

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF TAITA TAVETA

THIRD ASSEMBLY - THIRD SESSION

THE HANSARD

Sitting no. 049

Wednesday, July 17, 2024

The House met at 2:57 p.m. in the County Assembly Chamber

[The Acting Speaker (Hon. Anselm Mwadime) in the Chair]

PRAYER

QUORUM

The Acting Speaker: Honourable Members, I confirm that we have quorum to proceed with the Sitting. Clerks-at-the-Table, read the Orders of the day.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CHAIR

The Acting Speaker: Honourable Members, the Chair has the following communications to make:

POWERS, PRIVILEGES, IMMUNITIES AND OBLIGATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

The Powers, Privileges, Immunities and Obligations Committee will meet after the rise of this Afternoon Sitting in Committee Room 2.

PREPARATION FOR COUNTY ASSEMBLIES SPORTS ASSOCIATION (CASA) GAMES, 2024

Honourable Members and staff are hereby asked to embark on serious practice ahead of CASA games, 2024, that will take place in Laikipia County at a date to be communicated in due course. This year's theme is fostering inclusivity and diversity in county sports and cultural events. You are hereby requested to join any one of the following disciplines: football, netball, tug of war men, tug of war women, swimming, choir, dances, beauty contest, scrabble, darts and pool table. Practice for the games is ongoing and starts at 3:00 p.m. every Monday to Friday.

Honourable Members are encouraged to participate so that we adhere to the CASA rules which state that, each discipline must constitute at least 50% of Members of County Assembly. You are also requested to register in the various disciplines as soon as possible to enable the County Assembly to adequately prepare in terms of logistical support and facilitation. For further clarification and information, kindly consult the County Assembly CASA representative and staff coordinator, Hon. Patricia Mwashighadi and Ms. Phelis Mwambere respectively. Honourable Members, I wish you all the best as you prepare for the CASA games, 2024. Thank you.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

ATTENDANCE AT THE GALLERY

The Acting Speaker: Honourable Members, before I read this Petition, I take this opportunity to acknowledge members of the public seated at the public Gallery that is, Mr. Renson Mnyamwezi from the Standard Media Group. Welcome.

PETITION

ISSUANCE OF TITLE DEEDS TO PURCHASERS OF VOI MUNICIPAL IKANGA PLOTS

The Acting Speaker: Honourable Members, the Chair is in receipt of a Petition to the Taita Taveta County Assembly to invoke issuance of long pending title deeds to purchasers of the Voi Municipal Ikanga Plots which states as follows:

We the undersigned, who are citizens of Kenya of diverse backgrounds and majority natives and residents of Taita Taveta County hereby draw the attention of the County Assembly to the following:

In the year 2002, Voi Municipality offered for sale parcels of land at Voi Ikanga area with documented promise that; purchasers will be issued with parcel title deeds on completion of payments since by then, buyers were given the option of payment in instalments. The documented correspondence by the Voi Municipality had stated that the title deeds were to be ready by April 2003.

That, we the purchasers, as sole individuals or more than one individual, on various dates, have paid visits to the concerned Municipality office at Voi, Kariokor, following up on the matter of issuance of title deeds since the communicated date of April 2003, but so far, we have not received our title deeds. This is indeed a matter of concern as we had complied with our part of the bargain. However, the vendor has not done so for a period of 20 years now. We therefore came together to chart the way forward so that our bargaining rights are fulfilled, hence this Petition.

That, on the matter at hand, where the vendor has breached the matter of transaction and adversely affected the right of the purchasers, so far, we the Petitioners, have not yet brought the

matter before any Court of Law, constitutional or legal body, as we believe that Taita Taveta County Assembly, being the apex institution in this County, has the capacity to hear our plea and effect means to enable the issuance of title deeds.

Therefore, your humble petitioners pray that the County Assembly in their mandate within Taita Taveta County, having jurisdiction to give directives to the County Executive body where the Voi Municipality falls, directs that title deeds be issued to the purchasers of Voi Municipal Ikanga Plots, as waiting for more than 20 years is truly a form of persecution to the purchasers. It is urgent and mandatory for the purchasers to get their title deeds to avoid situations similar to what happened recently at Voi Msambweni and some other parts of the Country at large.

We, the undersigned petitioners as individuals and also representing others here below as follows:

Honourable Members, I can see there are several signatures that have been appended on this Petition. Any comments, observations or clarifications in relation to this Petition? The Floor is open for contributions. However, with a limitation of three minutes. Thank you.

Honourable Members, the Petition is hereby committed to the Lands and Human - Wildlife Conflict Resolution Committee pursuant to Standing Order no. 204(1). Hon. Members, pursuant to Standing Order no. 204(2), the Committee has 60 calendar days to respond to the petitioners by way of a report addressed to the petitioners and laid on the Table of this County Assembly. Next Order.

STATEMENT

STATUS OF DRUGS AND SERVICE DELIVERY IN PUBLIC HEALTH FACILITIES IN SAGALLA WARD

Hon. Duncan Wangama (MCA, Wusi/Kishamba): Thank you, Mr. Acting Speaker, Sir. I beg to respond to the Statement sought by Hon. Brayson Mwambi on the status of drugs and service delivery in public health facilities in Sagalla Ward.

When the Committee visited the facilities, we noted some of the issues hence came to conclusions and made recommendations. The Committee concluded as follows on the status of drugs and non-pharmaceuticals as well as service delivery in the health facilities in Sagalla Ward:

1. Understaffing

All the five public health facilities visited by the Committee were understaffed which adversely affects service delivery in the facilities. Additionally, universal health coverage staff contracts were soon expiring which may create a staffing crisis. The staff are well

trained in their respective areas of duty and the facilities request the County Government to work on modalities of absorbing them.

2. Security

(i) Enforcement officers

Each facility had one enforcement officer who can only man the facility for only 12 hours during the night. Kajire and Rumangao dispensaries, reported that the enforcement officers stationed in the facilities have been absconding duty and the same has been reported to the Voi sub - County Health Team for necessary action.

(ii) Proper fencing

The facilities lacked proper fencing making them susceptible to vandalism by intruders and wild animals noting that human-wildlife conflict is prevalent in Sagalla ward.

3. Shortage of drugs and non-pharmaceuticals

The facilities were facing drug shortages occasioned by the just concluded countrywide doctors' strike which affected the ordering process as medical practitioners and pharmacists are responsible for the process.

4. Operationalisation of facility committees

The Facility Management Committees reported that they were not in operation as they were yet to be gazetted since their appointment thus official handover and induction had not taken place.

5. Title deeds

The facilities lack title deeds exposing them to encroachment. They therefore require proper survey and clear demarcation pending issuance of title deeds.

6. Lack of anti-venom drugs

At the time the Committee conducted the visit, the facilities lacked anti-venom which is vital in these areas since Sagalla Ward is a snake prone region.

7. Community Health Promoters (CHPs)

CHPs are an important pillar towards the realization of Universal Health Coverage (UHC) and in an effort to improve Primary Health Care (PHC) the National Government in collaboration with County Governments trained and issued the CHPs with standardized kits. However, they now lack batteries for various medical equipment and

other essentials. The CHPs had not received their stipend from both the National and County Governments.

Recommendations made during the visit;

The Committee on Health and Sanitation Services having considered the findings during the facility visits in Sagalla Ward, made the following recommendations to the Department for immediate implementation:

1. That, all the five facilities in Sagalla Ward be supplied with anti-venom and the Committee confirms that the Voi sub-County Health Team distributed the anti-venom drugs in the five facilities.
2. That, the elected Health Centres and Dispensaries Management Committees were gazetted vide Gazette Notice no. 2082 dated 23rd February, 2024. The Committee therefore urged the sub-County Management Teams to follow up and facilitate handing over by the previous Management Committees so that the newly elected Committees are fully operational. A copy of the Gazette Notice can be obtained from the Office of the Clerk.

On the issue of drugs, non-pharmaceuticals, shortage of staff, facility title deeds, security for the health facilities, payment of stipends for CHPs and general service delivery in the health facilities in the whole County, the Committee acknowledges that these are pertinent issues some of which require collaboration between departments and availability of funds. The Committee will therefore take up these issues and address them in their subsequent sitting so as to come up with a way forward. I submit. Thank you, Mr. Acting Speaker.

The Acting Speaker: Statement seeker, is the response sufficient?

Hon. Brayson Mwambi (MCA, Sagalla): Thank you, Mr. Acting Speaker, Sir. Yes, the response is sufficient. Thank you, Mr. Acting Speaker.

The Acting Speaker: Honourable Members, any remarks on that response? Again, limitation of time is three minutes.

(Silence)

The Acting Speaker: Next Order.

ADJOURNMENT

The Acting Speaker: Honourable Members, there being no other business the House stands adjourned until Tuesday, 24th July 2024 at 9:30 a.m.

(The House rose at 3:17 p.m.)