

SAMBURU COUNTY ASSEMBLY



THE HANSARD

Wednesday, 29th July 2015

The assembly met at the County Assembly chambers at 2.30 p.m.

Deputy Speaker, (hon. Lanyasunya) in the chair

PRAYER

STATEMENTS

MCA Suguta Mar Mar ward (Hon. Shadrack Lesoipa): Thank you Hon. Speaker, pursuant to standing orders 44(1) (2c) I hereby request for a statement from the chairperson of sectorial committee on Labour, Social welfare, justice and Legal Affairs regarding the employment and terms of conservancies drivers. Hon. Speaker it is in public opinion that the conservancy's drivers and rangers are the custodians of the county records meaning that they are not designated as drivers Mr. Speaker. Further to this, their terms of employment where community based rangers and this might compromise their safety and the insurance of the county vehicles in case it is involved in any accident Mr. Speaker. Hon. Speaker sir, in view of this the chair person should inquire into and report on whether those rangers driving the County vehicles were employed as drivers and if not what are the plans of the public service board in recruitment of the conservancies drivers Mr. Speaker. Second Mr. Speaker, when is the department considering employment of those rangers driving the county vehicles as drivers Mr. Speaker? We are very much aware that the conservancies' vehicles are not handed over to the community Mr. Speaker so the responsibility of the person that should drive these vehicles should be an employee of the county Government. So Mr. Speaker I direct this question to the chair to enquire whether the county public service board is ready to employ the drivers driving those conservancies' vehicles until the time that the county government hands the vehicles and the log books to the communities. Conservancies are either established to stand on their own Mr. Speaker but the county government must uphold any efforts and assistances to enable them to run until that time they are able to stand on their own. So Mr. Speaker I ask the chair to enquire from the county public service board the course of these drivers Mr. Speaker because the vehicles are still in the premises of the County government until that time because we know that these conservancies are very young at the moment, they are not able to provide for themselves and they still need a lot from county government to enable them to grow to such a time they can be able to stand on their own and even employ their drivers of their own Mr. Speaker. That is my concern and I need the chair person concerned to find out exactly the fate of those drivers, thank you Mr. Speaker.

MCA Nyiro ward, (Hon. Lemoosa): Thank you speaker sir...

Deputy Speaker, (Hon. Adamson Lanyasunya): Are you contributing on the statement sought by Hon. Lesoipa or you are on a different statement?

MCA Nyiro ward, (Hon. Lemoosa): No, I am on a different statement only that if...

Deputy Speaker (Hon. Adamson Lanyasunya): Then we have not ruled on the next statement. Ok, let me give this chance to the chair person to the committee on Tourism, Development and

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Cooperatives. Both of them are concerned because the conservancies fall under the Tourism department and it is also under Labour committee so it is either they can decide. Hon. Lemoosa.

MCA Nyiro ward, (Hon. Lemoosa): Yes speaker sir, I have an observable contribution on the same issue on the conservancies not only the drivers but the whole management of the conservancies. Speaker sir I want to give an input on the day to day running of the all conservancies, I am not sure about other conservancies but where I am from and represent, these conservancies need to be looked into and especially if there are policies that are used to run these conservancies because it seems that these conservancies, especially in Nyiro speaker sir, a conservancy is run through a committee and there is no direction, it is even not specified what they are doing especially the vehicles because I can actually attest to the fact that most of these vehicles especially the Nyiro conservancy vehicle does peoples' work rather than actually the management or even the security of the Livestock, wildlife and peoples' safety. Imagine a situation where the scouts themselves are denied the service by these vehicles, so speaker sir I think the department concerned should look into the management of these particular conservancies because I want to believe that they are in these sides, thank you speaker sir.

Deputy Speaker (Hon. Adamson Lanyasunya): Hon. Chairperson Committee on Social welfare, Labour and Legal Affairs.

Chairperson Social Welfare, Labour and Legal Affairs (Hon. Modesta Lalaikipiani): Thank you Mr. Speaker, I will enquire with the county public service board concerning the employment of the rangers, drivers and the whole conservancies' management and I will give the full report on Thursday next week, Thank you.

Deputy Speaker (Hon. Adamson Lanyasunya): Hon. Lemoosa, you had a statement

MCA Nyiro ward, (hon. Jonathan Lemoosa): I want to thank the speaker once again of this house. Speaker sir with your permission, I wish to convey my heartfelt condolences to the family of the late Leshore from Waso Rongai of Nyiro ward who was killed yesterday by a rouge elephant in the Samburu National Reserve. That aside, pursuant to standing order number 41 clauses (ii) and (c), I hereby request for a statement from the chairperson of the sectoral committee on Trade, Cooperatives and Fencing regarding the date of a wild life danger as I have mentioned killed by the elephant In Samburu National Reserve. Hon. Speaker sir, on 28th July 2015, ranger on patrol was killed by an elephant in Samburu National Reserve. Wildlife rangers in the same reserve faced death and injuries both from the poachers as well as from wild animals they protect. The wild life rangers seem to be exposed with deeply disturbing situations since they operate in the bush with harsh physical conditions, often with inadequate equipment ... and support. This undermines the security of these young men and women who work day in and day

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out to protect our wildlife. Hon. Speaker sir, in view of this, the chair should inquire into and report on:

- i. The inquiry on the condition on which the ranger was killed by the elephant
- ii. The efforts if any that the county government is making to ensure that the security of wildlife rangers even in the conditions in which they work.
- iii. The compensation for the parents whether it is for the county government or the Kenya Wildlife Service beside his benefits.

Thank you.

MCA Suguta Mar Mar ward, (Hon. Shadrack Lesoipa): Thank you Mr. Speaker, this is a very good concern raised by the member for Nyiro ward, and this has been a concern for all of us. We are very much aware that the wildlife conservation and the department in all is the source of revenue for this country but it is bitter that those people protecting these animals are not given protection against those animals. You find that here in Kenya, the animals are given much care than even those people in charge of them. I also have the same issue in my ward where a man working at Mar Mar Ranch who was attacked by the lion. The lion was confirmed to be the attacker and the man is a disable right now and the owner of the ranch, Mr. Clause is not even willing to compensate the man. Therefore, this issue of animals and human beings is an issue of a great concern in our county Mr. Speaker. So we seek for serious interventions because this issue of wildlife is becoming a threat. As much as we love the animals, we ought to value human being more than a wild animal. We are aware that the function lies with the national government, but as the representative of the people, we must find a way to handle this issue whenever a wild animal kills or injures a person. This is an issue of great concern happening all the time even with domestic animals as every week there must be a case being reported of a lion attacking not one but many sheep, cattle or goats. So it is becoming a concern and we need this issue to be sougheed once for all. Therefore, if the chair concerned is here, we need to get satisfactory answers from these issues we are handling each and every day, thank you Mr. Speaker.

MCA Elbarta ward, (hon. Romano Leakono): thank you Mr. Speaker sir, if it is in order, I just want to put some I want to put some input on the same issue by saying that as much as we request for statements from the chair concern, the deceased was an employee of this county government and even though compensation is normally done by the national government when it comes to game animals, it can also be a precedent for this county to when such a situation occurs, the county which is the employer, must and should actually compensate few or a certain limit as we wait for the national government to compensate for the life of the deceased. Therefore, the chairperson should look into the possibilities as this is one of its kind that at least we show concern because just the other day here we were talking about the welfare of the people serving at the Samburu Game Reserve, which we said is wanting and I believe the concerned parties will be moving towards the same area to find out what is exactly happening. We did also discuss the other day the impacts of domestic animals invading the park. Actually if you look at the ... of the deceased it is also contributed by the same problem. May be when he was trying to chase away the cows when he was attacked by the elephant. So the chairperson should come

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with a comprehensive report on the possibility of the county taking responsibility of compensating the loss of life of our young and able energetic ranger, thank you.

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Adamson Lanyasunya): Hon. Lemulugo

MCA Angata Nanyukie (Hon. John Lemulugo): Thank you very much Mr. Speaker, I also want to add my voice on the same statement sought by Hon. Member for Nyiro, and it is actually quit a shocking story on how this director was killed by an elephant, and the most shocking thing is that all these animals that are in this National Reserve are becoming more aggressive just because of the livestock which are being forced by the hunger to go inside the lodge, I think that is the main issue, so the entire game reserve...I think the committee in charge should visit this Samburu National Reserve and see how we can protect the lodge, of course it is really painful and it is the mandate of the County Government and the organization of the County Government and both parties that this ranger be compensated and that is a must. They have no option but to compensate, although Mr. Speaker I sometimes cannot understand this laws, because once a person is killed they get very little compensation than the person who has been injured by the animal Mr. Speaker, so I think that on that one we cannot do anything because it is not in our mandate to change the law, because that is quit unfair that the person who is killed gets less compensation than an injured one, I think the most important thing to the committee concerned is to see that they visit the lodge because the other side that we saw is not functional, and on the other side there is a very small part that is operating and that is the part which we collect the revenue from, and we are not really serious in protecting our lodge, so the first thing is that both the committee on Labor and Tourism should visit the very lodge and see what we can do to protect our people and protect our wildlife, thank you Mr. Speaker.

MCA Nachola Ward (Hon. Lawrence Lorunyei): I do not know whether I am in order because last time, this house ruled that when a statement is sought in this house, there will be no contribution until the response time so that you can deliberate in details, am I in order to say that, Mr. Speaker Sir, Thank you.

MCA Elbarta Ward (Hon. Romano Leakono): Point of information Hon. Speaker

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Adamson Lanyasunya): What is the point of information Hon. Leakono

MCA Elbarta Ward (Hon. Romano Leakono): I just want to inform the Hon. Members that their contributions are not so much on the statement, but something like a County concern, and that is why you see members contributing as it is, Thank you Hon. Speaker

MCA Nyiro Ward (Hon. Jonathan Lemoosa): Thank you Speaker Sir, I would just like to thank the Hon. Members for their contributions in support of the statement, and surely the dismay of losing lives through such rogue animals that we protect, the deceased comes from my

ward and I know the status of his family, he was a young man who just started his life, he has a young family and he was the bread winner for both his parents and his young family, I would like, though I have not seeked it in the statement, but I think that on human grounds, we would actually request the Chairman to look in to the possibility of actually even employing the deceased's brother to actually appreciate the services of the deceased to the Samburu people, just because I know that surely history is shutdown, if nothing is done the family will suffer and the children will suffer and also everyone who depended on the deceased, so I just want to thank the Hon. Members in the Hon. House for giving weight and support over this, thank you.

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Adamson Lanyasunya): Majority Leader

MCA Ward (Hon. Fabian Lolosoli): Thank you Hon. Speaker, I stand to send my condolences to the family and the entire County fraternity for the demise of our ranger and I really appreciate the concerns of the Members, However, on behalf of the Chair Tourism, I rise to request more time until Wednesday next week at 2:30 pm for the statement to be responded to since the Chair is not present in the house, Thank you.

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Adamson Lanyasunya): Thank you Hon. Members, the requested statements that pertains the fate of our conservancy drivers will be responded to on Wednesday and also the statement sought by Hon. Lemoosa will be responded on 5th Wednesday, which will be next Wednesday at 2:30 pm in the afternoon session.

Thank you Hon. Members, the time being 27 minutes past three o'clock and there being no any other business, this Assembly stands adjourned until tomorrow afternoon at 2:30 pm, thank you.