

COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF BUNGOMA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF BUNGOMA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY DEBATES

THE DAILY HANSARD

WEDNESDAY 7TH JUNE, 2023

Afternoon Sitting

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF BUNGOMA

HANSARD OFFICIAL REPORT

WEDNESDAY 7TH JUNE, 2023

The House met at 2:30 p.m.

(Mr. Deputy Speaker [Hon. Stephen Wamalwa] in the Chair)

PRAYER

PAPERS

Hon. Leader of Majority: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Allow me table the following Papers;

1. A report of the Auditor General on the Nzoia Water Services Company Limited for the year ended 30th June, 2022.
2. A report of the Auditor General on the Bungoma County Assembly Employee Car Loan and Mortgage Scheme Fund for the year ended 30th June, 2022.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Leader of Majority. Honourable members, the two reports having been laid, I now commit them to the Committee on Public Accounts and Investment for processing.

Next item,

STATEMENTS

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I now call upon Honourable member for Kaptama, the Hon. Francis Chemion Masai. Hon. Mukhongo, you should stop laughing at the Hon. Chemion, you know those are signs of aging. You should not be laughing at *mwalimu*.

Yes, Hon. Masai you can proceed.

1. STATEMENT ON CONSTRUCTION OF KAPTALELIO DISPENSARY MATERNITY WING

Hon. Francis Chemion: Thank you, Honorable Speaker. I rise pursuant to the provisions of Standing Orders 47(2) (c) of the Bungoma County Assembly Standing Orders.

I hereby seek for a statement from the Chairperson, Committee on Health and Sanitation, in respect to the procurement of construction of Kaptalelio Dispensary Maternity Wing in Kaptama Ward.

In the response, let the chairperson inquire into and report on the following;

1. The Budgetary allocation for the project and the financial year
2. The Procurement process that is, tender advert, evaluation report, professional opinion from the supply chain management and the name of the contractor who won the tender.
3. The total contract sum and how much has been paid so far.
4. The contract period as provided by the contract agreement.
5. Explain the level of works so far done.
6. Explain the steps the department is taking to complete the project and operationalize the same.
7. Explain the steps the department is taking to forestall such cases in the implementation of projects.

By Yours truly

Hon. George Makari (Chairperson, Health): Thank you, Honorable Speaker. I would wish to ask for 14 days, so that I can be able to give a proper and definitive response. But the destination is not known because he says yours truly.

Hon. Francis Chemion: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I thank the Chair Health for committing that by 14 days from today, he will be able to respond to a statement raised by Hon. Masai Francis Chemion, yours truly.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Thank you. We expect that response to be before this House on 21st Wednesday at 2:30 p.m.

We now call upon the Hon. Vitalis Wangila MCA for Kabula Ward.

2. CONSTRUCTION OF ABLUTION BLOCK AT KABULA MARKET

Hon. Vitalis Wangila: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Pursuant to the provision of Standing Order 47(2) (c) of the Bungoma County Assembly Standing Orders, I hereby seek for a statement from the Chairperson Committee on Health and Sanitation. This is in respect to the construction of ablution block at Kabula Market done in the FY 2018/2019.

In the response the chairperson to inquire into and report on the following;

1. The name of the contractor
2. The total contract sum and how much has been paid so far.
3. The contract period. Provide the contract and the contract agreement.
4. State whether works are complete and if not:
 - a) Explain the reasons why the project is not completed.
 - b) When will the project be completed and handed over to the community.
 - c) Explain the steps the department is taking to forestall such cases in the implementation of the projects in the department.

This statement is from Hon. Vitalis Wangila, MCA Kabula Ward.

Hon. George Makari (Chairperson, Health): Thank you, Honorable Speaker. I would wish to request that you again allow me 14 days. I think this response should come together with that of Hon. Masai Chemion. I think 14 days is okay to have gotten a response from a responsible department and I will deliver it to this House.

Mr Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Wasike. We expect the response again to be availed to this House on 21st Wednesday at 2:30 p.m.

Next item,

MOTION

REPORT BY THE COMMITTEE ON BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS ON THE BUNGOMA COUNTY SECOND SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET FINANCIAL YEAR 2022/2023

Hon. Jack Wambulwa (Chairperson, Budget): Thank you, Honorable Speaker. I hereby present the Bungoma County Budget and Appropriation Committees report on the Second Supplementary 2022/2023.

I request members through the Hon. Speaker that I skip some items, I therefore move you members to page 7.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Committee is grateful to the Office of the Speaker and Clerk of the County Assembly of Bungoma for the logistical support. The Committee also extends its gratitude to the County Executive Committee Members, Chief Officers and the County staff who appeared for Sector Committees' interrogations .

In addition, we applaud all Sector Committees for fruitful deliberations they had with their sectors and for the informative reports they submitted to this Committee.

Finally, the significant role played by the Committee members and secretariat in the compilation and completion of this report cannot be overlooked.

It is now my pleasant duty and privilege on behalf of the Budget and Appropriations Committee, to present to this House the report of the Committee on the Second Supplementary Budget FY 2022/2023 for debate and adoption.

Signed by Hon. Jack Wambulwa, Chairperson - Budget and Appropriation Committee.

WARD BASED PROJECTS

The Ward Based Projects allocation remained unchanged as approved in the 1st Supplementary Budget that is at Kshs. 855,000,000 translating to Kshs. 19,000,000 per Ward.

The pending bills and commitments relating to Ward Based Projects as at 30th June, 2022 stood at Kshs. 455,731,583 but only Kshs. 113,932,896 was provided for in the 1st

Supplementary Budget across all departments. No provision has been made in this Supplementary to reduce pending bills.

DEPARTMENTAL EXPENDITURE HIGHLIGHTS

ROADS AND PUBLIC WOKS

The department had an approved 1st Supplementary Budget of Kshs. 1, 137,358,855; recurrent expenditure of Kshs. 170,701,922 and development expenditure of Kshs. 966,656,933. In the proposed Second Supplementary Budget, the total allocation for the department has been retained but some reallocation has been proposed as follows:

Increases on the recurrent votes are as follow:

- i. Field allowance has increased with Kshs. 1, 500,000. In reference to sector committee reports the amount is to fund the inspection of all projects across the County, an activity that was on-going.
- ii. Travel cost for foreign travels has increased with Kshs. 500,000.
- iii. Daily subsistence allowance to cater for foreign accommodation has increased with Kshs. 1M.
- iv. Catering services with an initial allocation of Kshs. 1,250,000 has increased with Kshs. 500

The above total amount of Kshs. 3,500,000 has been sourced from motor vehicle maintenance with an initial allocation of Kshs. 9, 932,701 which this Committee agrees to in contrast to the Sector Committee's proposal that the amount be sourced from supplier of credit code 2410104 for pending bills.

Under development

- i. Supplier credit has an increment of Kshs. 5, 064,848 on initial allocation of Kshs. 47, 288,084 to cater for pending bills.

The amount was sourced from the following vote-heads:

- Kshs. 737,344 deducted from bridges and drainages with an initial allocation of Kshs. 50m.
- Kshs. 2,313,772 deducted from Ward Based Projects with an initial allocation of Kshs. 398,957,020.
- Kshs. 2,013,732 deducted from other infrastructure and civil works with an initial allocation of Kshs. 149,840,000.

TRADE, ENERGY & INDUSTRIALIZATION

The department had an allocation of Kshs. 288,873,857 comprising Kshs. 64,762,186 for recurrent expenditure and Kshs. 224,111,671 for development expenditure as per the

approved 1st Supplementary budget 2022/2023. There is an addition of Kshs. 1, 283,000 on the vote head 2210401 for travel costs and the amount has been sourced from the following votes;

- a. Daily subsistence allowances and accommodation Kshs. 868,000.
- b. Motor Vehicle insurance Kshs. 183,000.
- c. Maintenance expenses for motor vehicle Kshs. 232,000.

EDUCATION & VOCATIONAL TRAINING

The department had an allocation of Kshs. 1,843,359,915 comprising Kshs. 1,609,628,776 for recurrent expenditure and Kshs. 233,631,139 for development expenditure. The 2nd Supplementary Budget has proposed reallocation of funds within the recurrent vote. There is a reduction of Kshs. 20,012,476 from vote head 3110701 for purchase of motor vehicle which has been re-allocated to the following votes;

- a. Kshs. 8 Million to domestic travel and subsistence, and other transportation costs (Kshs. 1M for travel costs , Kshs. 2M for accommodation, Kshs. 1M for daily subsistence allowances , Kshs. 2M for field allowance and Kshs. 2M for field operational allowance)
- b. Kshs. 3,012,476 to training expenses (Kshs. 2M for accommodation and Kshs. 1,012,476 for training fees)
- c. Kshs. 8 Million to hospitality Services (Kshs. 3M for catering services and Kshs. 5M for Committees boards and conferences)
- d. Kshs. 1 Million for fuel, oil and lubricants.

LANDS, URBAN AND PHYSICAL PLANNING

The department had an allocation of Kshs. 125,632,264 comprising Kshs. 67,924,611 for recurrent expenditure and Kshs. 57,707,653 for development expenditure. There is a reallocation of funds within the recurrent vote. That is an addition of Kshs. 2,932,348 to the vote head 2210303 for Daily subsistence allowances. The amount has been sourced from the following votes;

- a. Kshs. 2,842,348 from printing advertisement and information services (Kshs. 400,000 from publishing, Kshs. 67,000 from subscriptions to newspaper, Kshs. 1,934,440 from advertising and awareness and Kshs. 440,708 from trade shows and exhibitions)
- b. Kshs. 80,000 from Water and sewerage under utilities supplies services.
- c. Kshs. 10,000 from courier and postal services

BUNGOMA MUNICIPALITY

The Municipality had an allocation of Kshs. 351,485,765 comprising Kshs. 35,843,235 for recurrent expenditure and Kshs. 315,642,530 for development expenditure. There is a reallocation of Kshs. 3 million relating to the following votes;

- A reduction of Kshs. 1,200,000 from the travel cost, Kshs. 800,000 from catering services, Kshs. 150,000 from motor vehicle insurance, Kshs. 600,000 from refined fuel and Kshs. 250,000 from the motor vehicle maintenance expenses.

- The Kshs. 3,000,000 has been added to the following votes; Kshs. 1 million to Committees boards and Kshs. 2 million to routine maintenance of computers.

KIMILILI MUNICIPALITY

The Municipality had an allocation of Kshs. 605,222,222 comprising Kshs. 38,215,833 for recurrent expenditure and Kshs. 567,006,389 for development expenditure. There is a reallocation of Kshs. 580,000 within the recurrent votes.

There is a reduction of Kshs. 80,000 from the electricity expenses and Kshs. 500,000 from catering services. The Kshs. 580,000 has been added to training expenses (Kshs. 380,000 for accommodation, Kshs. 200,000 for training fees)

HOUSING

The department had an allocation of Kshs. 211,094,647 comprising Kshs. 38,039,575 for recurrent expenditure and Kshs. 173,055,072 for development expenditure. There is a net reduction of Kshs. 3,000,001 from the recurrent vote and a net increase of a similar amount on the development vote.

The reduction in the recurrent votes affects the following votes; Kshs. 2,761,001 from other operating expenses (Kshs. 2,681,150 from research and Kshs. 79,851 from pre-feasibility studies) and Kshs. 239,000 from maintenance of residential houses. The entire amount has been allocated to the development expenditure under supplier credit vote.

The net effect of this reallocation is that the recurrent expenditure is now Kshs. 35,039,574 while the development expenditure is Kshs. 176,055,073.

FINANCE AND ECONOMIC PLANNING

In the proposed Second Supplementary Budget, under administration there was a net decrease of Kshs. 72,712,095.

Personnel budget has a total decrease of Kshs. 194,478,721 from the following votes;

- a) Basic salaries permanent employees decreased by Kshs. 69,372,000 against an initial allocation of Kshs. 306,718,698.
- b) The entire amount of Kshs. 21,059,249 for basic salaries contractual employees was removed.
- c) Casual labour Kshs. 17,061,508 was reduced against an initial allocation of Kshs. 49,061,508.
- d) House allowance Kshs. 33,678,828 reduced from an allocation of Kshs. 75,384,960.
- e) The entire amount of Kshs. 29,052,000 for commuter allowance was removed.
- f) The entire amount of Kshs. 8,628,091 for leave allowance was removed.
- g) Employee contribution to pension scheme has a reduction of Kshs. 15,627,980 from an initial allocation of Kshs. 418,203,728.

Under administration, there is proposed total increase of Kshs. 121,767,626 affecting the following votes;

- a) Travel costs increased by Kshs. 3M, initial allocation was Kshs. 6,486,874.
- b) Domestic travel increased by Kshs. 2M, there was no initial allocation.
- c) Daily subsistence allowance increased by Kshs. 13M, initial allocation was Kshs .5M
- d) Field allowance increased by Kshs. 9.2M from initial allocation of Kshs. 5M.
- e) Field allowance increased by Kshs. 6.42M,initial allocation was Kshs. 4M
- f) Tuition fees increased by Kshs. 189, 200, initial allocation was Kshs. 11,500,000.
- g) Field training attachments allocation increased by Kshs. 155,000, initial allocation was Kshs. 630,800.
- h) Catering services increased by Kshs. 7, 526, 051, initial allocation was Kshs. 5,690,000.
- i) Committee boards and conferences increased by Kshs. 57, 277, 375; initial allocation was Kshs. 42, 462,994.
- j) General supplies increased by Kshs. 11M, initial allocation was Kshs. 6, 857,759.
- k) Maintenance of computers has an additional allocation of Kshs. 12M bringing the allocation to Kshs. 24M.

Under **Revenue Directorate** there was an increase of Kshs. 20,152,240 on the following votes:

- a) Field allowance Kshs. 10,700,000 was added to an initial allocation of Kshs. 19,050,600
- b) Field operational allowance Kshs. 4M was added to initial allocation of Kshs. 3,350,600
- c) Committee boards and conferences was added Kshs. 9,232,800 to an initial allocation of Kshs. 8,959,705.

Under the **Directorate of Budget** there was a total increment of Kshs. 29,960,475

- d) Travel costs increased by Kshs. 800,000 ,initial allocation was Kshs. 1M
- e) Daily subsistence increased by Kshs. 4M, initial allocation was Kshs. 6,950,000.
- f) Field allowance increased by Kshs. 1,414,125, initial allocation was Kshs. 12,455,094.
- g) Under training vote, Kshs. 500,000 was added to an initial allocation of Kshs. 1,192,234
- h) Kshs. 500,000 was added to tuition fees ,initial allocation was Kshs. 282,000
- i) Under hospitality supplies-catering services, Kshs. 2M was added to an initial allocation of Kshs. 4.2M.

j) Kshs. 12, 257,900 was added to committee boards and conferences, initial allocation was Kshs. 22, 213,380.

k) Kshs. 8,488,450 was added to temporary committees initial allocation of Kshs.5M

Under **Audit Directorate** there was an increase of Kshs. 1, 142,700 for boards and conferences

The **Directorate of Accounts** has a total increase of Kshs. 19, 324,505 on the following votes;

- i. Travel costs with an increment of Kshs. 1,500,000, initial allocation was Kshs. 2,329,800.
- ii. Daily substance allowance increased by Kshs. 2M, initial allocation was Kshs. 4,045,000.
- iii. Field operation has an addition of Kshs. 5,970,905, there was no initial allocation.
- iv. Accommodation had an increment of Kshs. 176,800 to an initial amount of Kshs. 176,800.
- v. Tuition fees has an increase of Kshs. 176,800, initial allocation was Kshs. 703,235.
- vi. Catering services has an increase of Kshs. 2.5M added to initial allocation of Kshs. 972,960.
- vii. Committees and Conferences have Kshs. 7M added to an initial allocation of Kshs. 4,521,940.

The Procurement Directorate has an increment of Kshs. 798,000 to committees, boards and conferences with initial allocation of Kshs. 5,6M

The Directorate of **Special Projects Coordination Unit** has a total increase of Kshs. 1, 334,175 on the following votes;

- i. Kshs. 503,475 was added to an initial allocation of Kshs. 6,540,000 for field allowance.
- ii. Kshs. 830,700 was added to Kshs. 8,019,743 for committees, boards and conferences.

The Sector Committee in its recommendation agreed with the changes as proposed. However this Committee sort to understand why Kshs. 194.4 million was deducted from the personnel budget and distributed to the aforementioned votes. In his submission the CECM Finance tabled the following documents before this Committee:

The KRA demand notice - The letter from KRA dated 24th February 2023 in relation to tax obligations not remitted by the County Government in the FY 2020/21 totalling to Kshs. 124,464,824, and 30 days was given to clear the tax arrears. There is also a tax demand notice dated 10th Nov. 2022 with tax obligation of Kshs.96, 698,510. These resulted in the County Government paying Kshs. 55 million in relation to tax an amount that was unplanned after

the KRA attaching and charging the County Government Account hence affecting the listed operation's fund under the department of Finance that was part of the released funds.

The unplanned for- KRA expenditures and statutory deduction (Pension) prompted the head of treasury to postpone some planned programmes in the County and this affected the promotion/re-designation of 252 officers and employment in the department of Health hence the respective personnel budget paid County Treasury staff informing the reallocation of part of the personnel budget under Finance to refund the amount that was remitted to KRA .

On pension, there is an agreed debt settlement plan to remit the arrears without attracting additional penalties as per attached minutes of a meeting of the County Treasury officials and CPF team.

On casual employees, the unresolved issues have curtailed the payment.

HEALTH SERVICES

Department of Health Services has an approved budget of Kshs. 3,601,854,548 comprising Kshs. 3,433,189,445 for recurrent expenditure and Kshs. 168,665,103 for development expenditure.

Under Sanitation, the approved budget is Kshs. 25,026,858 with Kshs. 1,715,044 for recurrent expenditure and Kshs. 23,311,814 for development expenditure.

The department had only one reallocation on code 2210303; daily subsistence allowance which was increased by Kshs. 7,800,000 and it had the initial allocation of Kshs. 5,180,385. The amount was reduced from code 2410104; supplier credit. The department explained that the absorption of funds for this pending bill has been affected by the recommendation of the task force report on the lack of proper documentation by the contractor.

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

The department had an allocation of Kshs. 547,814,634 comprising recurrent expenditure of Kshs. 539,392,013 and development expenditure of Kshs. 8,422,621. The recurrent allocation is inclusive of Kshs. 10,971,617 for sub-county administration. There is no increase or reductions in the budget save for reallocation. The following vote-heads had funds that were uncommitted hence reduced;

- a) Advertising has decrease with Kshs. 50,000.
- b) Purchase of motor vehicles has a proposed decrease of Kshs. 570,000.
- c) Maintenance expense for Motor Vehicle has a proposed decrease of Kshs. 7,000,000 to cater for Madaraka day celebrations.
- d) Maintenance of plant, machinery and equipment (including lifts) has a proposed decrease of Kshs. 300,000.

Increments were made on the following votes;

- a) Daily subsistence allowance, there is a proposed increment of Kshs. 1.5M to cater for *Madaraka celebrations*.
- b) Purchase of uniforms and clothing for staff has an increase of Kshs. 360,000 to complete payment to a supplier for supply of uniforms for enforcement officers.
- c) Catering services has an increase of Kshs. 2,400,000 to cater for an outstanding payment for provision of catering services worth Kshs. 1,200,000 for Jamhuri day celebrations the balance of Kshs. 1,200,000 to cater for Madaraka day celebrations.
- d) Committee boards have an increment of Kshs. 2, 640,000 to cater for Madaraka day celebrations.
- e) Tuition/training fees) has an increase of Kshs. 242,200 to cater for a deficit in the vote that resulted from 1st Supplementary Budget.
- f) Training accommodation has an increase of Kshs. 777,800 to cater for outstanding balances.

The Sector Committee observed that Madaraka day is a National celebration function and recommended that the proposed reduction of Kshs. 7M from vote 2220101 (Maintenance Expenses- Motor Vehicles) should be retained to cater for the expenses.

This House allocated Kshs. 19.3 million to rescue over 40 County Government vehicles that are stuck in garages across the Country due to non- payment of the costs incurred in their repairs. It baffles the Committee that such a noble resolution was not fully embraced by the department rendering the vote a target for reallocation of funds. The Sector Committee is therefore directed to look at the status of recovery of motor vehicles in garages and report to this Honourable House.

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY SECRETARY

The department had an approved budget of Kshs. 76,273,511 and Kshs. 52,805,780 on development expenditure. Reallocations were proposed on the following vote heads;

- a) On vote 2210503; Subscription to newspapers, there is a proposed decrease of Kshs. 49,920. The funds are uncommitted in the vote.
- b) Vote 2210801; Catering services has a proposed increase of Kshs. 1,187,582 to cater for outstanding commitments in the office of the County Secretary.
- c) Vote 2410104; Supplier credit has a proposed reduction of Kshs. 1, 137,662. The department clarified that there were no supporting documents to warrant payment of the pending bills.

ICT

The department had an approved budget of Kshs. 53,101,704 comprising Kshs. 23,253,803 for recurrent expenditure and Kshs. 29,847,901 for development expenditure. There were reallocations within the department.

Reductions were made on the following votes that had uncommitted funds;

- a) Telephone, telex, facsimile and internet have a proposed reduction of Kshs.1, 034, 544.
- b) Subscription to newspapers has a proposed decrease of Kshs. 49,920.
- c) Sanitary and cleaning materials have a reduction of Kshs. 32, 000.
- d) Purchase of computers, printers and other IT equipment has a proposed decrease of Kshs. 30, 000.
- e) Purchase of ICT networking and communications equipment has a proposed reduction of Kshs. 3,366,101.

Proposed increment is on the following votes;

- a) Catering Services has a proposed increment of Kshs. 1,146,464 to cater for outstanding commitments.
- b) Contracted guards and cleaning services has a proposed increment of Kshs. 3,366,101 to reduce on the pending bill for cleaning services relating to Bright Shine ltd.

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

The office of the Governor had an approved budget of Kshs. 542,419,144.

The following votes were reduced due to non- commitments on them;

- a) Supply for credit has a propose reduction of Kshs. 4,883,950. The reduction is due to lack of documentation to warrant payment of the suppliers.
- b) Subscription to newspapers has a reduction of Kshs. 207,360.
- c) Advertisement awareness has a reduction of Kshs. 387,807 because as at 4th quarter there was no advertisement made therefore there was no commitment.
- d) Purchase of uniforms has a reduction of Kshs. 500,000.
- e) General Office supplies have reduction of Kshs. 129,084.
- f) Maintenance of computers, software and networks has a reduction of Kshs. 300, 000.
- g) Purchase of office furniture and fittings has reduction of Kshs. 1,220,000.
- h) Purchase of computers, printers has a reduction of Kshs. 500,000.

The increment was on the following votes;

- a) Vote 2210802; Committees boards and conferences have a proposed increment of Kshs. 6,128,201 to cater for governors programs and office expenses.Kshs. 1,500,000 was reduced and re-allocated to Deputy Governor's office.
- b) Fuel & lubricants, has an increment of Kshs. 2, 000,000 to cater for daily movements of the Governors vehicle.

DEPUTY GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

The office had an approved budget of Kshs. 11,891,322. There was no addition or reduction in the total budget but reallocations were made within.

The following votes that had uncommitted funds that were reduced;

- a) Electricity expenses have a reduction of Kshs. 75,124. The deputy governor has no official residence.
- b) Water and sewerage has a reduction of Kshs. 75,124. The deputy governor has no official residence.
- c) Telephone, telex, Facsimile and internet have a reduction of Kshs. 18,657.
- d) Subscription to newspapers has a reduction of Kshs. 36, 059.
- e) General office supplies have a reduction of Kshs. 300, 000.
- f) Sanitary and cleaning materials have a reduction of Kshs. 200, 000.
- g) Maintenance expenses for motor vehicle have a reduction of Kshs. 84,514.
- h) Maintenance of computers, software and networks has a reduction of Kshs. 12,521.
- i) Catering services has an increment of Kshs. 717,485 to cater for operations in the office of the deputy Governor.
- j) Board and committees has an increment of Kshs. 1.5 million to last the D.G to financial year end.
- k) Fuel and lubricant, has an increment of Kshs. 84,514 to cater for refined fuels and lubricant in the deputy Governor's office.

COUNTY PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD

The section had an approved recurrent expenditure of Kshs. 54, 046,205 and development expenditure of Kshs. 10 million. Reallocations have been proposed within the recurrent budget as follows;

Reductions were made on the following votes;

- Basic Salaries for P&P staff reduced by Kshs. 1,400,000
- Subscription to newspapers reduced by Kshs. 79,624.
- Fuel and lubricants reduced by Kshs. 413,015
- Legal dues /fees and arbitration reduced by Kshs. 1,230,845
- Routine maintenance of motor vehicle reduced by Kshs. 825,345
- Maintenance of computers, software reduced by Kshs. 62,603

The amounts were distributed to the following vote-heads:

- Domestic daily subsistence allowance increased by Kshs. 1,400,000
- Training expenses increased by Kshs. 367,572

- Hospitality supplies and services increased by Kshs. 2,043,860
- Insurance costs increased by Kshs. 200,000.

COUNTY ASSEMBLY

The County Assembly had a total budget of Kshs. 1,294,353,579 broken down as follows; recurrent expenditure of Kshs. 1,187,560,394 and development expenditure of Kshs. 106,793,185. The Assembly has not received any additional allocation in this supplementary budget but has done reallocation within to ensure absorption of the budget as below:

The reductions have been proposed on the following votes;

- Utilities reduced by Kshs. 250,800
- Communication supplies and services reduced by Kshs. 1,130,000
- Training expenses reduced by Kshs. 7,275,600
- Insurance Costs reduced by Kshs. 836,736
- Specialized materials and supplies reduced by Kshs. 700,000
- Bank Service Commission & Charges reduced by Kshs. 490,000
- Membership fees, Dues and subscription reduced by Kshs. 4,000,000
- Ward office expense Office expenses reduced by Kshs. 12,000,000
- Routine maintenance of communication equipment reduced by Kshs. 1,000,000
- Government pension & retirement benefits reduced by Kshs. 3 million.
- Purchase of motor-vehicles reduced by Kshs. 1,220,000
- Purchase of office equipment reduced by Kshs. 1,150,000

The amount has increased the following votes;

- Domestic travels and subsistence increased by Kshs. 15,241,136
- Foreign travels & subsistence increased by Kshs. 5,500,000
- Printing, advertising & information increased by Kshs. 312,000
- Hospitalities supplies and services increased by Kshs. 5,000,000
- Office & General supplies increased by Kshs. 1,000,000
- Management fee increased by Kshs. 6,000,000

COMMITTEE OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

COMMITTEE'S OBSERVATIONS

The Committee made the following observations;

- 1) Some departments; Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Cooperative Development and Gender, Culture, Youth and Sports were not affected by the 2nd Supplementary Budget.
- 2) KRA/Statutory deduction like pension liabilities continues to pose fiscal treat to implementation of planned programmes.
- 3) Reallocation of funds from the Supplier for credit vote (pending bills) due to lack of proper documentation to support payment.

- 4) Estimation of the utilities and maintenance budget is either poor or absorption of funds on the two votes is low making them targets for reallocation in supplementary budgets
- 5) Departments are budgeting for programs they have no intentions of executing hence shifting of funds during supplementary budgets.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

This Committee makes the following recommendations;

1. That KRA, pension liabilities and pending bills pose serious fiscal risks and policy wonks must come up with fiscal policies that can ensure debts are paid and the economic growth of the county guaranteed.
2. That authenticity of pending bills should be ascertained by the accounting officers before appropriations are done.
3. That proper costing of utilities and maintenance budgets should be done for correct estimation.

BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE'S PROPOSED DECREASES AND INCREASES ON DEPARTMENTAL BUDGET IN THE 2ND SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET FY2022/2023

The following are the committee's proposed decreases and increases on the departmental budget in this Second Supplementary Budget for FY 2022/2023. (annexed). I don't know whether I should read the figures? Thank you Honourable Speaker for understanding.

Honourable members, most of what we did were just realigning the vote heads and as you can see most departments want to shift money from areas that they had not utilised, so as sector committees, we need to oversight this departments and make sure that they implement their programs to the later. This shifting of money from one program to another should not be coming up during supplementary budgets.

I want to call for a seconder and I have a right to reinforce on what I have presented, I don't know why members should be worried

(Applause)

I am not adding anything, all I am requesting sector committees to oversight our departments, so that this issue of reallocation should not be appearing. We are going to get to the main budget, let's be serious on which areas we need to reallocate. Otherwise, I want to thank the sector committees and all of you for standing with us as a Budget committee. I call upon Hon. Sudi Busolo to second.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, the Hon. Jackson Wambulwa for strong presentation of the motion. Hon. Isaiah Sudi.

Hon. Isaiah Sudi: Honourable Speaker, I second the motion that has just been read by my able chair Budget. Just as the chair has said, we request sector committees to oversight sector departments; because we are going to have the main budget. Let them put money on vote

heads that they will utilise because it's like they hide money somewhere so that they request for reallocation during supplementary budgets. So I request my colleagues who are in various sector committees do the necessary oversights.

In the previous years, sector committee recommendations to the budget committee were ignored, but currently we went through every recommendation by the sector committee and that has become our spirit. And I promise that as members of budget committee, we shall go with what you recommend in your sector department. Otherwise, I second the motion.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Isaiah for seconding. Honourable members, a motion having been moved and duly seconded, I propose a question that this House adopts the report by the Committee on Budget and Appropriation on the Bungoma County Second Supplementary Budget.

(Question proposed)

Hon. James Barasa Mukhongo: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. Let me laud the Chair of Budget and Appropriation Committee and its membership for a very wonderful report to this House. I agree with most of the sentiments that have been captured by the Budget and Appropriation Committee and I echo seconders opinion. I have looked at our Standing Order number 232 (4) if am not wrong...

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Your eyes the signs of aging.

Hon. James Mukhongo: Yes, I have been assisted by my sister here, it is 232(4) *the Budget and Appropriation Committee shall discuss and review the estimates and make recommendations to the County Assembly, taking into account the recommendations of the sectoral committees, the views of the County Executive Member for the time being responsible for Finance and Economic Planning and the public.* I think this is a Supplementary budget and that is why the public was given time to submit if they have something but they have considered the views of the committees and when the chair was presenting the report, he informed the Honourable House as to why we are having this Supplementary budget.

On compliance with the County government additional allocation 2022 with a grant of Kshs 3 million, this is a grant that was given to the County Government of Bungoma under the department of Lands and Physical Planning and Municipalities and Executive can't spend funds without declaring it so that this House can look into and appropriate for them now to spend.

Most of the members might look at the Finance and Economic Planning Committee as to why we having a lot of reallocations, the Chair Budget has just come up very clear that because the KRA demand notice dated 24th February, 2023. The budget committee took into consideration the explanations of the CEM on why we having some reallocations in the department.

The executive are not adhering to provisions of our laws but this came from the former regime because it started from 2020 up to now, that is why KRA is demanding a lot of funds and if the executive doesn't have a concrete plan to pay the KRA team, they might even freeze our account and you know the situation we are in, the executive at the National government is looking at people for compliance of KRA, if you don't pay then they can freeze your account. I am also one of the business people in the County and I have been given a notice and I am running up and down to make sure I have cleared the KRA Tax.

Finally, reallocations within the department, I want to laud the Chair because there is nothing new you are introducing. We are only making some reallocation from this vote head to another within the department and the Finance department where I am the Chair, I am aware of some of the programs that I don't want them to be captured on HANSARD. I am aware of some of the programs when I say that members can understand. We have had engagements with the executive. Let me stop there.

There were 7 bills that were committed to this Honourable House; to assist the revenue department so that we can collect money from our people and then service our budget. We need to fast track these Bills, so that the executive can now work harmoniously. So some of the reallocation is going in line with the Bills we have received. Otherwise, I support the report in totality. I rest my case.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Mukhongo. You are like the son whose mother comes and tells the elder brother that you know I don't want to report that you stole some coins from somewhere and you are telling the mother that I don't want to report.

(Laughter)

Let allow the Hon. Hentry to come on the dispatch.

Hon. Hentry Nyongesa: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to laud the Budget Committee for looking at the document very critically. I think our key role is to scrutinize this document to later and as I have said, the key note is that every sector must be very keen towards the department they hold at the administrative level and that's why I want to say that even Hon. Mukhongo has been very keen on the statutory deductions. When you look at them you will find that they are really eating into our budget, because we have never been budgeting for such penalties. As we have tried to realign what is happening to the sectors. I want to say that our CEOs are supposed to be very keen on that because they will be reducing our allocation as a County Government of Bungoma.

Looking at the sector I represent, that is the County Public Service Board, you realize that there is nothing much but I want to thank the Budget Committee for at least coming out and informing the House that this County Public Service Board had an allocation of around 54 million that is for recurrent and 10 million for development. On that note, we are saying that those sectors must utilise these funds as per the guidelines that have been put up through this

House so that funds are carried over to other financial years. So the departments like the County Public Service Board, I am sure they are running to the latter to make sure that the development vote is utilised.

When you look at the County Assembly Service Board where we sit, it is very true that everything has been put clearly as per what we had in our budget. I want to insist that because we are going towards the end of the Financial year especially when you look at the operational vote which we normally deal with people who are not part of us especially the rent and so on, I want to request that the CEO puts a lot of emphasis to make sure that we use this money is utilised to the latter.

There are a lot of reduction and addition which means when you look at the Ward office expenses, you realize they have reduced which means there was an overcharge on that vote that shows there is a lot of transparency in our sectors.

Therefore with those few remarks, I support and in future the Budget committee should follow sector committee's recommendations and there is anything they don't agree then it should consult the relevant sector committee, so that we don't have a lot of wrangles when we are looking at the budget. Otherwise, I support.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Hentry. Leader of Majority.

Hon. Joseph Nyongesa: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First, allow me to appreciate the Chairperson of the Budget Committee for taking us through the document.

Secondly, allow me appreciate the whole committee out of there tight schedule at least they managed to come up with the supplementary. You know they were handling the main budget as well as supplementary, so it was a hard task.

On Ward based projects, the committee is saying nothing was touched but my humble request is that in future, we normally have some balances on this ward based projects, let the departments also declare where these balances are allocated, because in my ward, I have done my addition and its like almost 3 million was left out. So in future, Chair Budget, kindly help us so that at least we utilise our balances so that at least our people can feel some things being done in our wards.

Arising from yesterday's discussion, I have gone through the Budget on Education, the department itself proposed that the money which was meant for purchase of vehicles have been distributed as follows: 8million to domestic travel, 3 million for accommodation, 8 million for hospitlaity,1 million for fuel .This is where I say we normally preach water and take wine because I wish Hon. Luseneka could be near me cause he is a member of Budget and I thought maybe they could use this to settle the crisis that is affecting the Form twos' but they have decided the way they have done and I know my good friend Hon. Makari is part of

that Education team. I don't know if the team if the sector committee also proposed this, but actually let's try and see that at least we should be settling some crisis, because if now 20million could be allocated on bursary so that at least they can settle the Form twos at least we could be making a step.

On the issue of basic salary and contractual of employees; during reply the chair could help me understand, up to now I have seen not budget notes explaining on the same. Does it mean that we over budgeted in terms of salary or what happened? Basic salary on permanent employees decreased by 69million, this amount is very big figure in terms of paying salaries, and in our budgeting we have never affected the issue of salaries. So I don't know what happened because it also creates an alarm during our main budget that every department and I urge every sector committee should ensure that we get the payroll, so that at least we do the calculation to avoid such issues.

Lastly, the issue of KRA is the one eating into our budget because of the penalties. I thank the Budget Committee because they have made a recommendation on the same. These penalties comes because of the issue of audit queries, so in future let the executive also work smart to ensure that such losses are avoided.

Otherwise, I support the second supplementary budget.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Joseph Juma Nyongesa. Hon. Francis Chemion,

Hon. Francis Chemion: Thank you, Honorable Speaker. I want to make a comment from what the Leader of Majority has said; the figure of over 60 million could it be that we have over employed? Could there be new staffs that were brought on board? That is what we need to know and it should be clear.

On what was provided for Ward Development Fund under pending bills; this is a fund that has been provided for wards but what was provided for pending bills, if you look at that document is very little. On page 9; they say that pending bills and commitments relating to Ward Based projects as at 30th June 2022 stood at Kshs. 455, 731, 583 but only Kshs. 113, 932, 896 was provided for in the First Supplementary Budget. You will realize that there is a lot of money that has not been provided for the pending bills for our ward projects. I'm sure the contractors will continue calling us, visiting offices because there is no money provided for those pending bills.

On page 10, we have some additions to various vote heads and I hope Chairperson, Roads Committee who is with us here will ensure that all those additions culminate to a benefit to a few of us. If one or two could also benefit in those allocations that have been provided, it will be better. Chairperson - Roads Committee, I am speaking to your department because we have some increases that I have seen but we are saying let one or two members of that committee or any other member of this County Assembly benefit from whatever that has

been provided in some vote heads there. I don't want to open any further; you can check on those vote heads.

There is one bit on the County Assembly that we have reduced Kshs. 12 million on the Ward Office expenses. I don't know if we did not do proper calculations at the beginning, so that we have a lot of money hanging. I think Honorable members we don't need to have 12 million reduced; we still have many issues in our wards. We should not be moving this money of our wards to any other place, let us take it to the wards because we still have a lot in our offices. I know the Chairperson - Budget can explain to us later, and am sure he has an answer but we pray that we continue ensuring that our offices operate well.

In fact, I don't know we are up to date in regard to the payments at the ward level. Are we waiting one month or two months; they could be two months. We are sure after passing this supplementary budget, maybe we will have the two months paid at once, so that we don't have pending bills on the Ward Offices operations money.

I'm sure this budget has realigned and the chairperson is here; we have gone for a meeting in Kisumu Honorable members; there is a plan and I don't want to anticipate debate. There is also a good plan for another meeting from maybe tomorrow and I'm sure this is the document if passed today that will allow Honorable members to access their per diems because there are votes that as a County Assembly, we may not be able to utilize like the CASA games and Devolution conference votes. I'm sure the Budget Committee has already re-aligned those funds so that Honorable members' welfare is taken care of and it will be done after we have approved this second supplementary budget.

We have had issues of KRA all along, I don't know how we will handle this issue Honorable members. It even comes to the Assembly also and sometimes we are penalized, we get a demand notice that failure to pay 140 million, the accounts will be frozen. Chairperson - Budget Committee, we need to sit down and see on how we are going to address this issue of KRA because it is becoming a disease and it will continue affecting us.

This is one of the easiest document Honorable members to be passed because there is no department that has been affected. The Chairperson - Budget Committee and you members we thank you because you considered what we said as committees. Like in Agriculture, they did not do anything and you also stopped at that; they did not come to you with any amendments and you also said that is what you want, have it. We thank you and we are supporting this document to be passed so that as a County Government we address some issues in the remaining period.

Even we say that we want to move monies from recurrent for example to development, how many days are left to the end of the financial year? They are few, even the period of uploading will take some time and that time would have eaten into the years' time that is remaining. We may not do much at this point in time; therefore, let us pass it the way it is.

Hon. George Makari: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also wish to applaud the Chairperson of Budget Committee, Hon. Jackson Wambulwa and the entire membership for the good work. As Hon. Mukhongo said, this committee did not remove any money from any department but tried to dance within the same department. Any reductions or increments were actually within the said departments.

However, I'm contemplating supporting this document with some amendments unless when the chairperson satisfies me when he will be replying and if he doesn't, I will have to do some amendments on one or two sections. The Leader of Majority had said about the Education Committee where I'm a member on the Kshs. 20 million meant for purchase of motor vehicles. When I went through the document, I could see other departments had boards and conferences monies allocated for. When I remove from Education that money and I put on scholarship, where will the CECM get the money to take members out, for example, in Kisumu or some other place? I have withheld this and I don't want to move an amendment not because I'm a member of the Education Committee but because other departments have the same. Therefore, why should we remove from education, while other departments go on to enjoy.

The only place I would have wished that we remove money; this idea of foreign travel; the CECM's should remain in Kenya and suffer like the rest of Kenyans. Why should there be increment is foreign travels, increment is daily subsistence allowances. When they are in foreign capitals not in Bungoma, why should they increase their foreign travel? Kenyans are suffering here, MCAS are suffering because there is no bursary and they are here telling us that in Roads, there is an increment on foreign travel by Kshs. 500,000, increment of daily subsistence allowance by Kshs. 1 million. I think this is an upside-down priority. If the Chairperson of Budget Committee will convince me that actually the CECM for Roads has a pertinent issue to do in a European Capital, then I will not remove that money through an amendment. I must be satisfied that the CECM Roads or the CECM Education or whoever that has other foreign travel has a pertinent issue to do outside Kenya, then I will retain the said amount. Otherwise, I will bring an amendment.

There is an issue on Finance on page 14 where they have said tuition fees; I don't know if the department of Finance is paying tuition fees for people? If you check page 14 there is somewhere indicated tuition fees and if you check through that department all along there is a breakdown of tuition fees, paying for whom? On page 14, field allowance was increased by Kshs. 9.2 million; again it is repeated field allowance. How many field allowances, do we need in just one directorate? Why not perhaps amalgamate in one sentence as field allowance, why should they repeat the same thing field allowance increment of 9.2 million as number (d) then (e) field allowance increment of Kshs. 6.42 million. Which field allowances are these because it is also my committee? I would wish the Chairperson of Budget Committee to satisfy me that actually it is supposed to be there.

Coming to my own the County Assembly; the Hon. Francis Chemion has talked about CASA, Legislative Summit and Devolution Conference. I have not seen where the allocated funds have been moved within this County Assembly and then increased to certain other vote heads. Unless what I have seen in the increments emanated from there, but there is no clear narration if at all these increments we are seeing emanates from CASA, Devolution and Legislative Summit. I think there should be a clear narration as to why the increments and where the allocations were removed from.

Lastly, on page 24 on the same County Assembly, if you go down there on the second last sentence, there is Kshs. 5.5 million for foreign travel. Hon. Speaker, who is travelling to the foreign capital in this County Assembly? I have never seen these members travelling anywhere. It is even indicated that the Kshs. 5.5 million is just an increment, which means there is another one. I hope this is not just money for your office to be travelling to Singapore and Dubai when members are sited here in Kenya and they are not going anywhere and you are increasing for your office by Kshs. 5.5 million for foreign travel. Remain in Kenya Hon. Speaker and suffer like the rest of us, or else the whole House go for foreign travel, not only the Office of the Speaker.

(Applause)

If Hon. Jack Wambulwa is not going to satisfy me on Kshs. 5.5 million on foreign travel for the County Assembly, I will do an amendment that the said money to be moved to domestic travel and subsistence allowance for all the members.

(Applause)

The ball is in your court the Hon. Jack Wambulwa to satisfy the Chairperson of Health Committee that the Kshs. 5.5 million is money that is going to be spread so that Hon. Caleb will travel to Rwanda, Hon. Jeremiah will go to Singapore, Hon. Alice Kibaba will go to China, Hon. Idi Chamawi will be in Israel praying in the mountains, Hon. Katila will be in South Africa. Therefore, if you are not going to satisfy me on the Kshs. 5.5 million the Hon. Jack, I will distribute it to domestic travel for all the Honorable members through an amendment.

(Applause)

Hon. Wafula Waiti: Thank you Mr. Speaker for allowing me to speak. As much as I want to support the motion on the floor this morning, I have the following points to make. I want to support the sentiments from Hon. George Makari, the Chairperson Health Committee about the foreign travels. As much as there are increments, it should be actual or real such that when a member from this House travels, the payments are made. For insistence we travelled late last year and up to now we have not seen anything in our pockets...

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Waiti you mean there is nothing in your pocket?

Hon. Wafula Waiti: Even if you came right now and checked Mr. Speaker, I mean what I say.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: I thought there is a handkerchief in that pocket.

Hon. Wafula Waiti: As much as we support whatever budget in this House, there is a tendency of the executive team doing some movement or shifting money from one department to another within a sector such that in the long run, you will see some departments within sector being dormant.

As you may realize, Agriculture is among the main devolved functions of the County governments but there is a history which you are aware because of your seniority in this House; that there is this tendency and it has happened in the recent past. The department of Agriculture shifting money from Cooperatives, Livestock and Veterinary only to benefit the farm input support programme leaving this other departments with an absorption rate of zero per cent. It is my humble submission that when such activity comes up again, we shall not allow and the executive should budget for the same in subsequent budgets, because it appears they don't see the need of that particular project within the sector.

You may also realize that when shifting that money, they put it strategically to those activities that benefit individuals within their reach. Members, let us note this so that we balance development within our county. Otherwise, I support the motion.

Hon. Tony Barasa: Thank you, Honorable Speaker. Much has been said by my seniors but allow me say the following; I want to thank the Committee on Budget for coming up with this informed budget that is going to be expended within a month.

On page 22, I want to thank the County Assembly Service Board; many would not know that the Service Board has taken care whether nominated or elected, black or brown, tall or thin for the welfare within this next one month. I say this on page 22 because you remember there are some activities that were scheduled for us to attend like the Legislative Summit, CASA games and because in its own wisdom the Budget Committee and the Service Board have realigned this money and that is why I want to maybe inform *Mweshimiwa* Makari that when we talk about foreign travels, it is not that we are going to travel abroad all of us but we are going to benefit all of us under that vote.

A clear point in time here is when we take all members to participate in quarterly reports that we did the other day. That money cannot come from heaven but can come from such votes. What we are expecting in the near future for us to exhaust this one, it has been well catered for by the Budget Committee and the Service Board of this County Assembly. So it is not about the Office of the Speaker to travel but it is about the welfare of these County Assembly members that will be utilized in the next maybe one month.

On page 15, I want to thank my Chair in Finance; I have now realized that the County Government of Bungoma was going to be crippled because of issues to do with KRA, where

a demand notice was received. The Budget Committee in its own wisdom realized a tune of 124 Million that was going to cripple this House and have also realized why the Health Department was not going to recruit in the last quarter, the money went to rescue Bungoma County Government and County Assembly is inclusive from the shame of KRA demand notice.

I also want to join my Leader of Majority that in his reply, Chair Budget should clarify on the issues of Ward Based Projects in respect to the balances. I remember in my ward, a project of 2 million that was never done, I had a project in water of 2 Million that was never done, and I had another project of around 3Miliion in 2018/19 but was never done. Therefore, going forward, we declare the balances of Ward Based Projects to be done in black and white so that an Honorable member of that particular ward understands where his balances are. I support in totality the motion on the 2nd Supplementary Budget as moved by the Budget Committee.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Tony. Honourable members, since this report is touching on the Appropriation Bill, as procedure, such kind of report's recommendations should be acted upon in the Committee of the Whole House. After debate is concluded, the question cannot be but the recommendations should be done later. I want to make that clear.

I want to call upon the chair of the committee to move forward and make some replies to the contributions made by honourable members.

Hon. Jack Wambulwa: Thank you, Honorable Speaker. First of all, I want to appreciate my colleagues who were keen on the report and came up with several concerns that I want to reply to

This issue of KRA is affecting us both the Assembly and the Executive. How I wish Honorable members through the Sector Committees, let's make recommendations to the Department of Finance both in Assembly and Executive that we come up with a special unit that should be handling this KRA matters, so that we avoid this issue of penalties every now and then. That is something that we need to come up with as Sector Committees, recommend and make sure that it's implemented.

Working with the Sector Committees is our priority number one that we will never want to go against what the Sector Committee has recommended. More so, I want to assure you members that if we shall have any issues to do with your sectors according to your recommendations, then even if we will be writing the reports, we have the right to call in the chairperson to come and clarify on the same, so that our relationship with the Sector Committees continues working well.

It was on CEF that departments indeed did not declare the balances that they had from all projects. This is something that they need to be clear and more so, not only declaring but they should be allowing members to utilize the same balances on any other project that is equally same as remaining balance. Therefore, sector committees should follow up on that to implement it to the latter.

On Finance, over budgeting on salaries; it is not over budgeting, we are very clear in our report. You remember they were to do promotions in different departments which they have not, they were to employ ECD teachers and medical staffs which were postponed, that is why they had that balance, not that they had actually over budgeted to just have that money.

On pending bills, verification is required. The delay in declaring this pending bills, I think Hon. Makari, it is because as you know even the National Government has ordered County Governments to pay pending bills but make sure that verification is done on the same. Therefore, there should be that committee that should verify and confirm before payment of pending bills is made.

Ksh. 12 Million for Ward Offices is not over budgeting as such, as you are aware there are plans to train and equip our offices. I think the Assembly might have delayed in this issue of training of our staffs and more so equipping. I was informed by the Clerk of the County Assembly that they are working on procurement, so that some of the equipment that was lacking in our offices can be procured and be supplied to our offices. You are aware we are supposed to have computers and printers, these computers are repairable, printers do not have toners, small things like that in our offices to operate. I just hope that he will move with speed with procurement and also training of our staffs to understand their roles.

Increment in foreign travels especially that of the CECM, Honorable members, we need to be realistic; we are a County Government, like we operate concurrently with the National Government, without our CECMs, Chief Officers and Technical team travelling out there to benchmark, for exposure, where are we headed as a county? We must benchmark, we must go out there to attract the donors and the only way you can attract donors is going to meet them outside the country. It will be unfortunate if we remove this money which is going to be utilized, not only by the CECMs, the CEO accompanied with the CECM to be able to benchmark and bring to us maybe good news from wherever they have gone, so that we can improve from where we are currently. So I will request that let us not touch any foreign allocation.

Hon. Makari was wondering when Department of Finance pays for scholarship or bursaries. It is not about scholarship and bursaries, this tuition fees is for our staff. Our staff must enjoy, they must be empowered and that is why it is reserved to take care of our staff training.

(Applause)

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order members! Hon. Makari, the response is directed to you, so you need to be silent a little.

Hon. Jack Wambulwa: Hon. Makari, wanted to know why field allowance is appearing almost everywhere in the Department of Finance. Be reminded my senior colleague that the Department of Finance has different directorates; this field allowance is applicable in every directorate. When you see it appearing severally, it is not because this field allowance is just for Finance Department, directorates must operate and therefore they must have the field allowances to operate.

Foreign travel in the Assembly, I want to be clear on these members. Yes indeed foreign allowance in the Assembly has not benefitted all of us but for an example, even me as Jack Wambulwa have never benefitted from this since I came in, but there are colleagues who have been travelling outside the country. Some of our colleagues have gone to Rwanda and Zambia. The trip to Zambia was by the Executive which has never been paid. I want to be clear on that. It was not paid because there was no vote head for foreign travel and up to now, members have had to persevere. I did not even plan for any money to be reallocated so that they can pay me. It went like that until we forgot and we are moving on but that does not stop me from allocating money for other members to benefit. Remember very soon letters will come in, inviting other sector committee chairpersons to go outside the country and benchmark or even have a joint meeting with the East African Community Members. Hon. Speaker I need to...

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order members!

(Laughing)

Hon. Jack, proceed.

Hon. Jack Wambulwa: What I was saying is that maybe soon or later, I might be a beneficiary. As an Assembly we must be prepared to let our members travel, it will be wrong for us to remove any allocation towards foreign travel unless this members do not wish to travel outside the country. I know everybody is willing and ready to travel and I want it to benefit majority of these members.

Agriculture Committee need to wake up, the Chairperson of the Agriculture Committee has already spoken on it. You have woken up but indeed why does our department like reallocating funds from other directorates? The key directorates that are devolved like livestock and cooperative, and then divert the same funds to recurrent so that it can be utilized by the CECM and the team. This is something that is worrying us even as a Budget Committee and we have done our recommendations which we need your support. Make sure you summon the CECM to explain why these directorates are being left with nil allocation to operate, then what is the work of devolution?

I want to thank everybody but this Supplementary Budget did not have much. Going by what we have recommended and respecting the Sector Committee recommendations, I request that the House adopts this report in totality without any amendment.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Can we applaud the chair.

(Applause)

Thank you so much Hon. Wambulwa for the reply. Honourable members, as I had earlier advised that there is no question put. Therefore, we have come to the end of the debate and all the recommendations if there are any reductions or increments that shall be done and dealt with in the Committee of the Whole House, which will be coming this afternoon. There being

no any other business, we therefore adjourn and we reconvene here at 2:30 p.m. this afternoon as we work on the Committee of the Whole House. We adjourn.

(House Adjourns)