

**COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF BUNGOMA**

**COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF BUNGOMA**

**COUNTY ASSEMBLY DEBATES**

**THE DAILY HANSARD**

**WEDNESDAY, 30<sup>th</sup> APRIL, 2025**

**Afternoon Sitting**

## COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF BUNGOMA

### THE DAILY HANSARD

**WEDNESDAY, 30<sup>th</sup> APRIL, 2025**

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

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

### PRAYER

### COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

**Mr. Speaker:** Honourable Members, in our public gallery and in the speaker's gallery, we have the following officers of the Government of Bungoma, the CECs, Chief Officers, Directors, and Officers from the Ministry of Finance. I'll be calling out their names; they will stand up and be able to resume their seats accordingly;

Ms. Caroline Khalayi, CEC for Health,  
Dr. David Wanyonyi Wamamili, CEC for Public Administration,  
Engineer Agnes Wachiye, CEC for Education,  
Mr. Robert Simiyu, Chief Officer - Finance,  
Mr. Edward Makhandia, Chief Officer - Roads,  
Ms. Evelyn Wekesa, Chief Officer - Public Service Administration,  
Mr. Nicholas Kiboi, Chief Officer - Tourism,  
Mr. Moses Walekhwa Acting Director - Revenue,  
Mr. Ambrose Makokha, Director - Accounting Services,  
Mr. James Watiti, Acting Director - Planning,  
Mr. Augustine Kipsang, Coordinator - SPCU,  
Ms. Esther Mukhula, Acting Director - Budget,  
Mr. Alex Odanga, Director - Procurement,  
Mr. Onesmas Makhanu, Director - Statistics,  
Ms. Mary Mulei, Acting Director - Internal Audit,  
Ms. Mercy Nalyanya, Secretariat,

Yaya Mutali, Secretariat,  
Mohamed Sifuna, Secretariat,  
Faith Masika, Secretariat,  
Edith Mukara, Secretariat,  
Gloria Nasambu, Secretariat, and  
Humphrey Simiyu, Secretariat.

You are all welcome to join us in our today's budget presentation before the Whole House.

### **On the Public Pronouncement of the Budget for the Financial Year 2025/2026**

Honourable Members,

Before we proceed with today's special sitting, I wish to take this opportunity to formally welcome the County Executive Committee Member (CECM) for Finance and Economic Planning to this Honourable Assembly.

Today marks a key milestone in our county's budget cycle. In accordance with Standing Order 237, and pursuant to Section 129(2) (a) and Section 132(1) and (2) of the Public Finance Management Act, the CECM is scheduled to make the public pronouncement of the budget policy highlights and revenue-raising measures for the Financial Year 2025/2026.

This event is a constitutional and statutory obligation and plays a vital role in ensuring transparency, accountability, and public engagement in our budgeting process. It outlines the Executive's fiscal intentions, priority programs, and strategies for resource mobilization in the coming year.

Honourable Members,

Let me remind the House that, in accordance with Standing Order 237(3), "*The public pronouncement shall be heard without question or clarification.*" Therefore, the County Executive Committee Member for Finance and Economic Planning shall be heard in silence, and no interruptions, questions, or comments will be permitted during the delivery of the statement.

This pronouncement signals the beginning of the County Assembly's formal role in budget scrutiny. I encourage all Members to take keen interest in the details presented today, as they will inform the work of our Sectoral Committees and guide the broader debate on the proposed estimates.

With those remarks, I now invite the County Executive Committee Member (CECM) for Finance and Economic Planning CPA Chrispinus Barasa to proceed and deliver the public pronouncement of the Budget Policy Highlights and Revenue-Raising Measures for the Financial Year 2025/2026.

You are most welcome to address this Assembly.

**CECM, Finance:** Honourable Speaker of the County Assembly of Bungoma, Honourable Members of the County Assembly, Clerk to the County assembly, ladies and gentlemen, allow me to first thank His Excellency the Governor for working around the clock by convening Cabinet meetings within constrained time to ensure this document is in place. I would also like to appreciate my team at the County Treasury, the Honourable Speaker, and distinguished members of this County Assembly for their enormous support and contribution throughout the process of preparing this document. Honourable members, pursuant to section 104(1) and 129(1)(2) and (a), the County-Treasury is mandated to prepare and submit the annual budget estimates to the County Assembly after approval from Executive Committee.

Honourable members, the budget submitted is the County Government of Bungoma Budget Estimates for the financial year 2025-2026. Allow me to make the following presentation. Our total resource envelope is Kshs15.8 billion. The budget is strategically divided between the two arms of government. That's County Executive is Kshs. 14, 669,322. The County Assembly is Kshs. 1, 212,107,539.

Our resource envelope includes the following;

Equitable share is Kshs. 11, 688,348,752.

Locally generated revenue Kshs. 671, 57,448

Appropriation in Aid Kshs. 1, 295, 70,023

Conditional grants, National Government totals to Kshs. 572, 823,419

The expenditure of this envelope has been categorized into two;

That's the recurrent and development. The recurrent total totals to Kshs. 10, 726,441,565, that represents 68%. On development, Kshs. 5, 154,966,196 representing 32%. On economic classification, personnel emoluments represent 43% that is Kshs. 6, 830,374,680. On grants on

recurrent Kshs. 211, 769,720 that represents 1%. On operation and maintenance, we have represented 23% that is Kshs. 3, 684,297,135. Total recurrent that is Kshs. 10, 726, 441,565 that represents 68 per cent. Then on county project allocation on development we have 22 per cent that is 3,478,006,967.

On grants on development Kshs. 1,676,959,229 representing 11%.

Total development is 5,154,666,166 that is 32%.

### **On co-funding on donor funding projects**

We had allocated Kshs.311, 603, 000 for matters counterpart funding.

### **On public funds**

1. Bungoma County Trade Loan Kshs. 20 million,
2. Bungoma Women Empowerment Fund Kshs. 5, 125,000.
3. Bungoma County Disability Empowerment Fund Kshs. 5,125,000
4. Bungoma County Disaster and Emergency Fund Kshs. 100 million.

### **Appropriation in Aid**

The total amount allocated is Kshs.1.2 Billion, analyzed as follows.

Bokoli Sub-county Hospital, Kshs. 57, 248,430.

Bumula Sub-County Hospital, Kshs. 44, 249,645.

Bungoma Referral Hospital, Kshs. 420, 989,950.

Cheptais Sub-county Hospital, Kshs. 55, 234,530.

Chwele Sub-county Hospital, Kshs. 56, 183,540

Kimilili Sub-County Hospital, Kshs. 98, 227,350.

Mt. Elgon Sub-county Hospital, Kshs. 43, 405,440.

Naitiri Sub-County Hospital, Kshs. 41, 010,625.

Sinoko Sub-County Hospital, Kshs. 8, 688,198.

Sirisia Sub-County Hospital, Kshs. 42, 479,585.

Webuye County Hospital, Kshs. 300, 761,430

Public Health, Kshs. 21 million

Primary Health Care, Kshs. 105, 600,000.

## Local revenue

We projected local revenue of Kshs. 671, 067,448 when you look at the local revenue trend or the current performance as of 29<sup>th</sup> April 2025 on comparison years;

Revenue stream	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Yearly local revenue	342,708,596	359,244,838	409,280,896

The efforts being made include the following:

1. To perform rapid initiative for the month of May and June as a measure of 2025-2026 strategies.
2. To evaluate and harmonize the performance of the investment teams on the ground to avoid leakage but also collect more through planned commitment with taxpayers and this is through meetings.
3. To collect land permits. We link it to issue a single business permit to prompt landowners to pay. So that it becomes a condition before we issue single business permits. We must now put a condition that you must clear land rates first.
4. Maximize the office of County Attorney to demand the outstanding revenue arrears.

For the departments, honourable members, allow me to mention key strategic development and initiative in every sector.

a. **Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, Irrigation and Cooperative Development.**

- In agriculture, we intend to have Farm Input Support Program targeting 500 beneficiaries that is Kshs. 7, 500,000.
- Farm Input support for Fertilizer targeting 500 beneficiaries for all the awards, KShs.117Million.
- On livestock, we also plan to have artificial insemination subsidy program totaling Kshs.1.2Million.
- Then we have aquaculture input support, that's fingerlings, fish feeds, accessories, Kshs.1.7 Million.
- Then procurement of vaccines and other veterinarian supply to disease and vector control, Kshs. 4.6Million.
- Then fish farm support, Kshs. 4.1 Million.
- On cooperative, there will be supply of coffee for nursery establishment to coffee cooperative societies Kshs.2 Million.

b. **On Environment,**

- Climate change institution support, we have Kshs.14 million.

- Climate change resilience investment grant Kshs.153 488,888.
- Climate change resilience investment fund, co-funding Kshs.91 million.
- Then we have solid waste management Kshs.350 836,825.

**c. Water and Natural Resources**

- Operation of rig Kshs.18, 392,019.
- Then on KOICA phase three, we have Kshs.500Million.
- Drainage and storm water management we have provided Kshs.8Million.

**d. Roads, Infrastructure and Public Works**

- Upgrading of urban road, that is Salmond/Khalaba River, that is an ongoing project we have allocated Kshs.73, 973,232.
- Upgrading of rural roads, Misiku/Brigidia Road, we have provided Kshs.128,759,874
- Then rehabilitation of bridges Kshs.21Million, that is new.
- Maintenance of rural unpaved roads framework, that's 100 kilometers, Kshs.33, 071,081, ongoing.
- Maintenance of rural unpaved roads, county routine maintenance, that's under road maintenance levy Kshs.184, 554,999.

**e. Education**

- Construction of Homecraft Centers that is Ng'oli Kshs. 5 Million.
- Construction of Model ECD Webuye East under legacy projects Kshs. 20 Million.
- Vocational training, construction of Model VTC Center, Sirisia Kshs. 25 Million.
- Refurbishment of 10 VTC across the county that is Kshs.10, 750,000.
- On VTC capitation, we have provided for Kshs.10Million
- On equipping of VTC, we have provided for Kshs. 6.2Million.

**f. Health**

- Medical drugs, total provision is Kshs. 348, 389,178.
- Dressing and other pharmaceutical medical items Kshs. 236, 190,649.
- Provision for fungicides, insecticides and sprays Kshs. 31157129.23.
- Laboratory material supply and small items were provided for Kshs.137, 796,431.
- Food and ration were provided for Kshs.141, 399,757.
- Purchase of beddings and linen were provided for Kshs.14, 392,605.
- Purchase of x-ray supplies were provided for Kshs.17, 545,999.

We have also provided for completion of Sirisia Hospital Kshs.20M, completion of I.C.U renal block Kshs.10M, completion of theatre at Bokoli Kshs.10M, equipping of morgue at Kimilili Hospital Kshs.11,500,000, medical equipment for Cheptais Sub county Hospital Kshs.11,463,801.

## Trade

Honourable Members on trade, we have provided for completion of Kamukuywa market that is Kshs.30M then construction of six sanitation facilities on markets at Kshs.18,054,104 then also county trade loans of Kshs.20 Million.

On energy, we have provided for lighting maintenance framework contract which is Kshs.21,372,408. The lighting maintenance framework will ensure that lights are controlled so that the lights are not seen working during the day and they go off during the night.

This will also involve following up with Kenya Power on payment of way leave charges. If it is fully paid, it can assist mitigate the electricity bills. The way leave charges include also laying of cables along road reserves, street lighting application, way leave on road reserves, electricity and telephone. Another allocation for energy is the installation of transformers through REREC co-funding Kshs. 6,797,697.79 then also installation of solar backup Kshs. 3 Million.

On industrialization, we have County Aggregation Industrial Park co-funding 40 Million. Then County Aggregation Industrial Park grant Kshs.133, 368,420.

On lands, we have preparation of Integrated Physical Development Plan that is Kshs. 3, 567,947 which is new. Acquisition of land for Matulo Airstrip that is provided at Kshs.40 Million. Developing of the GIS lab Kshs. 20Million then renovation of Webuye town hall at Kshs. 5 Million.

Then on Housing, that is renovation and refurbishment of 12 County Residential Houses, we have provided for Kshs.5, 766,407.

Then security fencing of County Residential estates Kshs. 2 Million. Then construction of Governors residence provided Kshs. 3, 591,580. Then also Deputy Governors official residence we have provided Kshs. 3 Million.

Then construction of office block, we have provided Kshs. 55 Million. Then KISP infrastructure grant slum upgrading has been provided at Kshs. 297,400,190.

On Bungoma Municipality, there is proposed construction of market stalls, kitchen stalls, toilet blocks and associated external works at Kanduyi. We have provided Kshs. 47,326,103. Construction of urban store, modern drainage channels at Kshs.15 Million. Construction of 0.6 pedestrian walkway along Simba street at Kshs.8Million. Construction of car park area and toilet within municipal area especially around Khetias Supermarket, Kanduyi and the stretch along

County Assembly at Kshs.12 Million. Then proposed construction, landscape, fencing, recreation park with water and field Kshs. 20,065,924.

In Kimilili municipality, as installation of streetlight within the municipality Kshs.12,727,74. Construction of sanitation block at Amutala Stadium Kshs.6 Million. Construction of sewer line at Kshs.45,368,215. Construction of Perimeter fence at Amutala stadium Kshs.14, 500,000 then construction of auction ring Thursday market at Kshs. Kshs. 2 Million. Then construction of open market shades Thursday market along Katiba to Kapsokwony Road at Kshs.6, 500,000.

On Gender and Culture it is worth noting that *Mwacha Mila ni mtumwa*. As Bungoma, our heritage is our wealth. We have provided funds to protect and preserve our gender matters like that of women and persons with disability and culture. To motivate and protect our future generation from drug abuse and other negative influence, funds have been provided to promote youth talents.

On Gender mainstreaming, we have provided 10 Million to support women promotion activities and also people with disability Kshs.5 Million. On promotion of culture that is protecting promotion of our culture, we have provided Kshs.6 Million. Then construction and equipping of women leadership and empowerment center, we have provided Kshs. 8,209,390.

Then on Youths and Sports for promotion of youth talents, promotion of music, acrobats, artwork, drama, drug abuse sensitization we have provided Ksh.12 Million. Promotion on sports activities like rugby, hockey, paragoli P.W.C, we have also provided Ksh.10 Million .Installation of concrete pillars, chainlink and construction of abolition blocks at Maraka stadium at Kshs. 5Million and Honourable members on County Public Service Board we have also provided for the construction of County Public Service Board office block that is Kshs.13,232,215.

On Public Service Management and Administration, the department is to perform the *huduma kwa wote*. We have provided funds for civic education for the purpose of educating the public on public participation awareness and policies guidelines and all the laws of the county to be known to the public including programs that benefit them.

The rent payment is reducing drastically because all departments that have rent cost must find space in the existing government buildings which have already been identified; this will ensure the money meant for rent is used for development purpose.

On maximizing the decentralized units, we encourage departments to use sub-county, ward and village unit to coordinate their activities to cut cost of supervision by walking from the headquarter.

S/NO.	PROJECT NAME	LOCATION	COST (Kshs.)	ALLOCATION
1	Civic education		4,000,000	

<b>2</b>	<b>Sub-county administration</b>		<b>8,472,553</b>	
<b>3</b>	<b>Rent</b>		<b>1,000,000</b>	
4	KDSP 11		352,500,000	352,500,000
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>353,613,928</b>

Honorable Members,

## **FINANCE AND ECONOMIC PLANNING**

Honorable Members,

For the purpose of Promoting good governance and enforcing fiscal discipline the County Treasury has put in place the following strategies:

### **a. Management of pending bills:**

The pending bills/accounts payable has consciously been increasing and fluctuating despite payments, to control this menace, pending bill project book has been prepared and ready for distribution to all honourable members and executive team to the project and to avoid ineligible bills being paid a committee has been put in place to very before any payment is made.

The amount allocated for pending bills for the year 2025/2026 is Kshs. 818,903,199

### **b. Management of wage bill:**

Cabinet approved a wage bill management plan where restrictions were placed on recruitment.

The expected recruited is for only technical officers in all the sectors currently to cater for more public works officers like QS, Architects, engineers in roads, directors in trade, education. County Attorney office and others, any natural attrition, retirement spaces will be directed to the technical officers to improve service delivery.

### **c. Financial reporting Transparency and Accountability**

## **ACCRUAL ACCOUNTING**

It is important to note that accrual accounting transition guideline has been issued and it is expected that 2025/2026 all financial assets and financial liabilities as well as all inventories are fully identified and all entities must have a transition committee as well as the project manager to oversee

## **FINANCIAL REPORTING**

All accountants in the departments will no longer have transaction rights but have viewer rights, their primary role will be preparation of financial statements to ensure accuracy of financial information, preparation of vouchers and IFMIS transactions will be left to assistant accountants in the departments.

It is also expected that all level four, five hospitals will transact in IFMIS and the Health Management System be fully function to improve on accountability and revenue collection as well as financial reporting.

## **TRANSPARENCY ACCOUNTABILITY**

a) **EX-CHEQUE PROCESSING:** For the purpose of ensuring that payments of projects are done timely and all departments are served fairly a cash management advisory committee has been established as per paragraph 86(1)(2) of PFM regulation 2025 to handle the following:

- i. The monthly exchequer is equitably distributed to the departments and entities as per the appropriated budget.
- ii. All requisitions are processed based on FIRST COME FIRST SERVED to avoid long jump payment.
- iii. To ensure that donor funds are processed within the required timeline.

**b) MONITORING AND EVALUATION:**

The County Treasury is Reorganizing the directorate to make it more vibrant and relevant to ensure matters project information is more visible, fluctuation of project data and avoid risk of creation of pending bills/payables.

<b>Project</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Amount (Kshs.)</b>
Infrastructural development: Emergency Fund	Expenditure on Emergencies	100,000,000
Retention	Development projects	100,000,000
Revenue Management System	Management of Revenue System	25,000,000
Health Management System	Health Management Information System	17,000,000
Infrastructure development	Refurbishment of Buildings	20,000,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>262,000,000</b>

## **COUNTY ASSEMBLY**

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
Construction of New Chambers	Construction of New chambers	177,490,260.00
Refurbishment of Buildings	Refurbishment of Non-Residential Buildings	51,000,000.00
	Refurbishment of Buildings - Other	15,000,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>243,490,260.00</b>

## WARD BASED PROJECTS

Ward based projects fulfills the spirit of devolution and for the financial year 2025/2026 it has been allocated 1.35 billion accounting for 26% of the development, this amount is significant and for the arrangement to be sustainable, it must operate within some minimum guideline to resolve on the following:

- a. The predictability of the ward based provision in the budget given the amount involved require a stable percentage that is anchored on the development budget allocation.
- b. To separate the level of projects that can be undertaken by ward based arrangement and what the department can do to avoid duplications and competition.
- c. To provide identity and uniformity on project management in the following areas:
  - i Carrying out the pre-feasibility study which is a condition under PIMregulation2022
  - ii Preparation of the bills of quantities under standardized approach in good time
  - iii Planned advertisement of projects and handover of projects
  - iv Controlled project inspections and supervision of projects
  - v Management of savings arising after awarded contracts and control of ward ledgers
  - vi Make use of already designated staff for ward based project.
  - vii Ensuring all wards allocate amount for continuous maintenance of projects like ECDE classrooms build in 2017 require maintenance

## SECTOR WBP FY 2024/25

No	Department/Sector Allocation	Total Allocation
1	Agriculture & Irrigation	30,500,000.00
2	Livestock & fisheries	95,100,000.00
3	Education & Vocational Training	127,500,000.00
4	Health & Sanitation	70,700,000.00
5	Roads & Infrastructure	728,300,000.00
6	Trade & Industrialization	75,800,000.00
7	Lands, Urban & Physical Planning	27,500,000.00
8	Water & Natural Resources	193,600,000.00
9	Gender & Culture	1,000,000.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,350,000,000.00</b>

Mr. Speaker Sir, that is my brief overview of the budget and I now humbly submit the County Government of Bungoma Budget Estimates for the Financial Year 2025/2026 to County Assembly of Bungoma this day of 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2025.

**Mr. Speaker:** Honorable members, can we appreciate our CEC in our traditional way.

*(Applause)*

Thank you.

Clerk will receive the budget on behalf of the Assembly. Thank you.

Now we will have the CEC exiting the plenary and the Chief Officer for Finance so that I give further directions on the procedure to be followed because now formally the budget has been laid before the House.

Honorable members, let's have directions being given now on the consideration of the County Budget estimates following the rejection of the reconstitution of the Budget and Appropriations committee.

#### **Direction on Consideration of the County Budget Estimates following the house's rejection of the Reconstitution of the Budget and Appropriations Committee**

**Honourable Members,**

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This afternoon, I rise to give direction following the decision of this House made on Wednesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2025, 2.30 p.m. Session whereby the Assembly rejected the proposed reconstitution of the Budget and Appropriations Committee as well as the Public Accounts and Investments Committee. The effect of this decision is that, as of now, the Assembly does not have a properly constituted Budget and Appropriations Committee, yet the Assembly is approaching a critical point in the budget-making process.

As you are aware, Standing Order 232(1) requires the County Executive Committee Member for Finance and Economic Planning, together with the Clerk of the County Assembly, to submit to this House the Budget Estimates and related documents for the County Government and the County Assembly by the 30<sup>th</sup> of April, each year. Once tabled, and as provided for under Standing Order 232(3)(a), those Estimates are deemed committed to the relevant Sectoral Committees for consideration in line with their mandates.

However, Honourable Members, there exists a gap in our Standing Orders regarding how the House should proceed in circumstances where the Budget and Appropriations Committee is not in place to receive and consolidate reports from Sectoral Committees and table a unified Budget Report. It is in this context that I invoke the provisions of Standing Order No. 1, which empowers the Speaker to make decisions on matters not expressly provided for in our rules, relying on the Constitution, the law, and relevant parliamentary precedent.

In addressing this matter, I have considered two key precedents from the National Assembly of Kenya.

First, in a ruling issued on 16<sup>th</sup> February 2016, the Speaker of the National Assembly addressed a similar situation where a motion to reconstitute the Budget and Appropriations Committee had been rejected by the House, with 133 Members voting against and 62 in support. In that ruling, Hon. Speaker Justin Muturi directed that, owing to the time-bound nature of the budget process, the Liaison Committee would temporarily assume the role of the Budget and Appropriations Committee. Sectoral Committees were directed to present their reports to the Liaison Committee, which would in turn prepare a consolidated report for presentation to the House.

Second, on 18<sup>th</sup> February 2025, Hon. Speaker Moses Wetang'ula reaffirmed this approach when the National Assembly had not yet reconstituted its Budget and Appropriations Committee due to delays by the Committee on Selection. He directed that the Liaison Committee, chaired by the Hon. Deputy Speaker, would assume responsibility for considering the Budget Policy Statement and Supplementary Estimates in order to ensure continuity of parliamentary business.

Honourable Members, both rulings establish important precedent that can be applied in our current situation. And thus, I further affirm that the direction earlier given by the Presiding Speaker following the decision of this House made on Wednesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2025, 2:30 p.m Session was fully within the procedures and authority conferred by this House, the Constitution

of Kenya, and established practices and precedents from other jurisdictions, including the Parliament of Kenya. The Assembly must not be rendered dysfunctional during a critical budget period. Therefore, guided by Standing Order 1, the Constitution of Kenya, and these precedents, I make the following ruling:

1. **THAT**, in the interim, and until such a time as the Budget and Appropriations Committee is properly reconstituted, the functions and responsibilities of that Committee *shall be assumed by the Liaison Committee of the County Assembly of Bungoma*. The *Liaison Committee shall facilitate Public Participation on the Budget Estimates, receive reports from the various Sectoral Committees and compile a consolidated report on the Budget Estimates for tabling in this House.* Having given the directions above, and noting that the Budget Estimates for the 2025/2026 Financial Year have now been formally presented by the County Executive Committee Member for Finance and Economic Planning, I hereby commit the Budget Estimates to the Liaison Committee. Simultaneously, the Estimates are deemed committed to each Sectoral Committee as per Standing Order 232(3)(a).
2. THAT, all Sectoral Committees are directed to commence immediate consideration of the Estimates relevant to their respective mandates and submit their reports to the Liaison Committee. The Liaison Committee shall then table a consolidated Budget Estimates Report in compliance with the statutory timelines provided under the Public Finance Management Act and our Standing Orders.
3. I further remind Honourable Members that this House retains the right, under Standing Order 60(2), to rescind its earlier decision regarding the reconstitution of the Budget and Appropriations Committee, should it so choose. Until such time, however, the Liaison Committee remains the designated body to carry out the budgetary oversight role.

Honourable Members, we must avoid a legislative vacuum. The Assembly's role in the budget process is vital. As rightly stated by the Speaker of the National Assembly during a similar impasse, "We cannot afford to have a vacuum in the House." Today's direction is intended to ensure that this House continues to function lawfully and efficiently in executing its oversight and budgetary responsibilities.

I therefore urge all Committees, and particularly the Liaison Committee, to discharge their duties with diligence and urgency, in the best interest of the people of Bungoma County.

Honourable Members, for Clarity

Re-Constitution of Budget and Appropriation Committee after today's committal simply means they will have future papers tabled in the House and Committed to it but they can't take over the budget estimates already committed to Liaison Committee for processing and report back.

I so rule.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Honourable Members, as we wind up, I am told that we have a snack and a cup of tea in the cafeteria. You are all welcome. Those who didn't have lunch as Honourable Majority and myself we have something to bite before we go home for dinner. We adjourn the House. Thank you.

**The House rose at 3:22 p.m.**