

COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF BUNGOMA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF BUNGOMA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY DEBATES

THE DAILY HANSARD

WEDNESDAY, 10TH JULY, 2024

Afternoon Sitting

Third County Assembly

Third Session

1

Disclaimer: The electronic version of the Official Hansard Report is for information purposes only. A certified version of this Report can be obtained from the Hansard Editor.

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF BUNGOMA
THE HANSARD- OFFICIAL REPORT
WEDNESDAY, 10TH JULY, 2024

The House met at the County Assembly Chamber at 2:30 p.m.

(Mr. Speaker [Hon. Emmanuel Situma] in the Chair)

PRAYER

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

1. POSTPONEMENT OF A MOTION ON THE ORDER PAPER

Honourable Members, in view of the special motions coming up under motion number 9, 10, and 11, motion number eight; the report by the sector committee on Finance and Economic Planning on the Receiver of Revenue quarterly reports and financial statements for the period ended December 31st, 2023, is taken out of this Order Paper,. It will be taken back to the HBC for relocation of time.

That means we will have motion number 9, 10, and 11 proceeding during our special motions on our Order Paper. We proceed.

SPECIAL MOTIONS

1. REPORT ON THE VETTING OF THE NOMINEE FOR THE POSITION OF CHIEF OFFICER, LIVESTOCK, VETERINARY, AND FISHERIES

Hon. Waiti Wafula (*Chairperson, Committee on Agriculture*): Thank you Mr. Speaker. On behalf of the Committee on Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, Irrigation, and Cooperative Development, I rise to read a report on the vetting of nominee for appointment to the position of Chief Officer for Veterinary and Fisheries in Bungoma County. I will seek for your guidance; I read it from page six.

Mr. Speaker: Give us the executive summary.

Hon. Wafula Waiti: Executive Summary.

Pursuant to Section 45(1) (a) of the County Governments' Act, 2012 and Section 6(1) of the Public Appointments, County Assemblies Approval Act, 2017, His Excellency the Governor appointed Mr. Andrew Makokha Musungu of ID Number 12582639 for appointment as Chief Officer of Livestock, Veterinary, and Fisheries. The nomination was conveyed to the Speaker of the County Assembly through a letter reference number CG/BGM/GV/Vol.1/005 dated 18th

June, 2024 as annexed. The name of the nominee was committed to the Committee on Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, Irrigation, and Cooperative Development for vetting and reporting to the House pursuant to Standing Order No. 56(1) of the County Assembly of Bungoma Standing Orders.

In accordance with Article 196(a) of the Constitution, Section 75 of the Public Appointments, County Assemblies approved Act, 2017 and Standing Order No. 56(3), the Clerk of the County Assembly placed an advertisement in the Daily Nation on Thursday, 20th June, 2024 (annexed) notifying the public and inviting them to the vetting session on Monday, 1st July, 2024 at 11.30 a.m. and the submission of memoranda by way of written statement on oath (sworn affidavit) on the suitability of the nominee. By close of the submission deadline Thursday, June 27th, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. the Committee had not received any memoranda.

The nominee appeared before the Committee as scheduled on Monday, 1st July, 2024 for approval hearing in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution, the Public Appointments, (County Assemblies) Approval Act, 2017 and the County Assembly of Bungoma Standing Orders. The Committee examined the nominee against the criteria in the Public Appointments, (County Assemblies) Approval Act, No. 5 of 2017; leadership and integrity, academic qualifications, employment record and work experience, professional affiliations, potential conflicts of interest, knowledge of the relevant subject, overall suitability for the position, vision and the leadership and he met all the requirements.

The Committee having considered the nominee's curriculum vitae, nominee's filled questionnaire and having heard his oral submissions, it unanimously agreed that this House approves the nomination of Mr. Andrew Makokha Musungu for appointment by his Excellency the Governor as the Chief Officer Livestock, Veterinary and Fisheries for Bungoma County Government.

Mr. Speaker: Give us 1.2 on page six.

Hon. Waiti Wafula: Mr. Speaker, the Committee membership.

The Committee on Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, Irrigation and Co-operative Development comprises of the following members;

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Hon. Waiti Wafula | - Chairperson |
| 2. Hon. Iddi Chamawi | - Vice Chairperson |
| 3. Hon. Everlyne Mutyembu | - Member |
| 4. Hon. Busolo Sudi | - Member. |
| 5. Hon. Franklin Simotwo | - Member |
| 6. Hon. Jerusa Alehu | - Member |

7. Hon. George Tendet	- Member
8. Hon. Edwin Opwora	- Member
9. Hon. Alfred Mukhanya	-Member
10. Hon. Caleb Wanjala	-Member
11. Hon. Bernard kikechi	- Member
12. Hon. Martin Chemorion	-Member
13. Hon. Metrine Wilson	- Member
14. Hon. Alice Kibaba	- Member
15. Hon. Allan Nyongesa	- Member

Acknowledgement

Mr. Speaker, the Committee takes this opportunity to thank the offices of the Speaker and the Clerk to the County Assembly for the support accorded to it during the vetting exercise.

Further, the chairperson appreciates the Committee Members and secretariat for the participation in the entire vetting process and their useful contribution towards the compilation and production of this report.

Further, the Committee is also indebted to the members of the public for attending the proceedings thus enhancing accountability and transparency of the vetting exercise.

Hon. Speaker, it is now my duty and privilege to present to this House this report of the Committee on Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, Irrigation and Cooperative Development for consideration and adoption by this House. The report is signed on 8th of July, 2024 by Hon. Wafula Waiti, M.C.A Naitiri/Kabuyefwe Ward as the Chairman of the Committee.

Mr. Speaker: Give us 4.1 on Page 19.

Hon. Wafula Waiti: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Committee's general recommendations

Having considered the suitability, capacity, integrity of the nominee and the approval hearing for the nominee pursuant to Section 45(1)(b) of the County Governments' Act, Section 4 and 8 of the Public Appointments (County Assemblies) Approval Act, 2017, and Standing Order No. 217(5)(g) of the County Assembly of Bungoma Standing Orders, the Committee recommends that this House approves the nomination of Mr. Andrew Makokha Musungu of ID No. 12582639 for appointment as Chief Officer for Livestock, Veterinary and Fisheries in the County Government of Bungoma.

Mr. Speaker Sir, on page 20 there is the adoption schedule that has been signed by all 15 members. There is annexure attached to the report. At this point, allow me now call the seconder who is none other than Hon. Edwin Opwora.

Hon. Edwin Opwora: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First of all, allow me to laud my Chair, Hon. Waiti for leading us through the entire process. I want to second this report on the approval of the nomination of Mr. Andrew Makokha Musungu for the position of Chief Officer for Livestock, Veterinary and Fisheries. Mr. Andrew Makokha Musungu is a son of the soil, having been born in Bokoli...

Mr. Speaker: We are avoiding for that son of the soil issue because that means we have some other part of the sand and water! Be very careful.

Hon. Edwin Opwora: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Unfortunately, God created us from the soil, so we will go back there and I just want to emphasize that Mr. Andrew Makokha Musungu was born in Bokoli, Webuye West Sub-County.

When we went through his academic credentials, Mr. Andrew Makokha Musungu has all the credentials that we believe will enable him effectively serve this county in this position. He has a Masters' Degree in Arts and Communication, Media and Publication and he also has a degree in English from Kenyatta University, which makes him qualified. He also meets all the Chapter six requirements of integrity as a public servant.

He has equally done charity work across the county which include donation of books in various schools, mainly the primary schools in Bungoma County. He has a work experience as a sales and marketing manager and in his submission, he noted that he's going to promote the Chwele fish farm to ensure that it is marketed across the county. This is one of the key areas that we feel he is going to benefit the county as a whole and ensure that this Department is up to task. When you look at his employment record, at no single time has he had issues where he has been dismissed and therefore, because of his work experience and his integrity, we as a Committee feel that he is going to serve this Department well and he will be of value not only to the county but also to the Department. I second.

Mr. Speaker: Members, allow me people to proceed and propose a motion for debate.

(Motion proposed)

Hon. Jack Kawa: Thank you Hon. Speaker for giving me this opportunity. Allow me to applaud the Committee led by Hon. Waiti as the Chair. Also, allow me applaud the seconder of the motion who is also my neighbor at home.

I wish to take this opportunity also to appreciate His Excellence in the Governor for seeing that Bokoli is part of this county and that should not be left out when appointing the Chief Officers or making his government complete. I wish to say that may His Excellency the Governor be blessed wherever he is as well as the people of Bokoli.

Hon. Speaker, the nominee in the name of Andrew Makokha Musungu comes from Bokoli sub location, Bokoli Ward, Bokoli Division. When we were at Milani Friends Secondary School, you were at Bokoli High School, and I was with Andrew Makoha Musungu who is the nominee for the position of Chief Officer of Livestock, Veterinary and Fisheries.

If you can read the letter for Andrew Makokha Musungu, he did his 8-4-4, that is Class 8, and because of his background, he sat home for three good years before joining Form one. Andrew Makokha Musungu comes from a humble background; he did not enjoy the love of his father because he only a few months old when the father passed on. He was brought up by the mother and unfortunately the mother passed on. Andrew Makokha Musungu is somebody whom I know and I am very sure that if we approve him to take the position, he will perform.

I just want to urge this Honourable House that Andrew Makokha Musungu is the person whom I know, he has been supporting the government of the day, and we were in the same church that is Friends Church (Quaker). He was in Bokoli Friends Church while I was at the Milani Friends Church Monthly meeting. He is a young man whom I know and I want to urge the House that we approve the name so that he assumes the office and make the work easier for the Executive to move.

Hon. George Tendet: Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir for according me this time to also voice my concerns on the nominee, Mr. Andrew Makokha Musungu. Before I do that, I wish to laud my able chairman, Hon. Waiti, for chairing that Committee. I am a member of that Committee and he is a very, very good chairman. If we are to award marks...

Mr. Speaker: Honourable Member, stick to the motion at hand or the microphone is taken away.

Hon. George Tendet: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for that indulgence.

First of all, the nominee came for vetting and upon entry; he was composed and very confident. When we went through the records on where he has been working, he has a clean record. When the nominee came, he was well-dressed and ready for the occasion. His communication skills were fantastic. From his looks, the nominee looked like a team player and also from and the way he was answering the questions. I know he can deliver...

He is bringing on board a working experience of over 20 years. He has been a teacher and sales marketing manager just to mention a few. The records shows that he is hard working and we are going to benefit from his experience. Mr. Speaker, his body language showed that he was ready for the job. Looking at him, you could tell that he was ready for the tasks ahead of him.

Further, the nominee answered most of the questions correctly enabling him to score more than 85 percent out of the possible 100 per cent. Having said that, I urge the House to approve this nominee

Hon. Hentry Nyongesa: Thank you Hon. Speaker. I rise to also support the motion moved by the chairperson and associate myself with the sentiments put forth by Honourable Members on this nominee. I have gone through the report and I have no objection that Andrew can deliver. As Hon. Jack Kawa alluded, we are not moving from ‘Bumulian’ to ‘Bokolian’....

Mr. Speaker: We had a candidate from ‘Bumulian’ and did not speak anything. Kindly stick to the issue at hand.

Hon. Hentry Nyongesa: Anyway what I am saying is that there are three things that you cannot run away from. The first one is the place that you were born. Secondly, you cannot choose a neighbour and lastly you cannot go to the market to buy friends as earlier indicated by Hon. Jack Kawa.

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Hentry, refrain from that line of contribution.

Hon. Hentry Nyongesa: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I was just saying that you can have friends the way Hon. Jack was putting and history can repeat itself one time. Going by the sentiments put forth by the Hon. Kawa, it seems this is the right candidate for this docket.

As we move to approve these nominees, I wish to caution that sometimes back we approved three Chief Officers on the Floor of the House and instead of focusing on their work; they joined politics and offered themselves for elective positions. I say this because the Chief Officers came from Bokoli Ward. Therefore, as we approve this nominee from Bokoli, he should stick to his line of duty and deliver to the people of this county. He should not start admiring the position of Hon. Kawa because this Department requires a lot of attention on matters of livestock; which require a knowledgeable person in this area. An individual who will educate our farmers on the need for value addition on their farm produces.

As we speak, we have a project that is eating into the county budget; a milk plant which is almost being labeled a white elephant. Therefore the nominee should come up with strategies to ensure this project is operationalized to get value on this investment. He should also ensure we have a

steady supply of milk which implies that farmers must be assisted to embrace dairy farming in this county.

We also have the issue of chicken slaughter house in Chwele; as we approve Mr. Andrew Musungu, he should settle down fast enough to ensure that the projects we are mentioning here are operationalized.

As I wind up, I will not dwell so much on his academic background but as stated by some member that since he is a good marketer, he is going to ensure that our products from Chwele are sold.

Lastly, I wish to mention that this county has been squarely depending on subsidies and in terms of offering subsidies in dairy farming, my opinion is that emphasis should be on subsidizing Artificial Insemination (AI) services. The National Government has equally been talking about erection of an AI plant in Trans Nzoia County which I think has not materialized. I hope that through collaboration this project will be implemented so that we can also benefit that facility as a neighbouring county. This will go a long way improve the quality of dairy animals in our region leading to an increase in milk production.

Otherwise, I support the report and as we approve this nominee, tomorrow I will be at his office seeking for subsidized dairy animals, fingerlings and AI services for my farmers.

Hon. Ali Machani: Thank you Hon. Speaker. I will try and be very brief. First of all, I wish to appreciate the efforts put in place through the vetting process, through the able leadership of the Chairperson of the Committee and his team; not forgetting the Secretariat.

I have been keen listening to the submission from Hon. Ipara and I came in when the Hon. Waiti was almost finishing reading the report, but what has really touched me is the contribution by Hon. Kawa. Hon. Speaker, serving your community or the area you come from is all about commitment and it is a calling. A person should understand that he has been given an opportunity to serve the residents of this County in the government of the day. I have heard my colleague mentioning that he supports the government of the day. I wish we could say that the nominee is a team player and he can work under minimal supervision in any government. Because governments change; today we have this government and tomorrow another government will come in and the person we are approving today is not only going to serve in this government, he will serve in another government, which may not be more friendly to him as we have seen here before.

Hon. Speaker, you have been in this House for some time. We have approved many Chief Officers and the CECMs and any other person who has gone through the vetting process. It takes one to understand that he has been given an opportunity to serve the people diligently. As stated

by one Member, we have given people opportunity to serve the people of Bungoma but after five years or so, they also want to seek for elective positions. You then wonder why we gave them this commitment to serve our people.

Secondly, to serve in this Department requires one to understand Bungoma County; what are the needs of our people. Before we used to have cattle dips, nowadays they are not there. If they are there, nobody has managed to remember what they are supposed to do.

As they have mentioned, we have the milk processing plant in Webuye. We have spent a lot of resources as a county on this project but it is yet to be operationalized. But from the sentiments from earlier speakers on the Floor, I see the sense of this nominee being given a chance as he is knowledgeable.

Going to school together, relating to a leader, having close friendship, drink together or eating together does not convince this House to give you a position to serve. It requires one to remember that this is a calling. If I don't serve our people properly, it is a punishment that I am setting against my coming generation or my family. We have seen leaders who have done well and their families are blessed. Even those who gave pieces of land to put up churches, mosques or schools have been blessed. Those who are against such developments their families are in villages toiling. Therefore, I accept and agree with the first speaker that the nominee Mr. Andrew Musungu comes from Bokoli which was part of larger Webuye. Because we wanted resources closer to our people, we divided Webuye into two; that is Webuye East and Webuye West. I have a feeling that we are approving this person not because he comes from Bokoli but we are giving this position to a servant of the people who shall serve this county up to Chepyuk, Soysambu, Toroso and all parts of the county that have not managed to produce a Director, Chief Officer or a CECM.

Hon. Speaker, I know this county well and I have been disadvantaged approving Chief Officers, Directors and CECMs. When you pray and wish well for whomever that has been appointed into an office, then one day God will remember you. That one day Maraka people will also get an opportunity to have one of their own to serve this County. Mr. Speaker, I know you have interests both in Bokoli and Maraka and we have to get on board people with brains from all parts of the county like Mt. Elgon and Tongaren. My message to Mr. Andrew Musungu is that if approved today he should serve the people of this county diligently. Thank you as I support this motion.

Hon. Joseph Nyongesa: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I also stand to support the nominee and the recommendation from the Committee. I was keenly listening to Hon. Machani; this time around the appointing authority has been very fair. At least every corner of this county has been touched. I know soon somebody from Maraka will be approved on this Floor.

Listening to submission by Hon. Kawa reminds me in 2018 when we were approving the list of Chief Officers here. If I can recall, you were also there sitting in that seat when Hon. Kawa was giving out of praises saying this time around we had the right person. Within a few months, there were cries and complaints from Hon. Kawa that the person who was approved here was actually very negative on the ground. I hope for Mr. Musungu it won't be the same like it happened to Hon. Kawa.

Mr. Speaker, I am really inspired by this man, Musungu, especially on the issue of publishing books. He is one man who wants to share knowledge with the whole world and if we get such people on board, we shall be going in the right direction.

Another challenge that I see although I support; I have looked at the general and specific questions. I invite you to move with me on to number three; the question was on how he will handle delays in the procurement process which usually results into delays in the completion of the projects and as a result the pending bills. The nominee responded that he will give clear and strict timelines to contractors. I wonder; because the procurement process is done by the Department and contractors only come in to execute upon completion of the procurement processes. Otherwise, the nominee is fit and suitable. We support him.

Hon. Johnston Ipara: Thank you Hon. Speaker. First of all, let me begin by lauding the chairperson of the Committee for being clear and loud. I personally support the approval of this particular nominee to the position. Hon. Speaker, I rise to support this motion based on five factors. The first factor is this particular nominee has the qualifications and experience that we require in that particular Department. You remember we have experienced a lot of challenges because we have always been nominating people who are not exposed and have no experience in making quick decisions. I don't stand here to support this particular nominee because Hon. Kawa said he comes from Bokoli. The nominee is not being appointed to serve the people of Bokoli, he is being appointed to serve the people of Bungoma County. Therefore, that notion should be erased.

Based on the achievements and the contributions that this particular candidate has achieved; the first one is breaking the glass ceiling, being raised by a single mother, staying at home for four years and still managed to go back to school and was able to fulfill his dreams. Beginning in the position of a sales person at the Jomo Kenyatta Foundation and serving there for a long period. This particular nominee has traversed the country serving in Nairobi, Western and Nyanza. This tells you that this is a person that has been prepared and is ready to face all challenges, and particularly where he is being taken. It is an area where we have experienced a lot of challenges.

I am convinced to support the approval of this particular nominee based on the integrity. You cannot serve in that position in several institutions, and there is no single complaint raised against you. If there were any, they could have been forwarded to the Clerk of the Assembly. He is a person of integrity and as a County; we miss individuals with integrity of this caliber.

Lastly, I support because this particular nominee has a proven record of service spanning from when he was a junior officer in the Jomo Kenyatta Foundation, when he was a junior lecturer in Mount Kenya University until when he came to apply for the position. Based on that, I support his approval for appointment.

Hon. Anthony Lusenaka: Hon. Speaker I also rise to support the motion as moved by the Chair. I just want to add a few comments. These nominees that we are approving in the House are here to serve the County. Looking at the experience and the past process we have passed through, those nominees that were perceived to be disadvantaged or got low marks are performing well. But those that we saw that they are gurus, they have enough experience have disappointed us. Some are doctors, but when you look at their performance, it is very discouraging. So sometimes it depends with the kind of person. He may have very good papers, but performance-wise, it is just a disappointment. So I just request those nominees that this House is approving, that they should learn to work with these members. So long as they cooperate, they work as a team, everything will be okay. But once they get into office and maybe move to the comfort zones, we still have to go after them.

So I just want to remind Hon. Kawa, as the Honorable Leader of Majority has said, sometimes we may praise those nominees that come from our wards, but at the end of the day, we are the ones to start crying again and feel disappointed by the same people. So any nominee that this House approves, I just want to request them that they should work for this county without fear of any form of discrimination.

They should work for the people of Bungoma County so that at the end of their term, they should look back and be proud of what they have done for this county. So Hon. Speaker as I support the approval of this nominee, I just wish to request this House that we move as a team. We put these nominees on toes once they get into office.

We approve the budget. We need our projects done in good time. We want that by December all the projects should have been advertised and even completed by the contractors awaiting payment.

Any contrary acts to that, I don't think will cooperate with them. So I just wish to ask this House that we approve the nominee and allow Hon. Waiti to work with the team. I know those offices are vacant, but once they are fully occupied, this County must move forward.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you Hon. Lusenaka and I think Hon. Kawa has heard the sentiment of the Leader of Majority, and equally Hon. Lusenaka. I think this time round he is very keen. Hon. Waiti, you proceed.

Hon. Waiti Wafula (*Mover to reply*): Thank you Mr. Speaker. First of all, I take this opportunity to thank my colleague, Honorable Members, who have had time to add flesh to this report from the Committee. Just to bring to the attention of Honorable Members that they are aware that in the recent past, we have had a problem in the Agriculture sector where almost every office was vacant until His Excellency the Governor assisted by putting Chief Makhandia to act in that directorate. So by getting this House to approve one Makokha Musungu to be a substantive Chief Officer I think the department will now move.

With an experience of over 20 years and during the process of the vetting, one Makokha Musungu Andrew proved that indeed if given this position, he can deliver. He convinced the Committee to the level that he can do good work if given this position.

On the milk processing plant, indeed, the Committee was very much concerned. One Musungu came up with a very elaborate idea that we cannot have a plant without raw material. He challenged us, the Committee, that he would work with the Department as a team to make sure that across the County, he would introduce the hybrid semen as a project in our wards so that we can have hybrid cows to produce enough milk as raw material for that processing plant.

The Committee found that the nominee was ready to work with the government of the day. Whether the government may change any time, as long as he is still in that office as a Chief Officer, he stated that will work with the government of the day. He assured the Committee, and that is why... in fact, when one member posted a question of whether he was aware about the corners of this county, he even went further and told the Committee that one time, through his friendship, he managed to come up with a partner and even delivered some goodies to Chepyuk Ward in Mt. Elgon.

Just to bring to your attention, that the member in charge of Chepyuk Ward is a member of the Committee. He almost clapped because they mentioned his ward in a committee process. So, one Makokha is a conversant with the County. Looking at the flesh, the contribution from Honourable Members here, I don't think I have much to add other than just to beseech you that you assist the Department and Directorate of Livestock, by approving this one Musungu to take charge so that we can move as a county. I submit.

Mr. Speaker: Honourable Members, now, allow me to proceed and put a question to the said motion.

(Question put and agreed to)

(Applause)

Honourable Members, this House has now approved the nomination of Andrew Makokha Musungu of ID No. 12582639 for appointment as the Chief Officer for Livestock, Veterinary and Fisheries in the County Government of Bungoma. That being the position, Section 11.1 comes into play.

Section 11. 1: notification of the decision. The clerk shall notify the appointing authority of the decision of the County Assembly within 14 days of the decision.

Section 11.2: the appointing authority shall, upon the approval of the nominee for appointment by the County Assembly and subject to the applicable written law, appoint the nominee within a period of seven (7) days from the date of the notification for the decision of the Assembly under Section 1 of Section 11 of the said Act.

2. REPORT ON THE VETTING OF THE NOMINEE FOR THE POSITION OF CHIEF OFFICER, HOUSING, MUNICIPALITIES AND URBAN AREAS

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Chemion, proceed.

Hon. Francis Chemion: Thank you Hon. Speaker. On behalf of the Committee on Lands, Urban, Physical Planning and Housing, here is a report on the vetting of the nominee for the position of Chief Officer, Housing and Municipalities in Bungoma County.

The Executive Summary

As per Section 45 (1) (a) of the County Governments Act 2012 and Section 6 (1) of the Public Appointments, County Assemblies Approval Act 2017, His Excellency the Governor nominated Dr. Rashid Simiyu Fwamba for appointment as Chief Officer, Housing and Municipalities. The nomination was conveyed to the Speaker of the County Assembly through a letter reference number CG/BGM/GVN/CA/Volume 1(005) on 18th June, 2024. The nominee's curriculum vitae and testimonials were enclosed in the letter.

On Tuesday, 18th June, 2024; and pursuant to Standing Order No. 45 (1) (a) of the County Assembly of Bungoma, the Speaker read the message from His Excellency the Governor, communicating the name of the nominee to the House. Pursuant to Section 7 of the Public Appointments (County Assemblies) Approval Act, 2017 and Standing Order No. 56 (1) of the County Assembly of Bungoma Standing Orders, the name of the nominee was committed to the Committee on Lands, Urban, Fiscal Planning and Housing for vetting and reporting to the House within (21) sitting days.

In accordance to Article 196(1) of the Constitution, Section 7 (5) of the Public Appointments, (County Assemblies) Approval Act, 2017 and Standing Order No. 56 (3) of the County Assembly of Bungoma Standing Orders, the Clerk of the County Assembly placed an advertisement in the print media on Thursday, 20th June, 2024, notifying the public that the Committee on Lands, Urban, Fiscal Planning and Housing would conduct the approval hearing on Monday, 1st July, 2024 at 2:30 p.m.

Further, the Clerk invited the public to submit memoranda by way of written statements on oath (affidavits) on the suitability or otherwise of the nominee in accordance to Section 7 (10) of Public Appointments (County Assemblies) Approval Act, 2017. The advertisement indicated that the submissions were to be received by Thursday, 27th June, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. By close of the submission deadline, the Committee had not received any memoranda.

The nominee appeared before the Committee as scheduled on Monday, 1st July, 2024 for approval hearing in accordance to the provisions of the Constitution, the Public Appointments (County Assemblies) Approval Act, 2017 and the County Assembly of Bungoma Standing Orders on the suitability or otherwise for appointment to the position of County Chief Officer. Further, the Committee vetted the nominee as per the provisions and found Dr. Rashid Simiyu Fwamba suitable for the position of the Chief Officer Housing and Municipalities in the Department of Lands, Urban, Fiscal Planning, Housing and Municipalities.

Committee Membership

The Committee on Lands, Urban, Fiscal Planning and Housing, as currently constituted, comprises the following members.

Hon. Francis Chemion-	Chairperson
Hon. Linda Haraka-	Vice Chairperson
Hon. Ali Machani-	Member
Hon. James Barasa-	Member
Hon. Metrine Nangalama-	Member
Hon. Sudi Busolo-	Member
Hon. Hentry Nyongesa-	Member
Hon. Eunice Kirui-	Member
Hon. Edwin Opora-	Member
Hon. Wafula Waiti-	Member
Hon. Mildred Barasa-	Member
Hon. George Makari-	Member
Hon. Cornelius Makhanu-	Member
Hon. Jeremiah Kuloba-	Member

Acknowledgement

I take this opportunity to thank the Offices of the Hon. Speaker and that of the Clerk to the County Assembly of Bungoma for the support the Committee received as it discharged its mandate.

I further extend my appreciation to Committee members for dedicating their time to ensure the vetting exercise was a success. Lastly, I would also like to appreciate the members of the Secretariat for offering the necessary technical support to the Committee while developing this report. It is therefore my pleasant duty and privilege, and on behalf of the Honorable Members of the Committee on Lands, Physical Planning and Housing, to move this report and recommend it to the Assembly for consideration and adoption.

Signed on the 8th of July, 2024 by Hon. Francis Chemion Maasai- MCA, Kaptama; Chairperson, Committee on Lands, Urban, Physical Planning and Housing.

Committee General Recommendations

Having conducted the approval hearing for the nominee, pursuant to Article 179 (2) of the Constitution, Section 4, 7, and 8 of the Public Appointments (County Assemblies) Approval Act, 2017 and Standing Order No. 217 (5) (g), the Committee recommends that this House approves the nomination of Dr. Rashid Simiyu Fwamba for appointment as Chief Officer for Housing and Municipalities in the County Government of Bungoma by His Excellency the Governor of Bungoma County.

There are annexures next to the report. The report is also adopted by all the members. I now take this opportunity to call upon Hon. Opwora to second this report.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Opwora, you proceed and second the report of the Committee.

Hon. Edwin Opwora: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I wish to second the report of the Lands, Urban, and Physical Planning Committee and also laud my able Chair for leading us well. Dr. Rashid Simiyu Fwamba, I believe, is one of the youngest doctors we have in the county.

By virtue of his age, he is a young man who is below 40. That means he is just going to start his life the way they say life starts at 40. But when you look at his academic records, earning a doctorate at that age shows someone who is committed, someone who is yearning to learn more. We believe that his experience of 11 years in consultancy and proposal writing will be handy in managing this Department of Housing. He has been a member of the Institute of Certified Public Accounts, which also gives him leverage in terms of accountability.

Dr. Rashid, I believe, was a chairperson of the task force that audited the pending bills in Bungoma County. This gives him a position to know the in and out of some of the functions of the county and some of the ills that are happening. Through this, he demonstrated his leadership skills in terms of institutional management. Given that he is a head of department at the university where he is a senior lecturer, he showed confidence and great communication skills; which is key in ensuring that he delivers in this position.

He demonstrated teamwork and willingness to work even beyond the department so that he ensures that the County objectives are met. Dr. Rashid, I know you said you should not use a son of soil, but I believe when you see the wave of the Gen- Zs now, they are yearning that they don't have representation and yet, Dr. Rashid is in his late 30s.

This is near to where the Gen- Zs are aiming at. So, I wish to second this report and this nomination that Dr. Rashid Simiyu be considered so that at least the young people in the county can feel close to the leadership of this county and be part and parcel of the development. I second the report.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you Hon. Opwora. I reserve several of my comments over your contributions. I will share with you once you are in my office. Members, allow me proceed and propose a motion for debate.

(Motion proposed)

Hon. Isaiah Sudi: Thank you Hon. Speaker for giving me this opportunity. I am a member of the Lands Committee and actually Dr. Rashid is a very exemplary nominee in terms of articulating issues that were posted to him from members' questions. And what surprised me, when he was asked on how he is going to resolve the issue of Chwele municipality, the way he answered impressed me. He actually said he will involve the stakeholders and see how that issue will be solved once and for all because the Chwele municipality case has affected even Webuye where my colleague Hon. Ali Machani Mutoka should be having a municipality now; but because of the case we have on Chwele, he went ahead and asked how he was going to do it. He said he can even de-link the two so that each of the municipalities carries its own cross since what was happening in Chwele was delaying the aspiration for Webuye municipality to be actualised.

He is a man with vast knowledge and if we utilise him well as a county, we shall benefit, because he also understands the Urban Areas and Cities Act, which most people don't know.

Mr. Speaker: That is a wrong submission before this House. Proceed!

Hon. Isaiah Sudi: Hon. Speaker, thank you so much for that correction but you know the Urban Areas and Cities Act is part of the municipality. It is the one that has created municipalities.

Mr. Speaker: Very true.

Hon. Isaiah Sudi: So, if you want to employ someone and they understand what it means, then that is the right person.

I am very sure with him, the conflict we have, like in my ward, part of it is now in the municipality. We need to actualise and even follow the charters that we have passed as a House so that we move forward. This is the correct person even though some Honourable Members cautioned that education at times does not go with management. People are so learned, but at times management, just like in education, we have had a series of problems and the head of the office has been a professor. Let me hope for this particular case, things will be different because if you look at the CV of this man, the process file was so heavy. This guy has really done so much in academia and if he will translate it in the real contemporary life, I am very sure that it can change our people and our people will get the services they have been yearning for. I submit.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you. I will have Hon. Nganga.

Hon. Everton Nganga: Thank you Hon. Speaker, for giving me this chance to contribute towards this motion. First, I would like to say that I support this motion on the approval for appointment of Dr. CPA Rashid Fwamba. The first time I met Dr. CPA Rashid Fwamba was in 2017. He is a renowned lecturer, he handled me in a number of units.

Mr. Speaker: So are you saying that he is your teacher and you are supporting him because he was your teacher?

Hon. Everton Nganga: That is not the case; wait for my submission.

Mr. Speaker: When you say units, what do you mean?

Hon. Everton Nganga: He handled me in a number of units at Masinde Muliro University during my undergraduate degree. Again, he has been handling me at Kibabii University where I am taking my postgraduate degree.

When I met this guy, he told me that he decided to turn down the job that he had been offered. When I asked him why, he told me that he wanted an institution where he could handle a number of tasks and assist many people. That is why he decided to be at Kibabii University.

Currently, he is working in the Department of SOBE, the School of Business and Economics, as the Dean. This is a guy who is actually handling many tasks. He is a guy who is ready to meet the deadlines in reporting. As a Chief Officer, you have to make some reports. He is a guy who has been actually preparing, submitting marks on time on the students' portal and preparing lists for graduants.

To me, this is the best guy to come and streamline this department. I am happy for Dr. CPA Rashid Fwamba, I am looking at his upward mobility. From this, if the House and I know the House is going to approve, I am sure that at his age, in future, this is a guy who may end up working in the national government and assist the country at large.

I am not a member of the Lands Committee, and because this is a person actually who every Honourable Member would wish to work with; he can handle pressure. He is ready to advise the current government.

I support this motion. At his age actually, let us give him the support when he will be sworn in to work and assist the people of Bungoma County.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you. I will have Simotwo, then Ali Machani.

Hon. Hentry, I have a problem with your contributions on this report and I think you will be shown. Proceed, Simotwo!

Hon. Frankline Simotwo: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Allow me first to appreciate the mover of the motion one Dr. Rashid Simiyu, a nominee for Chief Officer, Housing and Municipalities. Looking at the qualification of Dr. Rashid, allow me say this, that Bungoma is one of the areas that is growing very fast, and looking at the qualification of a man given the docket, I think he is up to the task. I will laud the sentiment said by Hon. Opwora that the age of Dr. Rashid is more viable in this era of Gen-Zs.

Let him also be part of the leadership, part of the officers to work within this country. It is very important that Rashid will not only be working within the area where he was born, but he will work for this great County of Bungoma. Bungoma goes up to Chepyuk, Kaboywo and even Cheptais. That is why we are vetting him in this House.

As we approve Mr. Rashid to take up the mantle in the Department of Housing and Municipalities, I know this is my second term here and I wish to post my sentiments for the posterity of this House; that all appointments that have been done since the inception of this County Government of Bungoma, the Ogiek have not been considered in any appointment and this one I should put this on record so that those ones who will come in 100 years will know and read the sentiments of the Honourable Members not representing the Ogiek.

I am not saying it for this matter, but that one is for posterity. It is good that they will know that I stood firm to speak on their behalf, because these minorities have got equal rights for them also to be part and parcel of this government. I know this is my second year; the other one was five years. I think that one, as I speak here, other issues I will leave to God so that maybe the other time when they make some other appointments for those ones who will be making appointments, I pray for them, so that God may touch their hearts, so that they can also consider the Ogiek to be part of this government.

As we speak, the Ogiek has only one Ward Administrator as an employer in this government. We are not so much desperate, but we say what comes is from God. Otherwise, I want to wish that this House approves this name Rashid Simiyu. According to me, we want to work with him so that we better this County

(Applause)

Mr. Speaker. Thank you Honourable Simotwo. I will have Hon. Ali Machani, but those ones crossing Hon. Simotwo, he is leaving you to God. So wait for some severe punishments.

Hon. Ali Machani: Thank you Hon. Speaker. My colleague has left me with a lot of worries. Now that he is leaving, I don't know if it is me who has been left to God. I think those are good prayers.

I want to support this report before the House. That this House approves the name of CPA Dr. Rashid Simiyu Fwamba, the son of Dr. Saidi Wekulo Fwamba who is also a retired agriculturalist as an engineer in soil matters, but also a lecturer in several universities. I am convinced that this report of the Lands Committee has the goodwill of one, the House, and more so, this is the first time for someone to come from my ward.

I have been on record in all these three regimes. I have been yearning that if God gets it clear from my prayers, I would be part of the Executive through someone from my ward holding a senior position. Not that we don't have people in this county government, but we want if someone is in the County government to serve all the people across the county. That is why I have been in this House and this being my third time. I have been on the Committee on Appointments Committee approving, and the last time I was with you, Speaker, and the Leader of Majority, but I used to pray like what my brother has pronounced! That at one , let the appointing authority remember Maraka, and time has come.

Why are we saying that when people are getting appointed they should appear before this House and be vetted, then approved to serve the county? One, we should not agitate that people must be your relatives, that someone should be of your religion, that someone has serious qualifications, forgetting that we have also people serving the system with serious papers.

As I said before, it is all about commitment. The young man we are talking about, CPA Dr. Rashid Simiyu Fwamba has demonstrated this. One, in Webuye East and more so in my ward, every time I have gone to burials, churches, he does not care about being a Muslim or not; he used to send some contribution, either himself when he is at home, and in most cases through the mother or the father. You will always hear his name and that is not the only case! It is only that if I say this, Hon. Kawa is out, he cannot feel anything.

When I was starting MUJI Vocational Training Centre, I started in a shop. I did a harambee, The Hon. Speaker sent me some money, and I think he can forget, but he gave me some reasonable money. The father to Dr. Rashid Fwamba and Rashid gave me money and so many others including Hon. Violet Makhanu who is in this House.

What am saying is that most of our young boys and girls when they participate much in community support, in most cases, and the Hon. Leader Majority will agree with me; they are carried up with some idea that they should contest. They don't see something else that they can use to support the community. This young man has my blessings, and you know I am always controversial when it comes to a time when people are not towing the line; but if he will follow the background of the father and the family, I think he will give what this House wants from him.

During the COVID time, he did some support, even in other wards like Musikoma and other areas and also we checked on the family background and how he relates with people

You know, we have been approving people in this House with serious purpose. Some professors but within two years, they change and shows their true colours. Sometimes they even incite the public to attack the Honourable Members just because they are now accounting officers or policy makers.

We have given people positions, and you can find that at times you go to the streets and people regret and say, why did this Assembly approve such and such a person? I wish to assure this House that now that this is the first time we are getting a senior position, the name of a Chief Officer from Maraka; I think let him demonstrate that our dreams did not go wrong by serving all the members. He should not even give me favours in terms of listening too much to me instead of listening to all leaders who are in this county in terms of development.

I wish to say this; that we have so many challenges in this Department; not that we don't have professionals, but we need people who can listen to leaders when they are raising issues. I remember when I posed a question, because Hon. Sudi and Hon. Nyongesa were looking at me at that time when we were vetting. That I should not ask questions, because he comes from my area but from experience, I knew that if I don't ask him questions, he may think that I am just there waiting for him to be approved. I wanted to see if he had knowledge on what he was going to do in terms of the budget making process, County Fiscal Strategy Paper, and the County Integrated Development Plan. He was able to convince the Honourable Members and they gave him serious challenges; that we don't want more explanation, can you go to specifics.

They provoked him; but when provoked, he was very much stable, answering, because he is not coming here only as a professional, but he should also have shock absorbers to control pressure. When an elected leader is provoked from where he comes, where he will go is just in that office of a Chief Officer or a CECM and being an accounting officer in that Department, he must understand that departments are there and he must listen.

Hon. Speaker, you have even assisted people from this county but I can't remember any one time you went to an office, I don't want to mention; you wanted just a small box culvert but when I asked one of the CECMs those days, he said, the Speaker is against us, I cannot give him a box culvert. Had he known that he was talking about a ward where I come from, and I had also an interest with that box culvert...Nowadays, when you meet him on the streets, he does not appear like someone who was holding that position. What I am putting across is that don't forget the hand gave you and then you start hitting back.

I wish to thank the Honourable Members who signed against this report to show that it should move forward to this House to be approved and I want to thank you Hon. Speaker with the secretariat. That for the first time you have managed to bring a name from my Ward to serve in this County. What I want to appeal to the nominee wherever he is, when he is given this office, he should serve people of Bungoma County diligently.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you Hon. Ali. Hon. Allan you will speak then I the mover to prepare to reply accordingly.

Hon. Allan Nyongesa: Thank you Hon. Speaker. Already a lot has been said, I won't take long. This is a person I have known for some time now and is a person who literally inspired me and took me to class to pursue my postgraduate. He is currently my teacher at the University and just to say something about him. This is man of integrity and very honest. As it has already been said, he is well educated and he is also holding very influential positions at the university, yet he is down to earth and very humble. I am sure, if this House approves Dr. Rashid Fwamba, the Department will benefit a lot from his virtues. I support Hon. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you Hon. Allan, Hon. Chemion reply to the Motion and the other request, I think it was for Hon. Kirong' but I think...Proceed.

Hon. Francis Chemion (*The Mover to reply*): Thank you Hon. Speaker. As it has been said by Honourable Members, I don't know why but Hon. Nganga today has benefited a lot; from morning we have been approving CPAs meaning the Governor must have gone into detail in coming up with these names.

Dr. CPA Rashid Fwamba as has been said is also my teacher, I am a PHD student at Kibabii University where he lectures, only that I have not started my classes, I have just been given a division but I will be starting very soon. Now that we are having Dr. Fwamba here, I am very sure as a person I will benefit and also he will benefit our community. He is a very humble man...very humble. We tried to push him to the wall, asked him very difficult questions but he was able to withstand whatever we asked. From our end, we know he is going to do a very good job.

There is an issue that has come out very clearly in our submissions today, what is the relationship between the level of education and production? We have this slogan that we say "*garbage in garbage out*," so this guy has a lot of garbage in and therefore we expect very good garbage out! Very good production from his side because he has 17 publications... to write 17 publications is not a joke, I have not looked at the journals that he has written; maybe there could be more. He has assisted very many students in coming up with their thesis, the proposals for their thesis and projects. That sums up the major pro bono work that Dr. Rashid has been doing; assisting students, training them, helping them come up with the project proposals and thesis proposals.

That is the hardest part in education whenever you proceed to post-graduate, where the issue is not course work, it is either coming up with a project or a thesis and if you do not get a good mentor like Dr. Rashid Fwamba, you can easily run away.

There are very many students who join and they don't finish the work because of how difficult it is to come up with those two documents. So, education is important and now that we have one of the best in the Housing and Municipality Department, we expect a lot.

He is also representing the Muslim religion and this brings diversity. There will now be diversity in that group of Chief Officers... we will have somebody also representing the other religion in the Muslim world.

Members have talked of the upward mobility, he is below 40, God willing he may go very far based on the knowledge that he has and the papers. Hon. Simotwo has talked of posterity matters. As a County we are praying, now that he is from the Government side, we are praying that future appointments will look into also benefiting Chepyuk Ward. We believe that God willing, I am here with the Leader of Majority who is representing our government side. In future, we will also have to look at Chepyuk; let them also have a slot in this County so that they don't feel so much marginalized.

Now, these County Officers that we are approving are called County Chief Officers, County meaning they will serve the whole County. They won't serve Maraka Ward, they will not serve any other Ward but they will serve the whole County!

Finally Hon. Speaker, we normally tell all the nominees in this House that; there are two arms of government. For this case, they will be in the Executive wing. Let them not interfere with the legislative wing at their levels. Let them stick to their line to avoid conflict of interest. Because we have our work spelled out, they also have their work spelled out by the County Governments' Act. Let them stick there; let them serve the people as Chief Officers and not as semi politicians outside there. We normally caution them. We cautioned even our nominee here that as we approve him, he will be expected to stick to what he has been appointed to do.

We also take the words of Hon. Allan that, this guy has inspired many people to go back to school. Had I met him earlier, I could have even completed my course work. As from what Hon. Allan has said, he could have even inspired me to do the course work. On the integrity issues you know Muslims most of the time they are very straight apart from a few members that we may not wish to mention outside there. Not here! You know Hon. Machani is one of the most honest Honourable Members, and that is why his prayers to Allah have borne fruits. Today I wish to urge the Honourable House, let us approve CPA Dr. Rashid Fwamba to take over the position of Chief Officer Housing and Municipality. Thank you Hon. Speaker.

(Applause)

Mr. Speaker: Thank you Hon. Chemion for your reply to the motion at hand. Honourable Members, allow me to finish this section of this motion, by putting a question to the motion that has just been debated and concluded.

(Question put and agreed to)

(Applause)

For purposes of record, the House has approved the nomination of Dr. Rashid Fwamba for appointment as the Chief Officer for Housing and Municipalities, in the County Government of Bungoma by His Excellency the Governor of Bungoma County. That being the position Honourable Members, Section 11(1) will come into play;

Notification of the decision: The Clerk of the County Assembly of Bungoma shall notify the appointing authority of the decision of the County Assembly within 14 days of the decision, Section 11(2), the appointing authority shall upon approval of the nominee for the appointment by the County Assembly and subject to the applicable written law; appoint the nominee within a period of 11 days from the date of notification of the decision of the Assembly under section 11(1) accordingly.

We go to the next item.

3. MOTION BY THE COMMITTEE ON YOUTHS AND SPORTS ON THE VETTING OF THE NOMINEE
FOR POSITION OF CHIEF OFFICER, YOUTH AND SPORTS

Mr. Speaker: Honourable Catherine, you have the honour on behalf of the Committee to move the motion, you proceed accordingly.

Hon Catherine Kituyi: On behalf of the Committee on Youth Affairs....

Mr. Speaker: The microphone is meant for you. You are very far from it. We aren't hearing you.

Hon Catherine Kituyi: Okay Sir, Thank you. On behalf of the Committee on Youth Affairs and Sports, I rise to move a motion on the report on the vetting of the nominee for appointment as a Chief Officer in the Department of Youths And Sports.

I will start with membership of the committee;

Committee membership

Hon. Violet Makhanu	-	Chairperson
Hon. Grace Sundukwa	-	Vice Chair Person
Hon. Abraham Obama	-	Member
Hon. Martin Chemorion	-	Member
Hon. Timothy Chikati	-	Member
Hon. Metrine Wilson	-	Member
Hon. Cornelius Makhanu	-	Member
Hon. Charles Nangulu	-	Member
Hon. Allan Nyongesa	-	Member

Hon. Caleb Wanjala	-	Member
Hon. Iddi Owongo	-	Member
Hon. Catherine Kituyi	-	Member
Hon. Dorcas Ndasaba	-	Member
Hon. Everlyne Anyango	-	Member
Hon. Florence Juma	-	Member

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Hon. Speaker I take this opportunity to acknowledge all the membership of the Committee on Youth Affairs and Sports for their input and their valuable contribution and time during the approval hearings and deliberations during the compilation of this report. The Committee also takes this opportunity to thank the office of the Speaker and that of the Clerk of the County Assembly for the logistical and technical support accorded to it during the exercise.

The Committee is indebted to the secretariat for their dedication throughout the exercise.

Finally the Committee expresses its gratitude to the nominee for appearing for approval hearing.

On behalf of the Committee on Youth Affairs and Sports and pursuant to Section 91 of the Public Appointment (County Assemblies) Approval Act of 2017, and the provisions of Standing Order No. 217(5) (g), it is now my pleasure and duty on behalf of the Chair of course. I am privileged to present to the House the report on the Committee on the approval hearing of the nominee for appointment to the person of Chief Officer in the Department of Youth and Sports.

It is signed by the Chairperson Hon. Violet Makhanu MCA, Mihuu Ward...

Executive Summary

Pursuant to Section 45(1) of the County Governments' Act, 2012, Section (4) of the Public Appointments (County Assemblies) Approval Act No. 5 of 2017; His Excellency the Governor nominated Timothy Wanjala Wafula of ID No. 20153715 for appointment as Chief Officer in the Department of Youth and Sports. The nomination was conveyed to the Speaker of the County Assembly through letter Reference number CG/BGM/CVN/CA/VOL.1/005 dated 18th June, 2024. On Tuesday, 18th June, 2024 in the afternoon sitting, the Speaker of the County Assembly relayed the message from His Excellency the Governor communicating the nomination of the nominee to the House pursuant to Standing Order No. 45 (3) (c), Section 4 of the Public Appointment (County Assemblies) Approval Act, 2017.

The name of the nominee stood committed to the Committee on Youth and Sports for vetting and reporting to the House within 21 sitting days in accordance to Standing Order No. 217 (5) (g). Consequently, and in accordance to Section 7(10) of the Public Appointments (County Assemblies) Approval Act, 2017, the Clerk of the County Assembly placed an advertisement in the print media on Thursday 20th June, 2024 inviting the public to submit memoranda by way of written statements on oaths on the suitability or otherwise of the nominee in accordance with the

Public Appointments (County Assemblies) Approval Act, 2017. The advertisement indicated that the submissions were to be received by Thursday 27th June, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. By close of the submission dateline, the Committee had not received any memoranda touching on the suitability of the nominee for appointment.

Similarly, in fulfillment of the provisions of Article 196(1) of the Constitution Section 7(5) of the Public Appointments (County Assemblies) Approval Act, 2017 and Standing Order No. 56(3), the Clerk of the County Assembly on the same advert dated Thursday, 27th June, 2024 notified the public through the print media that the Committee on Youth Affairs and Sports would conduct the approval hearing on Monday 1st July, 2024 at 3:30 p.m.

The nominee appeared before the Committee as scheduled on Monday 1st July at 3:30 p.m for approval hearings in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution, the Public Appointment (County Assemblies) Approval Act, 2017 and the County Assembly Standing Orders on their suitability or otherwise for appointment to the position of Chief Officer.

The Committee having considered the nominee's C.V, nominee's filled questionnaire and having heard his oral submissions, it unanimously agreed that this House approves the nomination of Mr. Timothy Wafula Wanjala for appointment by His Excellency the Governor as the Chief Officer for the Department of Youth Affairs and Sports in Bungoma County Government

Mr. Speaker: Give us 4.0; the signing cannot come before 4.0

Hon. Catherine Kituyi: Thank you Speaker

Committee's general recommendation

Having considered the suitability, capacity and integrity of the nominee pursuant to Section 92 of the Public Appointments (County Assemblies) Approval Act No. 5 of 2017 and the County Assembly of Bungoma Standing Order No. 217(5)(g), the Committee unanimously recommend that the County Assembly approves the nomination and subsequent appointment of Mr. Timothy Wafula Wanjala of ID No. 20153715 for the position of Chief Officer in the Department of Youth and Sports in the County Government of Bungoma.

The report is dully signed by all the 15 members and we have the annexures. I therefore call upon my able Chair Hon. Violet to second the motion.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Violet the Chair of the Committee of Youth and Sports; you have the honour of seconding your Committee's report

Hon. Violet Makhanu: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I wish to appreciate the Member of the Committee who read the report on the Floor of this House. She has done it so well and it is well heard to all the members of this House. I chaired the vetting session for this nominee and I have never seen him. I met him for the first time during the vetting session. He comes from Mitua-Soysambu ward in Tongaren sub-county. Academically he holds a Bachelor's Degree in Business

Management from Mt. Kenya University attained in 2013; he is a diploma holder in Co-operative Management from Sigalagala Technical Training Institute attained in 2004 and also holds a certificate in Small Business Management from National Institute of Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development.

He has a working experience of 19 years and according to the way he was responding, he has served as the officer in Kenya National Chamber of Commerce- Kitale branch between January 2005 and September 2005, as a microfinance officer for K-Rep bank. That means he is well equipped with issues of accounting. Between January and September, 2006, he worked under devolution in Kakamega County Department of Co-operative Development and marketing in Likuyani-Lugari Sub-county from October, 2006 to July, 2023.

Until his appointment, he has been working in the County Government of Kakamega at the National Agriculture Value Chain Management Development project as a County Agricultural officer as from 1st July, 2023. We had the honour to ask a number of questions to him that he responded so well. Example of *pro-bono* works he said that he has been involved in a number of *pro bono* activities including donating to churches to enable construction with a minimum of Kshs200 every Sunday...

He also mobilized youth and women to form cooperative societies within his ward and spend at least Kshs50, 000. He has also sponsored some ward level tournaments and donated a trophy worth Kshs20, 000. When we wanted him to tell us whether he knows the work of Chief Officer, the nominee was well aware of what is to be done by the Chief Officer and he was aware of his duties. He said if he was to be appointed, he enumerated some including being an accounting officer to the Department, preparing work plans, budgeting and submitting official reports.

When asked whether he knew about on the budget making process, the nominee was well aware about the budget making cycle and process including the making of the CIDP, public participation and the County Assembly Consideration and Approval. As a person who was chairing this session, we had quite a number of questions and the way Mr. Timothy was responding to them, he proved to us that he was able and could move this sector to a different level. I may not have time to talk about everything we engaged on; but maybe just a few I have mentioned. I wish to second the report.

(Applause)

Mr. Speaker: Thank you Hon Violet for seconding the report of the Committee. Honourable Members, allow me now at this juncture to propose a motion for debate by the House.

(Motion proposed)

I will proceed members, those days they used to ask on the market whenever they go to an auction ring for buying and selling the animals; the one for cows specifically. They used to ask who is the owner these cows or this bull. Of late people stopped asking those questions whenever

we are doing such transactions. Allow me put a question and allow the House makes a decision over.

(Question put and agreed to)

The County Assembly has approved the nomination and subsequent appointment of Mr. Timothy Wafula Wanjala ID No. 20153715 to the position of the Chief Officer in the Department of Youth and by H.E the Governor of Bungoma County.

(Applause)

Honourable Members, to that extent, I will go back section 11 (1) of the Public Appointments (County Assemblies) Approval Act No. 5 of 2017.

Notification of the decision: The Clerk shall notify the appointing authority of the decision of the County Assembly within 14 days of the decision.

11 (2) the appointing authority shall uphold the approval of the nominee for appointment by the County Assembly in subject to applicable written law appoint a nominee within a period of seven (7) days from the date of the notification of the decision of the Assembly under sub section 1 of Section 11 of this Act.

So in brief the Clerk should be forwarding the said names once they are ready to the authority for subsequent appointment.

ADJOURNMENT

Thank you Honourable Members who have sat up to this hour for this serious session. This is one of your core mandates in this House. From the Order Paper, that was the last item. We will have to adjourn for today and resume tomorrow at 2:30 p.m.

The House rose at 4:36 p.m.