should be donated to the learning institutions will be donated while those that require to be auctioned will be auctioned. We, however, must wait for a comprehensive audit report so that we do not do away with good machines. Thank you Mr Speaker, I beg to move.

(Question put and agreed to)

Speaker: Hon. Members, I wish to once again congratulate the work done by the Committee and the mover. This is a very grey area. Once you see machines, furniture and vehicles lying idle, the first impression is that the government is idle and it is very important that we remove this mentality. This Assembly has always shown the way like when we put up the concrete perimeter fence around the Assembly, we donated the concrete poles, the barbed wire and the mesh wire initially used to fence around the Assembly precincts to primary schools around here and they were very happy. We have also donated our old tyres to the schoolchildren to play with and if you walk around the Assembly, you will not find an item or a tool that is not in use. I am very happy that this will be like a clean-up exercise for the county. We are training mechanics and artisans in our polytechnics without any kind of a vehicle. They only have a dismantled engine in a toolbox and we expect to make mechanics and artisans out of them, yet we have over 50 vehicles lying idle in this county. Let the Committee on Implementation come out strongly and see to it that these vehicles, the furniture and the machines are deposited within the polytechnics so that we can move together as a County.

Next order.

2. PROCUREMENT OF GOODS AND SERVICES FROM POLYTECHNICS

Speaker: Yes Member for Nyakio and the Deputy Speaker, Hon. Zachary Mwangi Njeru

Hon. Zachary Njeru: Thank you Mr Speaker sir, I beg to give notice of the following motion;

Aware that the county government is tasked with enormous responsibility of county development with which involved procurement of goods and services from various contractors and suppliers including supplies from other government entities.

Further aware that some of the goods and services can readily be provided and sourced locally especially from among our youths and the youth polytechnics.

Noting that there are 24 public youth polytechnics in Nyandarua which provide various technical courses to the youths of Nyandarua and that they supply quality goods and services to other institutions in the course of their program;

Appreciating that if the county government procurement procures goods and services from these polytechnics the move will uplift their financial standing and increase the quality of the education offered.

Now therefore I beg that this House does resolve that:

1. The county executive committee does formulate a policy outlining how departments shall procure certain categories and percentages of goods and services from the youth polytechnics
2. The executive committee member for education, culture gender affairs and social services does initiate capacity-building programs for the polytechnics to ensure that they have the requisite capacity to supply goods and services.

Mr Speaker, Sir, it is worth noting that the number of youths joining our polytechnics is decreasing everyday due to lack of surety that they will secure jobs after their training. This is a point of concern and more so because the youth, myself being one of them, make up 60 percent of our population. We can formulate a policy that will ensure that contractors absorb these polytechnic trainees as interns. Additionally, we can ensure that 30 percent of contracts are awarded to our youths in the polytechnics. The public Procurement and Asset Disposal Act stipulates that 30 percent of tenders must go to our people. Who are our people, Mr Speaker, if it is not the youth? It is also important to remember that in the Governor's manifesto, youth empowerment took centre stage. These polytechnics can be given the not-so-sensitive tenders like ECDE learners' uniforms, *bodaboda* sheds construction, plumbing, water projects, school furniture like desks and chairs etc. I believe these will be made using the locally available materials like timber.

I am aware that this year alone, Nyahururu High School procured school uniforms worth more than three million shillings. This is something our polytechnics can supply. These trainees, at an even cheaper cost, can mould the culverts that every ward is seeking to buy. All the government has to do is equip the youth with the requisite machines. We also have signboards and road signage that are put up along our roads, shopping centres and streets that they can easily supply. Recently, our attention was been drawn to the issue of environment conservation. Why don't we have the youth polytechnics supply us with seedlings and even have them plant them? Most of these polytechnics have sufficient space for that. Additionally, some of the minor motor vehicle services we need every day can easily be offered in these polytechnics. I need not go all the way to Naivasha for something as minor as an oil change if we had local youth doing it in their polytechnics.

Empowering these youth polytechnics has a number of benefits to the County as it will not only create employment opportunities but will also bring back the relevance of technical education. Lack of relevance, Mr Speaker, is the reason why most of our children do not want to enrol in these polytechnics. As the Member for Karau has indicated, it is a shame that we are training mechanics without even an engine. We must bring back the relevance of polytechnic education. It is also important that these polytechnics become financially independent. I do not mean that they have to make some profits but, at least, they should be able to supplement the government grants. I think by so doing, the youth unemployment dilemma we are currently facing will be a thing of

the past. With that, I wish to call the Hon. Leader of the Majority Party, Hon. Gathungu Kamau to come and second. Thank you Mr Speaker, Sir.

Speaker: Yes Member for Leshau Pondo and the Hon. Leader of the Majority Party, Hon. Gathungu Kamau.

Hon. Gathungu Kamau: Thank you Mr Speaker, Sir. I wish to first off thank the Member for Githabai and the deputy Speaker, Hon. Zachary Njeru for bringing this motion at such an opportune time. Again, at the risk of being monotonous, I wish to appreciate the Committee on Roads and Public Works for their exemplary report which will hopefully change this County, in spite of the fact that they only sat for one weekend. As the Member for Nyakio has said, we were employed on a change platform. People expect us to change their lives for the better. I am sure these are things the first Assembly would have liked to do but due to the teething problems they were battling, they were unable to. We, however, are optimistic that during our tenure, we shall pass motions and make legislations that will greatly transform this county.

We must establish our starting point. I remember His Excellence the Governor, Francis Kimemia, during his inauguration lamented that Nyandarua was unable to trace billions that had been disbursed over the last five years. This then begs the question; will the billions that will have been disbursed during our tenure be traceable? This is only possible if we can empower our polytechnics by purchasing their culverts and furniture. Our biggest hospital, the JM Memorial Hospital will require to be fenced soon using concrete poles. We are not setting conditions for the contractors but I am sure the Polytechnics would make cheaper concrete poles than the ones currently in the market. I am aware that the first assembly passed a motion here that ECDs should be equipped with plastic chairs which was a good move, at the time. However, we need a more durable solution. Can we have these polytechnics make more durable furniture for these children?

Mr Speaker, we can make use of CDF to upgrade the furniture in our schools. We cannot have our children in Githabai sitting on the same chairs and using the same tables Hon. (Eng.) Kaiyani used decades ago. We will be building more ECD classes. Where shall we get the doors and the windows? Why don't we empower our polytechnics by providing them with these welding machines so that the issue of polytechnics running on a bankrupt account can be dealt with once and for all? Let them be furnished with concrete mixers, vibrators, etc., so that the youth that has registered a company, one that will be awarded the construction contract can recruit youth from these polytechnics to help in the construction so that we can walk our talk. I remember during the free school milk programme launch, the Governor promised to donate 12,000 uniforms. How I wish this tender could be awarded to our youth polytechnics? As we have always said from the deepest parts of our hearts and as true sons and daughters of Nyandarua, we want to see Nyandarua change. We want our County to lead as others try to follow. I am sincerely humbled to second this motion and I would request that such a motion be printed and dropped at the Governor's office latest tomorrow. That way and with the Governor's support, I am optimistic that we shall go very far.

I beg to second. Thank you Mr Speaker.

(Question proposed)

Speaker: Yes, the Member for Magumu and the Majority Whip, Hon. Hussein Kassana.

Hon. Hussein Kassana: Thank you Mr Speaker. I take this opportunity to support the motion by the Deputy Speaker. This Assembly is much concerned about the youth. The two

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motions moved in this House today concern the youth. We have been encouraging the youth to join polytechnics, yet we do not create job opportunities for them. This makes the polytechnics appear irrelevant. Further, due to unemployment, many youths become a burden to the society.

When I was young, I remember the government used to source workmanship from youth polytechnics. The resolutions of this House relating to the motion at hand should be implemented immediately. I beg to support. Thank you Mr Speaker.

Speaker: Yes, the Member for Karau and the deputy Leader of the Majority, Hon. Kenn Mukira.

Hon. Kenn Mukira: Thank you Mr Speaker for giving this chance to support the motion. Polytechnics offer job-focused education. The education itself has three aspects of academic instruction, applied techniques, and industrial orientation. I noticed that the CEC Member in charge of the Department of Education, Culture and Social Services ensured that needy students in the polytechnics have benefited from bursaries. That is one way in which public money is used to empower the youth.

I have observed that when vehicles breakdown in our county, they are hauled to garages in other counties because our county has limited repair units. This proves how the county is underutilising the technical workmanship possessed by the youth, especially those who leave polytechnics. I have attended graduation ceremonies for various polytechnics. I remember in preparation for its last graduation, Mirangine Polytechnic sent invitation cards to all the Members of this House. The institution wanted us to witness the graduands as they showcased their skills as a way of recognising them.

I commend the mover of the motion for coming up with the motion at hand that concerns a group of people who were almost forgotten. Polytechnics within the county should be involved in various county government opportunities that arise. I have seen polytechnics make very marketable pieces of furniture, which they sell outside the county because they lack the opportunity to sell to the institutions within the county. They should, for example, be given opportunities to make furniture for ECDE centres. That way, students in those institutions will build their self-esteem and as well marshal self-confidence and upon graduating, they will believe in themselves.

Remember the youth contribute to about seventy percent of our county's population. With that in mind, in the next few years, the number of youth who will be boasting a wealth of technical skills from polytechnics will not be less than ten thousand. This implies that more young people will have practical potential to engage in entrepreneurial ventures. Polytechnic leavers are very quick in setting up business opportunities; most of them are not idle. They make a living in a just and positive way.

We have set huge sums of money to be utilised in the implementation of provision of piped water programme. This will require a lot of plumbing. In regard to this, we have many plumbers who have been trained from polytechnics yet they are not utilising their skills. The Department of Water, Energy, Environment and Natural Resources should engage such plumbers in the plumbing works. This will probably reduce maintenance costs since the job will be done from a professional point of view.

In our county, excavation works at the quarries are still manually done unlike in other counties like Kiambu and Murang'a, yet we have courses on mechanised excavation at polytechnics like Mirangine. Youths trained in this area should be given opportunities to employ their skills in the excavation industry.

Mr Speaker, polytechnics should be awarded tenders to sew uniforms for various ECDE schools in the county. Now that we have rolled out a feeding programme for ECDE schools, the next programme should be on providing uniforms to children attending these institutions. Mr Speaker you will be worried to find out that among the workers carrying on with construction works for the Assembly offices project, none is from a polytechnic.

Lastly, Mr Speaker, awarding bursaries to polytechnic students should be prioritised. This will offer financial support to these students and therefore give them an opportunity to be successfully trained and become resourceful to this county. I beg to support.

Speaker: Yes the Member for Githabai, Hon. Rimui Kaiyani.

Hon. (Eng.) Rimui Kaiyani: Thank you Mr Speaker. When matters pertaining to the youth are mentioned, my heart leaps. I usually converse on matters relating to youth and whenever I find them being discussed, I assume the role of a youth representative.

Before I proceed Mr Speaker, I request that the provisions of Standing Order No. 97 be enforced. I wish to thank the Member for Nyakio and the Deputy Speaker for bringing the motion at hand to the floor of this House. The motion is so timely. The notion that the youth are the leaders of tomorrow has really come to manifest itself. For instance, the mover of the motion, the Deputy Speaker, is a youth. Leadership is changing and the old are giving way to the youth. That is a precursor, that good things are happening in the near future. Time has come for the youth to take their rightful position, even if this means pushing the elderly out of their way. I am glad to observe that the youth comprise a significant percentage of the Membership of this House. I believe that come 2022 more youth will come to this House.

Having said that Mr Speaker, I wish to say that we have always hailed the slogan ‘Buy Nyandarua, Build Nyandarua’. I wish to invent another slogan: ‘Build the Youth, Buy from the Youth’. There is no point of wasting resources, including issuing out bursaries, in a bid to educate the youth only to deny them the opportunity to apply their skill in their relevant fields of specialisation. The youth from polytechnics must be given the opportunity to prove their expertise.

Mr Speaker, polytechnics offer course on sewing and tailoring. Should they be allowed to make school uniforms for the school going children, the market is ready for them. This way, these institutions can generate some income for running their affairs.

I think there should be a policy on implementation of the resolutions of this Assembly. It is saddening that resources are pumped into the youth polytechnics yet tangible results are not evident. This is not so because the youth polytechnics are not able to produce competent workforce, but because the latter is not given opportunities.

I do not believe that manual job should be a preserve of the youth. It is high time that the youth are given opportunity to put into practice the knowledge and skills they acquire in institutions of learning, not just being engaged in manual jobs such as trench digging. An organised youth group, for example, can be contracted to construct an ECDE classroom under the supervision of engineers such as me.

I do not believe gravelling a road needs an engineer. This does not require spreading bitumen. Youth groups should be awarded contracts to gravel roads, including culvert installation. I am saddened to see during campaign times the youth receiving handouts from politicians such as me, only to be left to waste for the next five years. This House should be counted as a protector and a promoter of the youth, even if it includes lobbying to ensure that the youth get their desired opportunities.

I commend the Deputy Speaker for grabbing the opportunity of bringing the motion at hand before the House. Actually, he snatched the idea of the motion from me because it was on the way coming. In fact I was almost tempted to think that he was reading from the script that the Committee on Youth and Sports had crafted regarding the future of the youth. I strongly believe that the opportunity for the youth is now. I am putting to notice our colleagues who are above the youth age limit to prepare for a tsunami in our county where the youth will be taking up not only leadership but also other opportunities that are out there and Nyandarua will become a county to be watched and emulated.

I finally reinstate that the youth should not be relegated to the position of doing manual jobs. I repeat that they should not be relegated to digging trenches. They should be given the opportunities that befit their unexploited and untapped energy, vigour and strength. As you can see, I am very passionate about matters pertaining to the youth; they are like my heartbeat. Thank you Mr Speaker, Sir.

Speaker: Yes, the Member for Weru, Hon. Mbogo Mburu.

Hon. Mbogo Mburu: Thank you Mr Speaker, I rise to support the motion but with reservations. I have a good experience with the polytechnics because once I was in the said youth polytechnics. It would be a great joy to procure everything that we need from the youth polytechnics. We are tasking the Committee on Education because the thirteen (13) functional polytechnics do not have the procurement certificate. One cannot procure a culvert from them if they do not have the National Construction Authority (NCA) certificate. As we speak, the only qualified polytechnic in this is Mirangine. As much as we want to help them, the greatest role the Department Of Education has is to ensure that they are registered contractors or suppliers so that they can venture into business. They cannot be paid from the IFMIS because they are not legally there. Last time I had collapsed latrine in OlJoro-Orok. We requested for any youth polytechnics that would be given that contract but only Mirangine qualified for that. This was a single sourcing procurement process.

We are aware of the government procurement process and it is good that we make it known in the youth polytechnics so that they venture into the business. I am not saying that this idea is not noble, I have been an instructor in those polytechnics, and I know that they can do a lot of work but for now, we can only give them labour-based contracts. We can have the other contractor employ them for labour.

I support the motion. It is noble but we must first make sure that they get into the system legally so that when we procure goods and services from them we shall not have audit queries. I ask the department of Education to ensure that the polytechnics are aware of the procurement process.

Speaker: Member for Kaimbaga Hon. Gathure Wambui

Hon. Gathure Wambui: Thank you Mr Speaker sir, I rise to support the motion. It is timely. Yesterday I was talking to an officer from the ministry of Education and I noted that our polytechnics are not properly equipped to handle what we intend to give them to handle. It is the high time that we have a budget allocation for the polytechnic increase. Ol'kalou polytechnic was allocated Kshs.2 million for a garage and they were wondering whether that amount was meant for a classroom or a garage. An ultra-modern garage intended to be constructed should be similar to the one in Baraton University. All the county vehicles should be service there. As Hon. Mbogo has said, the ministry of Education should ensure that money is allocated in the budget to equip the youth polytechnics so that they can offer the services. This is a good motion but it can only be

implemented if more budgetary allocations are made towards the polytechnics. This motion is also related to the motion that was moved by the members for Karau because they all call for more budgetary allocations. When all those old vehicles of the county are given to the youth polytechnics, they will equip them with skills and call for hiring of more mechanics that are skilled to help the youths.

Speaker: Yes the Member for Wanjohi, Hon. Isaac Kung'u.

Hon. Isaac Kung'u: Thank you Mr Speaker I rise to support the motion. I would like to make a few comments before we call the mover. First is to appreciate the member for Nyakio for this well thought out motion.

When we come to budget making, one of the things that has been nagging is the issue of capitation of the polytechnics because the resources are never enough. I like the way he has formulated this motion and what he is calling for. He is calling for formulation of a policy and capacity building. I think our education system is changing. We are moving from theory to practical. By introducing a policy the will help the polytechnics to do the real work will empower these youths such that when they leave these institutions they shall have hand on experience on jobs. The will be able to go out and get jobs. Even after having a national policy that states that 30% of the government entities' procurement should go to the youths, people living with disability and women, you realise that not many youths have the experience. People who go and register companies in their names misuse them and the money ends up with people who are not really youths.

What we are calling for is a well thought policy that will ensure that these youths get the jobs. We are going to deal with the capitation for the institutions. If they go out and earn, issues of and attachment and school fees will be dealt with. This education will become relevant to most of them and after form four and standard eight these youth will be absorbed in this institutions. By introducing procurement of their goods and services we shall be introducing them to the markets.

I support the motion and say that it is a good motion. I would also like to tell Hon. Mbogo not to worry about the procurement process and the NCA certificates. This is what we meant when we say that there should be capacity building in the polytechnics. They should be conversant with the public procurement requirement so that they can bid competitively with the private sector.

Speaker: Yes the Member for Charagita, Hon. Wairimu Njane.

Hon. Wairimu Njane: Thank you Mr Speaker, I rise to support the motion. I congratulate Hon. Zachary for the well thought out motion on the youths. Many are the times that we have told the youths that they are leaders of tomorrow. It is time that we walk our talk and by doing so, we shall be encouraging more youths to go to those polytechnics. We shall also be giving relevance to the education that they require.

Many youths have joined and left the polytechnics but after that, they have nothing to do. This is because they do not have capital to start their own businesses. This discourages others to join them. These polytechnics should be given tenders to make school uniforms. Mr Speaker we gave bursaries to some secondary schools but we did not give the day scholars. There was grumbling because the uniform is more expensive than the tuition fee. If they would get uniforms at lower prices this would help the people on the ground. I however have a concern about the quality of the uniforms. I would recommend that the relevant institutions should ensure that quality is adhered to. That is why we need to have a policy that will ensure that the polytechnics are equipped and have better facilities. They should also ensure that the tutors are of high

qualifications. This will ensure that the goods and services that we get from these institutions are of good quality.

Mr Speaker, I am amazed at the brains that we have in this August House. If we move like this, I am sure that we are going to be of help to the people that brought us to this House. Thank you Mr Speaker, sir.

Speaker: Yes, the County Member from Karau, Hon. Esther Nyambura Mwangi.

Hon. Esther Mwangi: Thank you Mr Speaker, sir, I rise to support this motion. I appreciate Hon. Zachary for a well thought motion on how we are going to help the youths in the polytechnics. We need to help these youths to unleash their potential. For instance, they can be given tenders. I have seen the list of courses that they do, for example vehicle mechanics, they could be the ones repairing the county vehicles. We have carpentry and joinery, as the deputy Speaker suggested, they can be making the desks and chairs. We also have electrical installation, and fashion and design; those could be the ones making uniforms for the ECDE learners. The others are masonry, cosmetology, plumbing; metal works and the county can facilitate by buying for them welding machines. There are also those who have done computer applications.

Someone said that if one wants to succeed, one must intend to. One way a person shows intention to succeed is by helping those that you would want to succeed by giving them the right equipment. This will be paving way for them. I support the motion and propose that they be given allocations for revolving funds, which they can pay back with little interest. This would be of help to them since it will help to eradicate poverty. The member for Githabai said, “buy from Nyandarua and build Nyandarua.” If they are able to supply to Nyandarua what is needed, they will get to the levels that we would want them to get to. Let us support them. We should not let the potential of the youth become the treasure of the cemetery. In the cemetery, we have mechanics, designers and others who never became.

Speaker: Yes, Member for Rurii Hon. Githinji Mburu.

Hon. Githinji Mburu: Thank you Mr Speaker for giving me this chance. I rise to support this motion and appreciate the deputy Speaker for bringing it. In the jails like Kamiti, the criminals are given opportunity to make uniforms and furniture, what about our youth. How can we fail to give the youth opportunities if those in prison are given? I support this motion because I am a product of a youth polytechnic. I was a mason. I know that when the youths are given an opportunity to tender, they will do very good jobs. We need culverts in our wards, let those youths in the polytechnics be given moulders to make them. I support the motion.

Speaker: Yes, the County Member from Wanjohi, Hon. Jane Nyambura Waweru.

Hon. Jane Waweru: Thank you Mr Speaker, I rise to support this motion and I would want to say that surely those youths in the polytechnics should be allowed to make these things for instance clothes, furniture, and machines. If I am not wrong, even Hon. Matiang’i at the national level proposed that the National Youth Service will be the ones making their own uniforms. Since polytechnics are devolved, it is our duty as the members of the County Assembly to fight for the rights of the youths in those polytechnics so that they can be given those opportunities for their benefit. With those few remarks, I support and call the mover to respond.

Speaker: Yes the mover Hon. Zachary Njeru.

Hon. Zachary Njeru: Thank you Mr Speaker, I would first comment on the statements of Hon. Mbogo Mburu, the Chairperson of the committee on Roads, Public Works and Transport. His sentiments were well responded to by the Chairperson of the Committee on Implementation, Hon. Isaac Kung’u. The Public Procurement and Disposal Act is very clear and as much as we say

that there would be audit queries, we shall help these institutions to be prequalified through capacity building.

It is my duty to see that youths in this county are being empowered bearing in mind that these age groups are the most active economically, socially and even biologically. This will add value to them. I like the healthy debate by my colleagues and I appreciate the efforts of the concerned departments, the office of the Clerk and the secretariat that enabled the development of this motion. I hope that the executive will act on this and that the Committee on Implementation is going to follow up on the same.

With those few remarks, I beg to move.

(Question put and agreed to)

Speaker: The motion is taken and this will be communicated appropriately. As I commented earlier, this is a very critical motion and it zeros in on the 'big four'. This is an issue that can be funded by the national government because it is about industrialization and manufacturing. There is a lot of money that is lying out there to ensure that there is manufacturing in every corner of this country. Secondly, employment will come for tutors and graduates from these polytechnics? If what we are proposing will be done, employment for the tutors and the graduates will automatically come. We also believe that the salaries of these tutors will also increase if they get involved in these commercial aspects of their engagements.

I believe that polytechnics being government institutions can do business with government even without being prequalified. This is just like to engage with the Kenya School of Government, Kenya School of Monetary Studies, Kenyatta University, Jomo Kenyatta University of Agricultural and Technology and Nyandarua institute where we do not require any procurement at all whenever we are engaging with them. It is government-to-government dealing, all we require to know is whether they have space, and we good to go. Whatever they charge we pay. This can create a lot of movement in this county economic-wise. I encourage this and I think we shall communicate to the Executive and in the coming budget, we shall push for allocation. The Member for Nyakio, I hope you are not going to leave it at that. There is need to ensure that there is budgetary allocation over and above depositing the obsolete machinery with the polytechnics. They should have funds to buy welding machines and establish other facilities to service vehicles. The Ol'kalou polytechnic can do service to vehicles, it is just removing old oil and putting new oil, so that those young people get hands-on experience. I appreciate this.

Hon. Members, these are the ways through which we are known to feel, touch and smell the people that we represent in this Assembly.

Next order.

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Members, the business for the day having been exhausted, we shall now adjourn to Tuesday, the 6th day of March, 2018 at 2.30 pm.

(The House rose at 4.02 pm)