

COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF BUNGOMA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF BUNGOMA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY DEBATES

THE DAILY HANSARD

THURSDAY, 24TH JULY, 2025

Afternoon Sitting

3rd County Assembly

4th Session

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COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF BUNGOMA

THE DAILY HANSARD

THURSDAY, 24TH JULY, 2025

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

VISITING STUDENTS AND TEACHERS FROM ST. JUDE MUANDA COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL

Honourable Members, I am pleased to welcome learners and teachers from St. Jude, Muanda Comprehensive School, from South Bukusu Ward in Bumula Sub County, that have paid a visit to this Assembly for the purpose of learning and enhancing the understanding of the functions and roles of the County Assembly, its core mandate as an Assembly while discharging its duties accordingly.

The visit consists of the following; 95 learners, be upstanding,
(*Students stood up*)

Kindly be seated please.

They have been accompanied by seven teachers;

1. Mr. Moses Ikanda - Head teacher,
2. Mr. Fredrick Wasike - Senior teacher
3. Mr. Bonventure Simiyu - Class teacher
4. Madam Doricas Manali - Class teacher
5. Mr. Charles Kuloba - Social studies teacher
6. Stephen Juma - Trip Coordinator
7. Mr. Boaz Wanyama - Assistant Trip Coordinator

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(Teachers stood up)

Honourable Members, join me in welcoming these teachers and the pupils who have come to pay a visit to this Assembly of Bungoma.

(Applause)

During an appropriate hour, I will to allow a few members to make brief remarks.

We kindly now proceed with the Order Paper.

PAPERS

REPORT ON THE STATUS OF THE FUNCTIONALITY AND MANAGEMENT OF THE HEALTH MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM (HMIS) IN BUNGOMA COUNTY

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Waiti Wafula, proceed.

Hon. Waiti Wafula: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I rise to table a report on the status of the functionality and management of the health management information system HMIS in Bungoma County. I table Honourable Speaker.

(Paper tabled by Hon. Waiti)

Mr. Speaker: Honourable Members, the report by the Sector Committee on Health Services on the status of the functionality and management of the Health Management Information System (HMIS) in Bungoma County is hereby tabled by the Committee and formally becomes the property of the House accordingly. Next!

NOTICES OF MOTION

REPORT ON THE STATUS OF THE FUNCTIONALITY AND MANAGEMENT OF THE HEALTH MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM (HMIS) IN BUNGOMA COUNTY

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Waiti Wafula.

Hon. Waiti Wafula: Honourable Speaker, I rise to issue a notice of motion that this House adopts the report of the Sectoral Committee on Health Services on the status of functionality and management of Health Management Information System in Bungoma County.

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Mr. Speaker: Honourable Members, a notice of motion has been duly issued by the Sectoral Committee on Health Services on the status of the functionality and the management of the Health Management Information System (HMIS) in Bungoma County.

I urge the table clerks to have the same shared with the MCAs. It is going to come up as a motion on our Order Paper in the course of next week once scheduled by the HBC.

QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS
HOUSE BUSINESS FOR THE WEEK COMMENCING TUESDAY 29TH TO
THURSDAY 31ST JULY, 2025

Mr. Speaker: On behalf of the HBC Committee, Hon. Cornelius Makhanu, kindly proceed.

Hon. Cornelius Makhanu: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I stand here to present the tentative weekly program of the Business of the County Assembly pursuant to Standing Order No. 42 week commencing Tuesday 29th to Thursday 31st July, 2025.

Tuesday, 29th July, 2025 at 2:30 p.m.

Order of Business;

Questions and Statements

Hon. Benjamin Otsiula to get a response from the Chairperson, Sectoral Committee on Health Services in respect to the Construction of a Maternity Wing at Mungore Health Center in Khasoko Ward.

Motion

Report of the Sectoral Committee on Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, Irrigation and Cooperative Development on implementation of the House Resolution for the Year 2022 and 2023

Bills

1. The Bungoma County Valuation and Rating Bill 2024 - Second Reading

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2. Committee of the Whole House on the Bungoma County Valuation and Rating Bill 2024.

Wednesday, 30th July, 2025 at 9:30 a.m.

Order of Business;

Questions and Statements

Hon. Bridget Lusike Katasi MCA to seek a response from the CECM Department of Tourism, Environment, Water and Natural Resources in respect to the waste management in the County

Motion

Report of the Sectoral of the Committee on Finance and Economic Planning on implementation of the House Resolution for the Year 2022 and 2023

Wednesday, 30th July, 2025 at 2:30 p.m.

Order of business;

Questions and Statements

Hon. Johnston Okasida Ipara to get a response from the CECM department of Finance and Economic Planning in relation to the management of the County Emergency Funds in Bungoma County.

Motion

Report of the Sectoral Committee on Education and Vocational Training on the Implementation of the House resolutions of the adopted reports for the year 2022/2023

Bill

Bungoma County Valuation and Rating Bill- Third Reading

Thursday, 31st July, 2025 at 2:30 p.m.

Order of Business

Questions and Statements

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A Member of the House Business Committee shall inform the House of the Weekly Business of the House.

Motion

Report of the Sectoral Committee on Lands, Urban, Fiscal Planning and Housing on implementation of the House Resolutions for the Year 2022 and 2023

That is the end of the weekly program. I table,

Mr. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Cornelius Makhanu. After HBC we received some new additional statements by Honourable Members. We intend to be able to add those statements on our next week's Order Paper.

ENCOURAGEMENT MESSAGES TO STUDENTS AND TEACHERS OF ST. JUDE, MUANDA COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL

Before we proceed, let me invite Honourable Members in the House to make some brief remarks about our visitors in the Public gallery. This is St. Jude Muanda Comprehensive School from South Bukusu Ward in Bumula sub-county. I earlier heard that this is a school that Deputy Majority Whip Hon. Isaiah Sudi schooled. So I think let me allow him to commence his remarks.

Hon. Isaiah Sudi: Thank you, Honourable Speaker for this opportunity. As you have highlighted, this is where I schooled. I also wish to mention that my father and other old people around donated land for this school. So it's a school that I have history with.

Members, for the two terms that I have been elected, a polling station located in this school, determines my re-election, because it has a big population and the parents of these pupils are very good. The polling station has almost 2,000 registered voters and I get almost everything. They have no other person in their mind to vote for and I'm a proud person as I stand here. I just want to tell them that they are welcome here and the teachers who have accompanied them. Some of them like the head teacher and others we schooled together.

I just want to tell the students that as they go back home, to tell their parents that Hon. Sudi is very capable. They can see me, I'm very capable and I'm still very capable to represent them in this House. Tell your parents to keep their voting cards at a very safe place so that in the year 2027 August 10th again they wake up to vote for me.

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And I'm really proud of my work because I do equity to all parts of the Ward but when it comes to voting, Muanda is extremely very good and even the teachers we speak the same language. So students as you go home I hope you have been taken around what we do here. I don't want to repeat what the sergeants and other staff of this place have told you.

I just encourage you that when you go back, read because we were together in the morning and I told them, you must read hard to come and replace me because we shall need a representative all along until the end of the world. South Bukusu will always be having a representative and it should come from you only if you read, concentrate on your studies and have a dream that one time you want to be an MCA or MP.

What you are seeing here is what is being replicated at the National Assembly, where we are represented by our Member of Parliament; they also do exactly what we are doing here. We do oversight, representation and legislation.

When you go home, tell your parents that Hon. Sudi is very hardworking; he represents us very well in the Assembly and even at home. My support is always there, so I have other Members here that I really want also to speak but I have taken long because this is a school that one time...

Mr. Speaker: Since you want your colleagues to assist you to fill in the remaining part, I will urge that you wind up please.

Hon. Isaiah Sudi: I am just finishing Mr. Speaker. This is a school that shaped my life. I was a candidate and emerged the best, my records are there and I am still the best.

I wish the teachers that have accompanied the pupils the best and you have seen who Hon. Sudi is, so kindly tell those parents at home who have no opportunity to be here that I represent them very well.

Take care of our school, because it has produced many professors, doctors like now the Chief Principal of Bungoma National Polytechnic, is a product of that school just to mention a few. There are many including myself, you can see how high that school is in the national forum. So let me allow other colleagues also to shower my school which has made me to be what I am. I rest my case.

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Mr. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Isaiah Sudi. Hon. Vitalis Wangila, our Leader of Minority you proceed.

Hon. Vitalis Wangila: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First of all, allow me in a special way welcome this St. Jude Muanda Primary school to this County Assembly of Bungoma. I know you have come for the sole purpose of learning.

First encounter with the Head teacher of the school was when I was the marketing manager of Shariff Supermarket when having free primary education. During my time as a marketing Manager I attended many educational meetings in schools and other meetings, and during that time the moment I arrived, they were not calling me by my name rather they were referring to me as Sharif. When you are being referred as Sharif, you are not a simple person and I want to thank them because from those forums, I became courageous to talk to a multitude of people being chaired by education officers of that particular district.

This head teacher we met in many forums especially in Kabula zone where I happened to be in leadership of teachers and education panel and in most cases they have been requesting me and Hon. Isaiah Sudi, before the change of education system we were supporting them with joint exams for all the schools in the area. So I have worked with the Head teacher for a long time.

Hon. Isaiah Sudi has mentioned about equity in his Ward, but in one way I know the people around Muanda have benefit more in South Bukusu Ward. For instance people who are in Muanda secondary school, when we were still giving out bursaries every student in that school was getting a bursary, so there is equity as far as I know.

So I want to send children as they return home to thank their parents for voting in Hon. Isaiah Sudi the Deputy Majority Whip, and we are working with him hand in hand and as you have heard him, he is one of the aggressive Members in particular House. So tell your parents to continue voting for him because he is aggressive and development oriented.

Otherwise, I wish you all the best especially if there are some students who are going to have, nowadays they have changed the system of education, I don't know how I can put it but I wish them well in their academics. I rest my case.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Hentry Nyongesa,

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Hon. Hentry Nyongesa: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I share the boundary with Hon. Isaiah Sudi Busolo who is our Deputy Majority Whip.

Mr. Speaker: You need to clarify which boundary is it a Ward boundary.

Hon. Hentry Nyongesa: Thank you, Honourable Speaker. It is a Ward boundary and I happen also to have serious engagements with the good neighbors the people of Muanda people.

I think the people to be cherished are the parents and teachers of St Jude Muanda comprehensive Primary School. The people of Muanda have a lot of trust in their representative that is Hon. Isaiah Sudi Busolo.

I think the students have taken a round but the House should know that Muanda is where the saint was born, we are praying for the saint in this country and in the world that is Cardinal Maurice Otunga and even as we are talking today, the community is learning even to change the name Muanda to the Maurice Cardinal

So I think these students come from a blessed land where the saint was born and as *Mheshimiwa* Sudi has said, it is producing a very serious personnel in this country and therefore, we are just urging the pupils that you are lucky that you are born from a blessed land that is Muanda and there are a lot of good things ahead.

Therefore, I want to wish that the students of St. Jude Muanda to remain faithful the way Cardinal Maurice Otunga did in his religious journey.

When I was in school we were having something called a Debate Club and we imitating what is done here. That this is a debating chamber where even at school, it's a practice where we have, those days we were calling it my opposition side and the government side but in the current position, we call it a majority side and a minority side, where I think the students have learned that Hon. Sudi Busolo represents the Majority side in terms of leadership in this House.

We are having various professionals in this House, we have teachers, lawyers, surveyors like Hon. Sudi, accountants, Bishops like Hon. Caleb among others.

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You can't interpret the Bible if you are not a learned person. So I want to urge that the students put in more effort, respect their teachers, parents and the government. There is something that is coming out of the young generation and they are not just this one because they have not been named before but we have the Gen Zs. We are urging the children to respect the elders, the law and even the Bible because that's where they will find spiritual life.

I am wishing that St. Jude prosper because I think Hon. Busolo is aware that I am now the closest neighbour when it comes to the farming or rather the *shamba*. So I invested in Muanda and sometimes I might even also be buried in Muanda, so I am part and parcel of the Muanda people.

We wish the students and teachers a nice time in this institution. Above all, we wish the pupils flying colours because some of them are going to sit for the exams. I wish them all the best.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Hentry. Hon. Benjamin,

Hon. Benjamin Otsiula: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. On behalf of the Committee of Education and Vocational Training, I join my colleagues in appreciating the teachers and pupils of St. Jude Muanda Primary School.

I want to appreciate their parents and members of South Bukusu Ward for entrusting the Ward for a second time to Hon. Sudi Busolo. Hon. Sudi Busolo is a staunch leader, a very committed man and is also the Deputy Majority Whip of the House. You cannot qualify to be a Deputy Majority Whip if you are not a disciplined member because his role in the House is to ensure that members are adhering to the directives of that respective coalition. Therefore we are proud of him. I urge you to continue giving him support to ensure that the future of our children in South Bukusu is safe and well taken care of.

I want to laud our pupils. I know they are still of tender age but this gives them an opportunity to explore and realize that wherever they hear songs on loudspeakers, singing names of politicians, campaigning they now understand that if they talk about the County Assembly, it is something that is in existence and is a place where they have entrusted their leaders to come and represent them.

Therefore, as they go back to school they should not just be happy with the television screens they are seeing around but they should be able to learn and understand that this House is a House which protects their rights and interests as far as Article 53 of the Constitution on Basic Education is concerned.

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I want to encourage them as my colleagues have said, that in the future let them work very hard now so that in the future they can be productive people. They can also grace this House as honourable members, Speakers, clerks, sergeants or in any other capacity that will ensure that they are productive members of the society.

They have been taken through all the learning procedures. Muanda it is known school, before tarmac was made available in Bumula, Muanda was a very popular area because all of us coming from the lower sides of Bumula we had to pass through Muanda to get to Bungoma.

The school is a benchmark that if you are going to Bumula you pass through Muanda, so we are proud of it. Our teachers continue producing great people. This House is full of teachers of course Hon. Chemion was very successful teacher, Hon. Jacob Psero a former principal of Cheptais Boys, our Deputy Speaker is also a teacher.

Hon. Angeline Rugut is Lecturer at Moi University, if you get a chance to get to the university, you might meet there. Hon. Christine here is a teacher from Kimilili and Hon. Allan Nyongesa is a teacher of mathematics and several other members are teachers. So teachers you can see that this House is blessed with teachers and those are people who know how to nurture our pupils. Therefore, when it comes to matters of bursary and scholarship, they give us a lot of guidance in this House because they know the needs of our pupils and our children back at home.

I also wish to appreciate this school because they have a teacher from my Ward and I am very proud of this institution. I also want to assure her, the way Hon. Sudi assured them that I am also here representing the people of Khasoko and I believe her vote did not go to waste.

Therefore, she has to keep that vote very well, when it comes to 2022...

Mr. Speaker: We must clarify that it be kept away from rats.

Hon. Benjamin Otsiula: To be kept away from rats. I want to leave it at that because of the work that is ahead but I also pray Honourable Members to stick and support the Committee of Education and Vocational Training. Just to pre-empt, now that we have been told that 500 million is on the way, members can see what to do, if we can spare something small on behalf of our students.

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Otherwise, as they go back I wish them journey mercies and I wish our teachers' good health to ensure that these remaining days before the school closes, they prepare our pupils well, they sit for their exams and they pass and as they take their holidays let them keep our pupils engaged.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Otsiula. Hon. Machani, proceed.

Hon. Ali Machani: Thank you, Hon. Speaker for allowing me at least to add a voice on it. First of all, I want to thank the teachers who have managed to bring students from St. Jude Muanda to this House. I also thank Hon. Sudi and other Honourable Members who to coordinated for this learners to be here.

Previously we didn't have such an environment and leaners could travel to Nairobi to see what the legislators are doing, but I am happy that through that serious coordination from Hon. Sudi and the school, parents and whoever that made these students to be in this House.

I am aware majority of these students within this House; they are learners handling history and probably social services. I don't want to pre-empt because I am not a teacher by profession but from the experience when you go to many of these learning institutions, teachers who take their children to such political institutions like County Assembly, many of the learners are studying history or social studies.

It is up to the students to take this trip seriously because previously when we used to go to Nairobi or Kisumu or Nakuru when asked a question about the visit, many of the students are unable or they give different versions. We don't want to waste our time if they are not satisfied with whatever they came from. I remember whoever has managed to come to this House, our team in this Assembly will always take them round to understand the operation of the Assembly.

I want to thank those who fought for Devolution. Many of us are here but outside there people don't know what we are doing and you remember Devolution replaced Local authorities. Transition Authority ensured that assets and liabilities were transferred from Local Authorities County Governments.

We are a replica of National Assembly where Members of Parliament are supposed to be in Nairobi. Wake up in the morning they enter the National Assembly, transact business on a daily basis depending on the calendar of the House and the business prepared by the committees.

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Hon. Sudi is a serious member of this House. He has demonstrated competence and has brought development to that area. He is serving his second term and he is among the elected MCAs that were re-elected in the last election from Bumula Sub County. Others are Hon. Jack Wambulwa and Hon. Vitalis our Leader of Minority.

Election is very complicated, you cannot compare with an interview, because in an interview you can navigate in between the battles and be appointed but elections you deal with even those people who are not even educated but they have a voice. We can talk about having professionals here but when you go to the ground, you don't look for votes from those who are educated. You look for votes from all corners and it requires a lot of influence. You can use money but you cannot influence people to get into leadership.

So I want to thank Hon. Sudi traversing in between those narrow bridges to be in this House for the second time and that's why I always say that even you getting to be the speaker for the second time, I don't know who will manage to fight to that level because it is very rare. Convincing someone who has been elected or nominated to vote for you, we also say thank you for having that position.

Lastly, I want to embrace students who are in this House. Continue respecting your teachers and parents and always pray that tomorrow if exam will be before you, you can be able to remember what you have been taking through.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Jeremiah,

Hon. Jeremiah Kuloba: Thank you, Mr. Speaker for giving me this chance. This school St. Jude Muanda is just a school that is across the river and they are my neighbours. I would like to laud and thank the teachers for having organised for this trip to visit and learn from this Assembly.

Mr. Ikanda, the head of the school, resides at Sinoko in my Ward. He is a good teacher and has been on the forefront looking for bursaries for the students who have come from his school, so I laud him for that.

Most of the parents of these students spend their time in town because my ward appears to be the only centre or the nearest centre where they can go and fetch for employment or do business. So students when you go back tell your parents that the boss or the MCA of the area where you do your work has given you greetings. Also be disciplined, which starts from home and it will also

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come from you and your parents. Otherwise, I wish you a nice day during your stay in this Assembly.

Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Hon. Cornelius. Honorable Deputy Speaker, proceed.

Hon. Stephen Wafula: Asante Mheshimiwa Spika kunipa fursa hii. Nataka kuchukua fursa hii kuwashukuru walimu wetu, Mahababi Walimu pamoja na Hamami Mwalimu ambaye amepata sifa kocho kocho kutoka kwa Mheshimiwa Jeremiah pamoja na wanafunzi teule wa shule hii ya Mtakatifu Yuda .

Mheshimiwa Spika wanasema kwamba Jina ina maana mingi na Katila maisha ya mwanadamu jina lina maana sana. Ukiingalia jina Mtakatifu Yuda katika Bibilia wakisema Simba wa Yuda wanasema kwamba ni watu ambao wana utukufu. Na ukiona kwamba shule hii inaitwa Mtakatifu Yuda Muanda, katika Lungha ya kinyumbani hapa inamaanisha bara bara iliyo sawa sawa.

Kwa hivyo mheshimiwa shule hii bila shaka tunapoeleezwa kwamba kuna viongozi tajika wamepitia hapo iakubalika kabisa. Kwa mfano yule ambaye anasimamia shule ya Bungoma Kitaifa Dr. Murunga ambaye ni baba yangu, inaashiria bayana kwamba kweli hii ni bara bara. Na mnastahili sifa kwa sababu ushuhuda wa shule yenu.

Wale maafisa wanaosimamia bunge hili wamewatembeza katika uga mzima wa taasisi hii na mmeweza kufundishwa na kuelimishwa. Mkirudi shuleni tafadhali ongeeni na wenzenu ambao hawakuweza kufika hapa ili mnapokalia mtihani wenu wa gredi ya tisa nafikiri wapo hapa basi mkaweze kufanya vizuri na sifa ambazo zinaambatana na jina safi la shule yenu zikwaandame. Asante sana mkirudi shuleni peleka salamu za upendo la Bunge letu la Bungoma.

(Applause)

Mr. Speaker: Thank you, Deputy Speaker. Honorable Members, allow me on behalf of all the members present and County Assembly of Bungoma Administration, I wish our pupils in public gallery all the best in their closing exams of second term and the end year exam coming up in the October/November. We wish you well.

Let us proceed,

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**RESPONSE IN RELATION TO THE STATE OF CASUAL WORKERS IN THE COUNTY
GOVERNMENT OF BUNGOMA AFTER COURT RULING IN THE DISPUTE
BETWEEN THEM AND THE COUNTY GOVERNMENT**

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Hentry do you have a response? Hon. Kennedy is present. You have a copy?

Hon. Hentry Nyongesa: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I rise to report on the statement raised by Hon. John Kennedy state of Casual workers in the County Government of Bungoma after the Court ruling in the Dispute between them and the County Government.

I want to make a request that we submit a Progress Report pursuant to Provision of Standing Order No. 54 of the County Assembly of Bungoma Standing Orders on the said statement in relation to the state of casuals in the County Government of Bungoma after the court ruling in the dispute between them and the County Government.

As today, on 24th July, 2024, 2:30 p.m., the committee has not yet to receive the response from the County Public Service Board. Therefore, I hereby request for further seven days for the Committee to conclude on the report and report the matter thereafter.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Hentry, if you are given two weeks and there was no feedback from the Service Board. I will give you seven more days. If they don't give you a feedback, I think there is time the Board appears before this House and give us the response, because if they are unwilling to come before the committee, we will ask them to come before the full House and if they don't cooperate, you know what happens. So you will do the necessary, so Hon. Kennedy they have sought for seven more days, which will be on Thursday next week. Let's just give them seven days up next week. Hope we will get a feedback.

Hon. Hentry Nyongesa: Most obliged.

Mr. Speaker: So on Thursday, 31st July, 2025, we expect a feedback.
Next,

**RESPONSE IN RELATION TO THE UPCOMING ADMINISTRATION BLOCK THAT
WILL HOUSE OFFICES OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE**

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Mr. Speaker: Hon. Ipara you have the honour of the Committee.

Hon. Johnston Ipara: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. This is a progress report by the Committee on Land, Urban, Fiscal Planning and Housing on the statement raised in the House by Hon. Kennedy Wanyama. The committee on Lands, Urban, Fiscal planning and Housing received a statement sought by Hon. Kennedy Wanyama on 10th July 2025 and referred to the committee to reply pursuant to standing order 47(2)(c) of the Bungoma County Assembly Standing Orders.

The statement was in relation to the upcoming Administration Block that will house offices for the Executive. The Committee was given up to the 24th of July 2025 to provide a reply to the House through the Chairperson.

The Committee held its meeting on 14th July 2025 and deliberated on the matter. It was resolved that the department be invited in the presence of the honor of the statement on 21st July 2025 to respond to the issues raised through the Office of the Clerk.

The CECM Lands, Urban Physical Planning and Municipalities were invited to appear before the court on 21st July 2025 at 3:00p.m. The CECM appeared as scheduled and responded to the issues raised in the statement as follows.

Question One: Why the project is domiciled in the department of Lands instead of Public Administration.

Response: The Housing department is legally mandated to support the County Government through the provision, planning and management of office block.

1. The fourth schedule Part 2, Section 8 of the Constitution of Kenya 2010, which states the function as County Public works and services including storm water management systems in buildup areas and housing. This gives counties through housing department the mandate of housing and public buildings including provision and management of office accommodation for county departments.
2. Land Act 2012, Section 98 to 107 on leases. Section 104, planning framework. Every county shall prepare a county development plan which shall include objectives, strategies, policies and programmes for the provision of infrastructure and fiscal development. Counties are legally required to plan for office space and other fiscal infrastructure and housing development plays a central role in this.

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3. Housing Act CAP 117, general housing development and housing leasing. It is from the background that the department strongly support that this project is domiciled in housing and lands.

Question Two: Provide the plans and bills of quantities for the project.

Response

The bills of quantities were provided and interrogated.

Question Three: How much has been paid towards the project so far? When the same was paid and provide vouchers to support payment?

Response

The department paid Kshs 97,476,000 being payment to the contractor as stated below. First payment, Kshs50, 000,000 was done in February 2024. Second payment of Kshs 47,476,000 was paid in December 2024 totaling to Kshs 97,476,000.

At this juncture, we also requested the department to provide us with a bank guarantee because the amounts involved require some security. So we agreed that during our meeting next, it will be provided.

Question Four: How much is the balance?

Response

Contract sum Kshs 498,880,128 at advance paid. Kshs, 476,000 balance Kshs 401, 404,128.

Question Five: At what level is the project in terms of implementation? Are the works done commensurate with the payment made so far?

Response

Works done, substructure works at 75% done and on-going. Site clearance and setting out of the structure as per the working drawings.

Bulk excavations of foundations is 100% done, Foundation column base is 75% done and on-going.

This includes;

- a) Steel reinforcement fixing to column bases.
- b) framework to column bases
- c) Casting of the column bases.

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- d) Stripping of formwork of the column bases. Steel fixing reinforcement to substructure column is ongoing. Formwork to substructure column is ongoing. Casting of the substructure column is ongoing.

Question Six: What was the project commencement date?

Response: The project commencement date is 2nd November, 2023.

Question Seven: What was the project completion date?

Response: The project completion date is 2nd November, 2026.

Question Eight: Whether there was an allocation of funds for the project as at the stipulated commencement date?

Response: The project is a multi-year project with a contract sum of Kshs 498,880,128. At the start of the project, the department had an allocation of Kshs 98 million.

The owner of the statement and the committee were not satisfied with the response provided for the fifth equation on level the project is in terms of implementation and the works done compared with the commencement date.

The committee resolved to visit the site for verification. The committee therefore asked leave of the and the house to allow it visit the site on Monday 28th July, 2025 to ascertain if the contractor is indeed on site and the completion levels of the foundation. The Committee asks to report back to this house on Wednesday, 30th July, 2025.

This report is signed by Hon. Francis Chemion the Chairperson Committee on Lands, Urban, Fiscal Planning and Housing. I submit.

Mr. Speaker: Honourable Members, they are asking for more days and they want to visit the site on 28th July, 2025 and I urge that if you're available to remove this mischief and misreporting.

There's nothing wrong for you to join the committee to the site meeting, so that they are able to verify the facts. The only problem I'm seeing in this report is the issue of the time frame for completion. Next year.

Its indicating 2nd of November, 2026 and the building is ten floors. So let us give them more days. I urge the Chair together with Hon. Kennedy to visit the site.
Next item,

MOTION

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**REPORT BY THE SECTORAL COMMITTEE ON LABOUR RELATIONS, MEMBER SERVICE AND
FACILITIES ON THE ACCOUNT ASSEMBLY SERVICE BOARD FOR THE YEAR 2024**

Mr. Speaker: So, who is moving the report? So, what has to follow first? I don't have to explain to you. Hon. Henry present, Lusenaka, Hon. Sudi, Kirong Be upstanding Members, please. Millie Masungu, Nga'nga Nangulu No, don't. Let me finish first. Jeremiah Kuloba, Polycarp, Abraham, Martin Chemorion, Caleb Wanjala, Bridget Katasi.

So, you are seven and you know the requirement. Yes, seven plus one. So, that one has spoilt for other people.

He's a member Orize is present. So as you do, I think Sudi had sought some time to address his visitors. Now you can walk out with my permission. With the rest, you proceed. Those escorting him, you can, but now you can proceed.

Hon. Hentry Nyongesa: Thank you, Honourable Speaker, for that wisdom. This is a report by Labour Relations, Member Services and Facilities Committee on the Account Assembly Service Board for the year 2024. The first page, Honourable Speaker, is the contents and the second is the executive summary, which you are allowed, I can

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The County Assembly Service Board is mandated by section 36 of the County Assembly Services Act 2017 to prepare a report containing the activities of the Board in respect to a calendar year under review for submission to the House. In the report, the Board submits information related to achievements and challenges in fulfilling the principles of good governance as envisioned in the Constitution of Kenya Article 10 and 232.

On Thursday 13th March, 2025 during the afternoon sitting, the CASB annual report for the year 2024 was Tabled and committed to the Committee Labour Relations, Members Service and Facilities for processing and reporting back to the House. The Committee therefore considered the report by the County Assembly Service Board and made recommendations therein for adoption by this Honorable House.

This report highlights the following aspects:

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- a) Fulfillment of Articles 10 and 232 of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 and Section 36 of the County Assembly Services Act, 2017. It expounds on the establishment, composition and functions of the CASB and its secretariat.
- b) Accountability mechanism; indicates the programs delivered during the period; career progression guidelines, appointments, manuals and policies, confirmation in appointment, promotions, re-designations, staff exits, staff training and development, attachments, litigations, service charter and strategic plan.
- c) Financial position and analysis of activities facilitated by the Board as at 31st December, 2024.
- d) Achievements and challenges during the period.
- e) Committee observations and probable recommendations.

The committee did not entirely rely on the written report but had consultations with the Board to seek clarity on pertinent issues for accurate reporting.

This annual report, prepared as per Section 36 of the County Assembly Services Act, 2017, provides a comprehensive overview of the CASB's activities, performance, and the challenges faced throughout the 2024 calendar year. The report details key achievements and valuable lessons learned from the challenges encountered. It also outlines the CASB's strategic plans for furthering the County Assembly's core mandate of Legislation, Representation, and Oversight, ensuring transparency and accountability in its operations.

INTRODUCTION

On behalf of the Labour Relations, Members Service and Facilities Committee and in accordance with Section 36 of the County Assembly Services Act, 2017 and pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 217 (5) (a), it is my pleasant duty to present this report on the 2024 Annual Report of the Bungoma County Assembly Service Board.

Legal framework

The preparation and submission of annual report by the CASB is a requisite by law enshrined in the Kenyan Constitution and various Acts.

It is a pre-requisite of good governance as espoused in Articles 10 and 232 of the Constitution of Kenya, for the County Assembly Service Board to prepare Annual report of its operations and submit to the County Assembly after every calendar year.

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The mandate of the County Assembly Service Board is drawn from Section 11 of County Governments Act, 2017 read together with Section 11 of the County Assembly Services Act 2017.

The provision of submission of annual report by CASB is espoused in Section 36 of the County Assembly Services Act, 2017 which provides that:

1. Within three months after the end of each Calendar year, the Board shall prepare and lay before the County Assembly, a report of its operations during that year.
2. The annual report shall in respect of the year to which it relates contain:
 - a) The activities the board has undertaken;
 - b) An evaluation on the extent to which the values and principles referred to in Article 10 and 232 of the Constitution are complied with in the public service;
 - c) Information relating to performance of the service and attendant challenges; and
 - d) Any other information that the Board may consider relevant.

Committee Mandate

The Sectoral Committee on Labour Relations, Members Service and Facilities is constituted pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 217 of the County Assembly of Bungoma and has executed its mandate in accordance with number (5) of the aforementioned Standing Order that provides:

- (a) Investigate, inquire into, and report on all matters relating to the mandate, management, activities, administration, operations and estimates of the assigned departments;
- (b) Study the programme and policy objectives of departments and the effectiveness of the implementation;
- (c) Study and review all county legislation referred to it;
- (d) Study, assess and analyze the relative success of the departments as measured by the results obtained as compared with their stated objectives;
- (e) Investigate and inquire into all matters relating to the assigned departments as they may deem necessary, and as may be referred to them by the County Assembly;

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- (f) To vet and report on all appointments where the Constitution or any law requires the County Assembly to approve, except those under Standing Order 208 (Committee on Appointments); and
- (g) Make reports and recommendations to the County Assembly as often as possible, including recommendation of proposed legislation.

Committee Membership

The following are the Members of the Committee on Labour Relations, Members Service and Facilities Committee:

1. Hon. Hentry Nyongesa	Chairperson
2. Hon. Abraham Obama	Member
3. Hon. Anthony Lusenaka	Member
4. Hon. Joan Kirong	Member
5. Hon. Milliah Masungu	Member
6. Hon. Everton Nganga	Member
7. Hon. Charles Nangulu	Member
8. Hon. Orize Kundu	Member
9. Hon. Jeremiah Kuloba	Member
10. Hon. Polycarp Kimeta	Member
11. Hon. Martin Chemorion	Member
12. Hon. Caleb Wanjala	Member
13. Hon. Busolo Sudi	Member
14. Hon. Brigid Katasi	Member
15. Hon. Idd Owongo	Member

Acknowledgement

I take this opportunity to thank the office of the Speaker and the Office of the Clerk for facilitating the Committee while it discharged its mandate. Additionally, I wish to appreciate Honorable Members of this Committee for their input and valuable contributions to the report.

The Committee prides in the secretariat for their commitment and devotion in the compilation of this report.

It is therefore my pleasant duty on behalf of the Committee to present this report on compliance to the provisions of Section 36 of the County Assembly Services Act, 2017 by the County Assembly Service Board for approval by this Honorable House.

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Report signed by Hon. Hentry Nyongesa Chairperson, Labour Relations, Members Service and Facilities Committee

ESTABLISHMENT, COMPOSITION AND FUNCTIONS OF THE BOARD

Establishment

The County Assembly Service Board is established vide Section 12 of the County Governments Act, 2012 and Section 11 of the County Assembly Services Act, 2017 as a body corporate with perpetual succession and a seal; and capable of suing and being sued in its corporate name.

Composition of the County Assembly Service Board and its Secretariat

Section 12 (3) of the County Governments Act, 2012 provides the composition of the County Assembly Service Board as follows: -

- a) The Speaker of the County Assembly, as the chairperson;
- b) Two Members of the County Assembly nominated by the political parties represented in the County Assembly according to their proportion of members in the County Assembly one of whom is the Vice Chairperson; and
- c) One man and one woman appointed by the County Assembly from amongst persons who are experienced in public affairs, but are not members of the County Assembly.

At the start of the calendar year under review, the CASB was not fully constituted since it lacked a female member representing the Public up to June when employment was done through a competitive process. After the employment, the Board was fully constituted as shown below until at the end of 2024 when one member, male representative of the public's term expired.

- | | | |
|----|----------------------|--|
| a) | Hon. Emmanuel Situma | Chairperson/ Speaker |
| b) | Hon. Joseph Juma | Vice chairperson/ Leader of Majority Party |
| c) | Hon. Ali Machani | Member representing Minority Party |
| d) | Mr. Anthony Mabele | Member/ Male Gender representing the Public |
| e) | Ms. Jessicah Mayabi | Member/Female Gender representing the public |

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f) Mr. Charles Wafula Secretary/ Clerk of the County Assembly

The Board is supported by a Secretariat which is headed by the Clerk who is the secretary to the Board.

Functions and Powers of the Board

The mandate of the CASB is stipulated in Section 12 of the County Governments Act 2012 and Section 11 of the County Assembly Services Act, 2017 and outlined as follows:

- a. Providing services and facilities to ensure the efficient and effective functioning of the County Assembly;
- b. Constituting offices in the County Assembly Services, and appointing and supervising office holders;
- c. Preparing annual estimates of expenditure of the County Assembly service and submitting them to the County Assembly for approval and exercising budgetary control over the services;
- d. Undertaking singly and jointly with other relevant organizations, programs to promote the ideals of parliamentary democracy; and
- e. Performing other functions necessary for well-being of members and staff of the County Assembly; or prescribed by National Legislation.
- f. Direct and supervise the administration of the services and facilities provided by, and exercise budgetary control over, the Service;
- g. Determine and review the terms and conditions of service of persons holding or acting in the offices of the Service;
- h. Initiate, co-ordinate and harmonize policies and strategies relating to the development of the Service;

Initiate programs —

- i. For training and capacity building of members and staff of the County Assembly and other persons;
- ii. That promote ideals of parliamentary democracy as set out in Article 127(6)(d) of the Constitution; and

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- iii. That promote public awareness and participation in the activities of the County Assembly; and
- iv. Do such other things as may be necessary for the well-being of the members and staff of the County Assembly.

In the period under review, the Board held regular meetings to deliberate on various subjects as per its mandate. The deliberations and decisions arrived at, instructions and guidelines were communicated by the secretary to various stakeholders.

DELIVERY OF THE SERVICE BOARD'S MANDATE

The Board Committees

The Board discharges its functions through established Board committees as provided for in Section 13 of the County Assembly Services Act, 2017. The County Assembly Service Board draws a plan of activities to be undertaken during the year, alongside the targets to be achieved. This is set out in the Strategic Plan, Departmental work plans, Management Committees' work plans and the Board's general work plan.

In fulfilling these provisions, the Board has established four (4) Committees, each comprising three (3) Board members and the secretariat. The four (4) committees are:

- 1) Finance Committee whose mandate is to ensure timely preparation and submission of planning documents to relevant offices; timely preparation and submission of Annual and Supplementary Budgets, Financial Statements, Audit responses and Budget implementation review reports among others.
- 2) Human Resource and Administration and ICT Committee whose mandate covers both Human Resource and ICT. This includes but not limited to Remuneration of employees and Members of County Assembly; identification of training needs of employees; increase productivity; career development and capacity building; succession Planning to the organization; ICT infrastructure enhancement and ensuring that an ICT governance charter and policies are established and implemented. The charter and policies outline the decision-making rights and accountability framework for ICT governance enables the desirable culture in the use of ICT within the Assembly.
- 3) Procurement Committee whose core mandate is to ensure compliance to procurement laws and reporting timelines.

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- 4) Legal, Audit and Compliance Committee whose primary mandate is to assist the Board supervise the administration on compliance to legal and audit issues affecting the Assembly.

Organizational structure and staff establishment of the Board

Organizational structure

Section 24 of the County Assembly Service Act 2017 provides that the Board shall establish such offices in the service as it consider necessary or expedient for the efficient performance of the functions of the service. It further provides that the offices established shall be set out in the organizational structure established by the board.

In order to improve the efficiency of the Service and guarantee staff an opportunity for career progression and promotion, the structure during the period under review constituted the following departments and sections among other positions:

1. The Administration and Management (Clerks' Section) which include;
 - i) The Clerk of the County Assembly
 - ii) The Deputy Clerk – Administrative Services
 - iii) The Deputy Clerk – Legislative Services
2. Departments

The County Assembly Service comprises of nine (9) departments as follows;

- i) Legislative, Procedural and Chamber Services Department;
- ii) Committee Services Department;
- iii) Sergeant At –Arms Services;
- iv) Legal Department;
- v) Hansard Department;
- vi) Human Resource and Administration Department;
- vii) Finance and Accounts Department;
- viii) Fiscal Analysis Department (County Assembly Budget Office)

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ix) Internal Audit Department

3. Sections in the Service;

During the period under consideration, the following three (3) sections were part of the County Assembly structure:

i) Procurement Section;

ii) Research and Library Section and

iii) ICT and Public and Media relations Section

County Assembly establishment of the Board

The establishment of the County Assembly in the year 2024 was at 345

Staff establishment

The establishment of the County Assembly was as follows:

1. Sixty three (63) Members of the County Assembly
2. Two members of the Board (male and female) represent the public
3. One hundred and twenty four (124) members of staff on permanent and pensionable terms
4. Fourteen (14) casual staff
5. Two (2) seconded officers
6. Six (6) partisan staff in the reporting period
7. Ward staff are one hundred and thirty five (135)

Audit committee

The Public Finance Management Act 2012 and Public Finance Management Regulations 2015, require each entity to establish an Audit Committee whose main function shall be to:

- a) Support the accounting officers with regard to their responsibilities for issues of risk, control and governance and associated assurance; and

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- b) Follow up on the implementation of the recommendations of internal and external auditors.

The Audit committee forms a key element in the governance process providing an independent expert assessment of the activities of the top management, the quality of risk management, financial reporting, financial management and internal audit to the County Assembly Service Board.

The Audit Committee's term came to an end in October, 2024 and the Board renewed its term for three years as from 7th January, 2025.

During the year under review, the Committee was able to improve the Assembly's operations on accountability and transparency by recommending control measures in addressing audit gaps, thus supporting the Assembly receive unqualified audit opinions.

The Committee further guided the management on governance by recommending development of key policies that have since been put in place

Recruitment, Staff exits, Promotions and Re- designations, Attachments and Discipline

Staff exits

Public servants exit service through-resignation, termination, expiry of contract, dismissal, death, retirement under the '50 year' rule, attainment of mandatory retirement age, medical grounds and abolition or reorganization of office structure. During the period under review, one member of staff did exit through retirement on 20th September, 2024 bringing the total number of permanent and pensionable staff to 123.

Gap Analysis and Re-designation of Officers

During the period under review, the County Assembly Service Board conducted a Gap Analysis at the County Assembly and recommendations given. During the year, five officers were re-designated to enhance effective service delivery.

Industrial Attachment

The County Assembly facilitated student attachment by offering opportunities to college and university students in accordance with the County Assembly attachment policy 2020. This is done either upon request from the students or learning institutions as part of the academic requirements for their respective programs.

During the period under review, the Assembly enrolled 102 students on attachment as follows;

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Department/Section	Male	Female	Total
ICT	10	5	15
Human Resource	4	7	11
Finance & Accounts	8	8	16
Internal Audit	5	1	6
Works	7	7	14
Committee Services	1	4	5
Procurement	2	5	7
Research & Library	0	0	0
Budget	3	5	8
Legal	1	0	1
Hansard	2	5	7
Public Communications	4	4	8
Records	1	2	3
Clerk's office	0	1	1
Legislative Services	0	0	0
Sergeant-At-Arms	0	0	0
Total	48	54	102

Quality Management System ISO 9001-2015

The County Assembly of Bungoma initiated Quality Management System (QMS) in alignment with the ISO 9001:2015 standard, demonstrating its commitment to excellence in governance and service delivery. The launch/roll out of Quality Management System took place on 14th October, 2024. As at the close of the period under consideration, the first internal audit had been conducted to assess the extent of QMS implementation. It yielded an average performance rating of 64%. This marked a significant step towards full certification and enhanced operational efficiency.

General and Medical Insurances

For the period January to June 2024, General Insurance for all assets was provided by Madison general insurance company.

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The County Assembly engaged the services of the Kenyan Alliance Insurance Company Limited for the provision of general insurance coverage. The engagement covered the period from 8th July 2024 to date. The purpose was to provide the County Assembly with comprehensive general insurance coverage that is designed to protect the Assembly against a range of risks, including fire and special perils, burglary, public liability, Work Injury Benefits Act (WIBA) employer liability, group personal accident and political violence and terrorism. The insurance ensures that the County Assembly's assets, personnel, and operations are adequately safeguarded against these potential threats. Motor vehicle general Insurance for the period above was provided by Ndetrop Insurance Company.

Medical insurance cover is a non-monetary compensation employers provide to their employees above their normal salary, for the purpose of caring for their health and wellbeing. In the quest to prioritize the health of its members and staff, the County Assembly Service Board secured a medical insurance cover with APA Insurance that was operational from 18th October, 2023 to 10th October, 2024 for provision of medical insurance.

After the lapse of APA Insurance in October, 2024, the Board secured a contract with Star Discover Insurance that became operational from October, 2024 to October, 2025 for provision of medical insurance services. The insurer offers the following services; outpatient, inpatient, dental, optical, treatment of pandemics such as Covid-19, provision of vaccines and maternity care. Members of the County Assembly and staff together with their dependents had access to various healthcare facilities and services for treatment and hospitalization.

Litigations

Dispute resolution mechanisms, the public service allows public servants not satisfied with internal processes to proceed to court of law. During the year 2024, the County Assembly was involved as a party in 12 cases, some of which were concluded in favor of the County Assembly whilst one was determined in favor of the petitioners. Two matters are pending hearing and one matter is pending determination.

No.	Case No.	Parties	Court	Advocate	Nature of Claim/Case	Status
1	BUNGOMA ELRC PETITION	FRANCIS V TOME V	ELRC	J.O MAKALI & CO.	CLAIM FOR COMPENSATIO	Pending Judgment on

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	E011 OF 2022	COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF BUNGOMA SERVICE BOARD, & 2 OTHERS		ADVOCATES	N FOR UNFAIR /WRONGFUL DISMISSAL, PAYMENT OF UNPAID LEAVE AND REINSTATEMENT	Appeal
2	ELC PETITION NO. E003 OF 2023	JAMIN SAMMY CHEROP AND 11 OTHERS V COUNTY GOVT OF BUNGOMA, HON JACOB PSERO & 2 OTHERS	ELC	LEGAL COUNSEL	PETITION FOR DECLARATION OF INFRINGEMENT OF RIGHTS, COMPENSATION AND CONSERVATORY ORDERS	MATTER struck out and dismissed in 2024
3	ELRC CASE NO.E.003 OF 2021	MARTIN ADAMS WAMUKOTA V CASB, SPEAKER/CH AIR CASB & CLERK	ELRC	OMUNDI BWONCHIRI & CO	CLAIM FOR UNFAIR/WRONGFUL TERMINATION, COMPENSATION	MATTER pending in court. Ruling on 24 th March, 2025 on application for reinstatement of the suit
4	NYAHURURU HIGH COURT PETITION NO. E005 OF 2025	COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF LAIKIPIA V CASA,CAF and COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF BUNGOMA	HIGH COURT	LEGAL COUNSEL	PETITION SEEKING ORDERS TO BAR BUNGOMA FROM HOSTING CASA GAMES AND LAIKIPIA TO HOST	petition dismissed in 2024

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					INSTEAD	
5	BGM HIGH COURT PETITION NO 2 OF 2020	HON. FRED MUSEBE & 13 OTHERS V CASB & 15 OTHERS	HIGH COURT	OMUNDI BWONCHIRI & CO	APPLICATION FOR CONTEMPT AGAINST THE CLERK AND THE SPEAKER FOR ALLEGED DEFIANCE OF COURT ORDERS	matter dismissed in 2024

The CASA Games

The County Assembly of Bungoma was awarded the rights to host and resolved that the games to be held from 18th to 27th October, 2024 in Bungoma County. The Honorable Speaker of the County Assembly of Bungoma was the patron of the 2024 CASA Edition.

The County Assembly of Bungoma exemplified commendable performance at position one in overall performance. Various teams performed as follows:

	Team	Performance	Award
1	Choir set piece	Position 1	Trophy
2	Cultural dance	Position 1	Trophy
3	Football	Position 1	Trophy
4	Scrabble	Position 3	
5	8 ball Pool	Preliminary stage	
6	Short put	Position 2	Certificate
7	Volley ball men	Position 1	Trophy
8	Volley ball ladies	Position 1	Trophy
9	Netball	Quarter finals	
10	Tug of War	Position 2	Trophy
11	Table Tennis men	Semi finals	
12	Table Tennis women	Semi finals	
13	Darts	Quarter finals	

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Promotion of Values and Principles of Governance

The National Values and Principles of Governance in Article 10 of the Constitution of Kenya bind State officers, public officers and all persons whenever they apply or interpret the Constitution; enact, apply or interpret any law; or make or implement public policy decisions. Under Article 232 (1), the Values and Principles of Public Service apply to public service in all state organs in both levels of government; and all state corporations.

During the year, the County Assembly undertook the following activities aimed at promotion of Values and Principles in the public service:

- i) Sensitized staff on departmental policies;
- ii) Promoted efficiency, effectiveness and economic use of resources through automation of some service delivery;
- iii) Enhanced service delivery through utilization of mainstream media, social media platforms and publicizing of the service charter;
- iv) Promoted democracy and public participation in Committee activities and House proceedings;
- v) Through stakeholders engagements;
- vi) Adhered to procurement processes;
- vii) Ensured timely Financial reporting;
- viii) Held consultative forums and use of suggestion, whistle blowers' and complaint boxes; complaint, conflict of interest and whistle blowers' registers; and
- ix) Promoted corruption prevention mechanisms through corruption reporting boxes and approval of the Whistle-Blowers' Policy.

The County Assembly Service Charter

During the year under review, the County Assembly Service Board, developed and approved the Bungoma County Assembly Service Charter which is an expression of the commitment by the County Assembly to provide high quality services to our clients.

The Service Charters are displayed in different floors of the administration Block. In the expedition of efficient service delivery, the County Assembly will observe the service standards as prescribed under the provision of information to clients. The Board is also in the process of preparing the Board Charter that sets standards, obligations and timelines for service delivery and conduct of County Assembly Service Board business.

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Approved Policies

During the year under review, the Board approved the following Policies and Manuals to guide operations in the County Assembly Service;–

- i) The Records Management Policy and Records Management Procedures Manual, 2024
- ii) Budget office Operations and Procedures Manual, 2024
- iii) Legal Department Operating Procedures Manual, 2024
- iv) Accounts Payable Policy, 2024
- v) Corporate Tax Policy, 2024
- vi) Assets and Liability Management Policy, 2024
- vii) Per diem Policy and Procedures Manual, 2024

Feedback mechanism

Customer feedback is any information that customers provide to an organization about their experience in Service. It includes their opinions, reactions, preferences, complaints, and insights which help an organization understand its customers' needs. It also helps an organization to identify areas for improvement, understand customer complaints and enhance overall customer satisfaction.

During the period under review, the County Assembly was in receipt of sixteen (16) complaints. By the end of the review period, all the complaints had been resolved.

INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY

Human Resource Management is critical in boosting organizational goals. To discharge its mandate effectively, the Service Board strived to ensure that there is adequate staffing, proper management, placement and proper utilization of Human Resource Management.

Staff Training and Development

The County Assembly Service Board has been actively dedicated to enhancing the professional skills and knowledge of its staff through a varied array of training programs, involving over a hundred staff and Members of the County Assembly. These training initiatives encompass both individual and group sessions, ensuring a comprehensive approach to addressing various areas of expertise.

The following trainings and workshops were undertaken:

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TYPE OF TRAINING AND INSTITUTION OFFERING TRAINING	NUMBER OF OFFICERS
Strategic Leadership and Development Programme –KSG	5
Senior Management Course –KSG	6
Supervisory Skills –KSG	6
Finance Technical Team Workshop	2
Assurance Workshops for Internal Auditors and Risk Managers	5
Retirement-KSG	4
Public relations/Customer Care-KSG	1
Data Analysis in Skills Development-KSG	1
Digital Transformation-KSG	2
Integrated Payroll and Personnel Management-KSG	4
Government Protocol-KSG	2
Capacity Building in Music-KSG	1
Management Accounting and Strategy-KSG	1
Legislative Practices and Procedures-CPST	8
Trainer of Trainers-CPST	3
E-Records Management-CPST	5
Devolution Law-CPST	2
Table Office Management- CPST	4
Safety and Security Management-CPST	7

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Budgeting –CPST	2
IPPD/IFMIS-KESSRA	2
Tax Administration- KESSRA	1
Tax Audit-KESSRA	1
Payment of Tax-KESSRA	2
Records Management Policy-KARMA	3
Digital Record Keeping-KARMA	2
Critical ICT and Network Security-CSK	2
Procedures and Practices Manuals-KIM	1
Sign Language-KISE	1
Secretaries Workshops-KENASA	3
ITAX-KRA	4
Driver Refresher-KIHBIT	3
Financial Reporting-ICPAK	2
Sensitization of the NSSF Act-NSSF& LAPFUND	2
Mediation-East Africa Institute of Mediation	1
Road Safety Training- Committee and Drivers-CASB Customized Trainings	11
Guidance and Counseling-FAM Connect Therapy Centre	8
Gender Mainstreaming-National Gender Commission	6
Total	126

Furthermore, Members of the Board attended training by the Institute of Certified Secretaries at the Lake Naivasha Resort, Transformative Leadership Course at KSG Strategic Leadership

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Development Program at KSG and training on Quality Management System. Subsequently, the Service Board was able to capacity build Honorable members of the County Assembly on how to discharge their respective mandates both in Committees and during House proceedings. In this regard, capacity building of nine (9) Committee Chairpersons and one (1) vice chairperson took place during the year.

Collaborations and Partnerships

During the year under review, the Board sought to collaborate and partner with various stakeholders through holding consultative meetings as highlighted below:

- a) **Kibabii University:** Implementation of the MOU with Kibabii University. During the year under review, induction of team members, training on preparation of grant proposals and identification of funding opportunities and approvals for establishment of e-library resources took place.
- b) **Konza Technopolis Development Authority:** The County Assembly held several meetings with Konza Technopolis Development Authority to explore areas of partnership and corporation. Following the meetings, the Authority donated 100 Virtual desktop Infrastructure to the County Assembly for its Digital Lab as part of the Jitume Program. The Board also signed an MOU with KoDTA for provision of digital solutions for documenting attendance of meetings (Sajili).
- c) **Information Communication Authority (ICTA):** The engagement with ICTA aims to facilitate the hosting of key digital services including the website, email, digital asset register, e-library, Teammate and network infrastructure. A formal request was submitted and ICTA acknowledged receipt hence providing initial guidance. As at the close of year under review, network infrastructure migration, e-library and Teammate were underway while the website, email, digital asset register were being optimized.

Information and Communication Technology

The Board undertook various interventions to improve internal business processes and service delivery efficiency through ICT integration through the following activities:

1. Ensured uninterrupted and secure internet connectivity to support seamless organizational operations and ensure improved access to ICT services by MCAs and staff.
2. Ensured support of critical systems to ensure optimal functionality and efficiency in supporting Assembly's core process. The systems included: Electronic Procurement Management Information System (EPMIS) and Human Resource management Information System(HRMIS)

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3. Enhanced official e-mail services to improve internal communication and collaboration across the Assembly.
4. Ensured the County Assembly website was regularly updated and managed to provide up-to-date information and resources for both staff and the public.
5. Initiated the process of establishing a digital library to support knowledge management and access to e-resources.
6. Acquired and installed anti-virus software to safeguard critical systems and data against emerging threats.
7. Automation and continuous update of the asset register.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Allocation of the County Assembly financial resources was guided by activities, programs and target outputs identified, formulated and approved in the annual development plan in line with the Assembly strategic plan 2022-2031.

The County Assembly of Bungoma was allocated a recurrent ceiling of Kshs. 1,071,362,230 in the Financial Year 2023/2024. The amount consisted of Kshs. 40,000,000 allocated for payment of Kenya Revenue Authority dues as per their demand notice issued in the year. Kshs. 1,031,362,230 was allocated as per the County Allocation of Revenue Act, 2023.

In the Financial Year 2024/2025, the County Assembly had a total budget of Kshs. 1,356,950,433 comprising of Kshs. 1,166,950,433 for recurrent programmes and Kshs. 190,000,000 for development programmes.

The initial CARA 2024 allocated the Assembly a total recurrent ceiling of Kshs. 1,166,950,433 compared to Kshs. 1,031,362,230 allocated in the CARA 2023. There was an increase of Kshs. 135,588,203.

Budget utilization and absorption trends in the financial year 2024/25

In the half year period of the Financial Year 2024/2025, the Assembly spent a total of Kshs. 412,470,416 out of a total Budget of Kshs. 1,356,950,433. This translates to 30% absorption rate. The table has been attached for actual expenditure versus the budget

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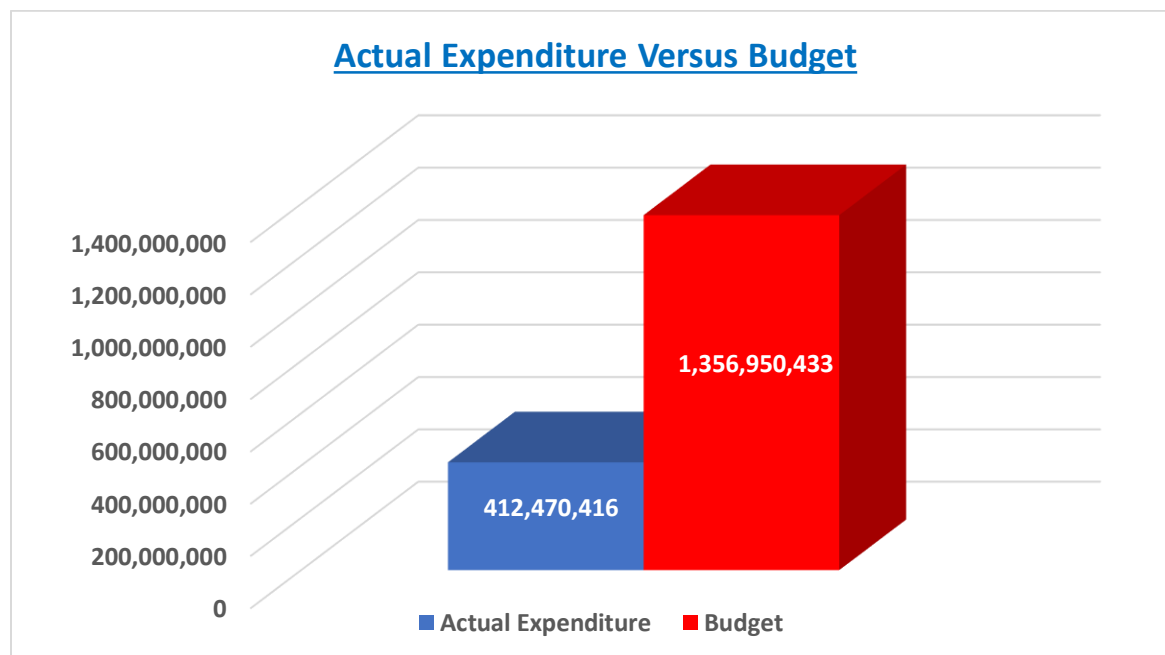


Figure 1: Budget performance

The actual expenditure for the half year period of the Financial Year 2023/24 based on economic classification was; personnel emoluments Kshs. 176,845,185; operations and maintenance Kshs. 176,919,797 and finally an actual expenditure of Kshs. 58,705,434 on development.

Submission of Financial Statements for the period ended 30th June, 2024 to the office of Auditor General

The County Assembly Service Board in compliance with Section 149(2) (h) of the Public Finance Management Act, 2012 prepared and submitted its Financial Statements for the said period to the Auditor General on 25th September, 2024 which was within the 30th September deadline as provided for in the Act. However, this deadline has since been revised to 31st August every year, effective submission of Financial Statements for 2024/2025.

All the four Quarterly Financial Statements for the County Assembly and Funds were prepared and submitted to relevant institutions in time throughout the Financial Year.

The Financial Statements were audited and certificates issued by the Office of Auditor General on 31st December, 2024. The office of Auditor General's opinion on the Assembly's three Financial Statements was as follows:

- a) County Assembly of Bungoma Annual Report and Financial Statements for the Financial

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year ended 30th June, 2024 got an **Unqualified opinion**

- b) Bungoma County Assembly Employee Car Loan & Mortgage Scheme Fund Financial Statements for the year ended 30th June, 2024 got an **Unqualified opinion**
- c) Bungoma County Assembly Members Car Loan & Mortgage Fund Financial Statements for the year ended 30th June, 2024 got a **Qualified opinion**

Accrual Transition

On 7th March 2024, the Cabinet approved the transition from a cash basis of accounting to an accrual basis of accounting, effective from 1st July, 2024.

This transition, to be undertaken over a three-year period, would see Financial Statements for the year ending 30th June, 2025 prepared on an IPSAS accrual basis. The phased approach includes the first transitional IPSAS accrual Financial Statements by 30th June 2025, covering all financial assets and liabilities, with the option to include identified non-current assets and inventories. By 30th June 2026, the second transitional Financial Statements will encompass all financial assets, liabilities, and inventories, with the possibility of including non-current assets. The transition will culminate in fully compliant IPSAS accrual Financial Statements by 30th June 2027, including all financial assets, liabilities, and non-financial assets, such as inventories.

PROMOTION OF THE IDEALS OF PARLIAMENTARY DEMOCRACY & FACILITATION OF THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY BUSINESS

The mandate of the County Assembly Service Board (CASB) is to promote the development of an effective County Assembly and to undertake programs either independently or in collaboration with other relevant organizations aimed at advancing the principles of Parliamentary Democracy.

Parliamentary Democracy, at its core, is founded on democratic governance principles where the people elect the County Government and the Government remains accountable to them. In this regard, the Board played a vital role in fostering the ideals of Parliamentary Democracy by building public trust, enhancing transparency, ensuring open governance at the County level and promoting inclusivity, public participation and the rule of law.

Further, strategic pillar no. 3 of the County Assembly Strategic Plan 2022-2031 on public Trust seeks to actualize Article 196 and 201 of the Constitution on public access and participation in Parliamentary processes and business, including the consideration and approval of Public Finances. The Board has thus been instrumental in providing critical support to ensure that the House continues to build public trust through initiatives such as access to County Assembly proceedings by the public and student visitation programme.

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The key activities in this chapter are summarized in three thematic areas as follows:

- 1 Promotion of transparency in the conduct of Legislative business;
- 2 County Assembly outreach; and
- 3 Highlights of business transacted by the County Assembly during the period under review.

Promotion of Transparency in the Conduct of Legislative Business

During the period under review, the Board promoted public involvement in Legislation and Oversight by facilitating people centered activities.

Media Access and Coverage of Proceedings

During the period under review, the County Assembly facilitated media coverage of House proceedings, key events and Member s' communications with the public through press statements and interviews. Notable events covered included the vetting of nominees, Budget deliberations, and Policy approvals.

Social Media Presence

The Public Communications and Media Relations Section actively engaged the public by sharing content about the County Assembly activities on social media, primarily through Facebook and X formerly Twitter. Content focused on Legislative activities and Committee work. This ensured public participation and easy access to information for journalists.

During the period under consideration, one hundred and one posts were published on the County Assembly Facebook page, which has six thousand three hundred followers. Each post received between five to twenty five reactions and comments. Regular updates were also published on the County Assembly website to ensure timely dissemination of information.

Weekly Publications

The County Assembly facilitated the publication of Bungoma Legislator, a digital newsletter released weekly to inform Members, staff and the public about the business of the County Assembly. Since its launch, eight editions have been published consistently.

Participation in National Events

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The County Assembly facilitated the participation of House Leadership in National celebrations and government events. Notable events attended by Members included:

- International Day for Disability Mainstreaming;
- Opening of a Regional Office by the Office of the Registrar of Political Parties;
- Mashujaa Day, Jamhuri Day, Labour Day, and Madaraka Day (held at Masinde Muliro Stadium in Bungoma); and
- County Assemblies Sports Association (CASA) Games hosted by Bungoma County Assembly.

Public Attendance of Plenary and Committee Sittings

The County Assembly facilitated public participation in House and Committee proceedings, allowing stakeholders to present views on Legislative Proposals and during approval hearings.

Committee Sittings, Field visits and Public Outreach

To ensure that the County Assembly remained connected and accountable to the people it serves, the Board facilitated the Committees of the Assembly to hold their Sittings within and outside the County Assembly.

Facilitation of County Assembly Business

The County Assembly Service Board provided the service and facilities necessary for effective and efficient functioning of the County Assembly. This included provision of the necessary Human Resource, ensuring budgetary provision for the House and provision of the necessary infrastructure.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND CHALLENGES

Achievements

The following are the achievements that the County Assembly Service Board takes pride in the year under review:

1. **Groundbreaking for the Construction of a Modern Debating Chamber**
The Hon. Speaker of the National Assembly, Rt. Hon. Dr. Moses Wetang'ula, presided over the groundbreaking ceremony for the construction of an ultra-modern debating Chamber at the County Assembly of Bungoma. The facility, currently under construction, will include offices to enhance Legislative operations.

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2. **Construction of the Official Residence for the Speaker**

The County Assembly Service Board initiated the construction of an official residence for the Hon. Speaker, a project that is currently underway. This initiative aims at providing the Speaker with a dignified and functional official residence.

3. **Establishment of the Jitume ICT Lab**

Through successful lobbying, the County Assembly secured the establishment of the Jitume ICT Lab within its premises. The Lab was officially opened by the Hon. Speaker of the National Assembly, Rt. Hon. Dr. Moses Wetang'ula. The facility is fully equipped with computers and ICT infrastructure to support digital skills training, innovation and monetization of ICT-related activities.

4. **Successful Launch of the Quality Management System (QMS)**

The County Assembly successfully launched its Quality Management System (QMS), a significant step towards enhancing efficiency and effectiveness in service delivery. With this milestone, the Assembly is now working towards ISO certification.

5. **Winning the Financial Reporting (FiRe) Award**

The County Assembly of Bungoma emerged as the winner in the County Executives and County Assemblies category at the prestigious Financial Reporting (FiRe) Awards, held at Nairobi Safari Park Hotel. The award, recognized as East Africa's top honor in financial reporting, celebrates institutions that uphold high standards in financial governance, accountability and sustainability.

6. **Unqualified Opinion**

The County Assembly of Bungoma received unqualified opinion on the Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 30th June, 2024; and on the Employee Car Loan & Mortgage Scheme Fund Financial Statements for the year ended 30th June, 2024.

7. **Hosting of Benchmarking and Courtesy Delegations**

The County Assembly hosted several high-profile delegations for benchmarking and courtesy visits. Notable guests included:

- The Bamasaba Cultural Leader, Omukuuka Jude Mike Mudoma.
- Registrar of Political Parties, Dr. Anne Nderitu.

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- Clerk of Kilifi County Assembly, Mr. Michael Bidii Ngala, and his delegation.
- Representatives from the Commission on Revenue Allocation (CRA).
- A delegation from the Salaries and Remuneration Commission (SRC) led by Commissioner Isaac Melly.

8. Hosting the 5th Edition of CASA Games

The County Assembly successfully hosted the 5th Edition of the County Assemblies Sports Association (CASA) games, bringing together Hon. Members and staff from County Assemblies across the country. The event was widely praised for its excellent organization and impact.

9. Procurement of Medical and General Insurance Cover

The County Assembly successfully procured medical insurance services from Star Discover Insurance Limited, ensuring comprehensive health coverage for Honourable Members and staff during the year.

General insurance was secured to safeguard Assembly assets, personnel and operations, ensuring that all activities are adequately protected against potential risks.

10. Approval of Key Policies

The Service Board approved The Records Management Policy and Records Management Procedures Manual, 2024; Budget office Operations and Procedures Manual, 2024; Legal Department Operating Procedures Manual, 2024; Accounts Payable Policy, 2024; Corporate Tax Policy, 2024; Assets and Liability Management Policy, 2024 and Per diem Policy and Procedures Manual, 2024.

The policies were approved by the Board to streamline operations and enhance service delivery within the County Assembly. These policies aim to improve governance, Financial Management, and Human Resource practices.

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11. Training and Capacity Building for Hon. Members and Staff

Nine (9) Committee Chairpersons, One (1) Vice-chairpersons and staff underwent specialized training and capacity-building programs to enhance their skills and competencies. These initiatives are intended to improve Legislative efficiency and overall service delivery.

12. Annual Strategic Legislative Conference

The Board successfully organized an Annual Strategic Legislative Conference, bringing together Hon. Members, County Executive Committee Members, and Chief Officers. The conference provided a platform for dialogue on improving legislative quality and ensuring effective implementation of enacted laws.

13. Annual Staff Conference

The County Assembly also organized an Annual Staff Conference to foster teamwork, rejuvenate staff morale, and develop strategies for enhancing operational efficiency within the service.

14. Resolution of Public Complaints and implementation of Service Charters

The Assembly received a certificate of compliance for the FY 2023/2024 from the Commission on administrative Justice. There was notable improvement in the aggregate score from 68 % for the FY 2022/2023 to 90 % for the FY 2023/2024.

Challenges

The County Assembly Service Board (CASB) encountered several challenges in executing its mandate during the year under review, including:

1. **Budget Cuts** – The nationwide Gen Z protests led to withdrawal of the Finance Bill, 2024 leading to reductions in allocations to Counties. Subsequently, affecting budget ceilings for County Assemblies.
2. **Inadequate Recurrent Budget Ceiling** – The ceiling recommended by the Commission on Revenue Allocation (CRA) was insufficient to fully support Assembly operations.
3. **Delays in Exchequer Releases** – Late disbursement of funds hindered the timely implementation of Assembly programs. Every time there were delays, there was automatic

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delay in making payments some of which are mandatory in terms of timelines like statutory deductions thus leading to penalties and interests imposed by the statutory bodies.

4. Slow or total IFMIS system failure

The IFMIS and E-procurement system was at times slow and or in total failure causing delays in processing of payments in time. The failure of system was caused by the National Treasury during maintenance period.

5. Change in Payroll system

The introduction of Human Resource Information System payroll system and abolishment of the Integrated Payroll and Personnel Database posed some challenges in fast tracking payroll processing.

6. **Lack of Financial Autonomy** – The County Assembly relies on the County Treasury for exchequer approvals hence lack direct access to funds from the National Treasury.
7. **Human Resource Constraints** – Budgetary limitations, primarily due to the CRA ceiling, have restricted staffing.
8. **Limited Financial Resources for Training and Capacity Building** - This financial constraint poses a difficulty in sustaining the diverse and impactful training initiatives aimed at fostering a skilled, informed, and adept workforce within the Assembly.

COMMITTEE GENERAL OBSERVATIONS, RECOMMENDATIONS

Committee Observations

From the report, the Committee made the following observations:

1. The adoption of the QMS aligns with the ISO 9001:2015 standards and demonstrates the Assembly's commitment to operational efficiency and excellence in service delivery.

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2. The CASB has adopted an Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) Policy and established a Risk Management Committee to mitigate potential risks and ensure the Assembly's strategic objectives are achieved.
3. The County Assembly has an establishment of 345 persons which includes 14 casual workers.
4. The Assembly's financial autonomy remains a concern due to its reliance on the County Treasury for exchequer approvals and budgetary constraints.
5. The Committee noted ongoing challenges with human resource constraints due to budgetary limitations and the need to prioritize capacity building despite limited financial resources.
6. The Committee noted stakeholder concerns regarding the performance of the newly contracted medical insurance service provider, particularly its limited integration with established healthcare institutions, which affected access to quality medical services.

Committee Recommendations

The committee recommends as follows:

1. **THAT**, the County Assembly Service Board should advocate for increased funding from the CRA and the Senate.
2. **THAT**, the County Assembly Service Board should improve budget execution efficiency in the management of the County Assembly budget.
3. **THAT**, the County Assembly Service Board should explore sustainable and compliant employment solutions for casual workers, given the legal limitation that their contracts cannot be renewed more than twice.
4. **THAT**, the County Assembly Service Board should maintain continuous and structured engagement with both the National and County Treasuries to ensure the timely disbursement of funds, thereby facilitating uninterrupted implementation of Assembly programs.
5. **THAT**, the County Assembly Service Board should initiate and advocate for legislative reforms aimed at achieving greater financial autonomy for the County Assembly, in order to enhance operational efficiency and effectiveness.
6. **THAT**, the County Assembly Service Board should formulate and support the adoption of policy frameworks that promote prudent utilization and optimal allocation of resources within the County Assembly.
7. **THAT**, the County Assembly Service Board should ensure there is thorough evaluation on the capacity and network coverage of prospective medical insurance providers

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- during procurement to ensure alignment with the healthcare needs of Members and staff, including access to reputable and accredited medical facilities.
8. **THAT**, the County Assembly Service Board should institutionalize and prioritize continuous capacity building programs for both Honourable Members and staff, to strengthen institutional performance and service delivery across all departments.
 9. **THAT**, the Board should expand Strategic Partnerships Beyond ICT and explore collaborations with local civil society organizations, legal aid institutions, and research bodies for broader knowledge sharing and innovation.
 10. **THAT**, the County Assembly Service Board should fast-track Full Digitization of Assembly functions and prioritize integration of ICT tools such as e-library, asset register, and digital attendance systems into day-to-day operations with proper monitoring indicators.
 11. **THAT**, the committee recommends for the approval of Bungoma County Assembly Service Board Annual report 2024.

The report is fully signed by the members and therefore with your permission I request that Hon. Nganga seconds the report.

Mr. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Hentry. Hon. Nganga, you have the honor of seconding the report. Why do I say that members must sit back, you can't give us a quorum at commencement of the report and you take off? Out of 63 members that are supposed to be here, you are hardly 20. When I say that people must come here, don't feel that I am after somebody who is not here but now you can see for yourself.

If it is a retreat in Kisumu because we have similar behaviors where people are earning from other people's sweat, so what I am trying to say is why Hon. Chemorion would be in Kisumu for 4 days then you pretend to be sick and you want to be paid the same amount of money. Let us be very fair to everybody here. It is not that we don't have work at home or in our Wards, but let us be dedicated to our core duties.

I think leadership you are seeing what is happening and members must pull up their socks. Hon. Nganga, Proceed.

Hon. Everton Nganga: Thank you, Honourable Speaker for giving me a chance to second the motion that has been moved by Hon. Hentry Nyongesa who is the Chairperson of the Committee on Labour. First, I would like to congratulate him because he has moved the motion eloquently. Secondly, I would like to thank Honorable Members who have stayed in the House to listen to the motion and also maybe to contribute to it after my seconding.

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I have been going through it and the County Assembly when you look at its financial statements, they got unqualified opinion. It has got two unqualified opinions which means these were good reports and our County Assembly was awarded as one of the best performing; it was number one in the whole nation as a best performing County Assembly.

We have challenges when it comes to disbursement of funds and we have recommended that our County Assembly Service Board should liaise with National Treasury so that we can have timely disbursement of funds to meet the activities that are always budgeted in our annual budget.

The issue of casual workers, we have also recommended that we should not have a situation whereby some casual workers if their CONTRACTS are renewed thrice or 4 times they may feel that they are part of the County Assembly and they can seek for legal redress from the court. We have recommended that renewal should be done twice then we stop renewing them so that we do not have instances of them complaining or going to court that they are supposed to be on permanent and pensionable.

This is a very nice report and I request that the House adopts the report with its recommendations.

(Applause)

Mr. Speaker: Thank you Hon. Nganga for seconding the report that was ably moved by Hon. Hentry Nyongesa. Allow me now be able to propose a motion for debate.

(Motion proposed)

Hon. Hentry, in view of lack of contributions, there is nothing for you to reply.

Let me proceed and put a question so that members present can make a decision over the report.

(Question put and agreed to)

The report is adopted by the House accordingly for implementation of the recommendations.

ADJOURNMENT

We have come to the end of our Order Paper, we will be able to adjourn our sitting and resume next week on Tuesday which will be on 29th July, 2025 in our 2:30 p.m. session.

The House rose at 5:00 p.m.

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