

**REPUBLIC OF KENYA**  
**COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF MACHAKOS**

**OFFICIAL REPORT**

**Tuesday, 27<sup>th</sup> July, 2021**

The House met at 2.37 p.m.

*[The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Museku) in the Chair]*

PRAYERS

**PAPER LAID**

AUDIT REPORT OF MACHAKOS COUNTY ASSEMBLY  
CAR LOAN SCHEME FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE, 2018

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Hon. Members, under this Order, we have one business to be transacted by Hon. Joseph Musau, Chairperson Public Accounts and Investments Committee (PAIC).

**Hon. Musau:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Hon. Speaker, I wish to lay the following Paper on the floor of the House today Tuesday, 27<sup>th</sup> July, 2021; the audit report of Machakos County Assembly Car Loan Scheme for the year ended June, 2018.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Musau.

**NOTICE OF MOTION**

AUDIT REPORT OF MACHAKOS COUNTY ASSEMBLY CAR  
LOAN SCHEME FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE, 2018

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Hon. Members, under this Order, we have one business to be transacted again by Hon. Musau.

**Hon. Musau:**

Mr. Speaker, that aware that Article 229(5) of the Constitution provides that “the Auditor-General may audit and report on the accounts of any entity that is funded from public funds;

Further aware that, Article 229(7) of the Constitution that states that Audit Reports shall be submitted to Parliament or the relevant County Assembly;

Cognizant that the Audit report of Machakos County Assembly Car Loan Scheme for the year ended 30 June 2018 was received in the Assembly pursuant to Article 229(7) of the Constitution;

Further aware that the report was committed to the committee of Public Accounts and Investments pursuant to Standing Order 185(2)(b) and (c) that states that “the Public Accounts and Investments Committee shall be responsible for examination of reports, accounts and workings of the County Public Investments and whether the

affairs of the public investments are being managed in accordance with sound financial or business principles and prudent commercial practices”;

Aware that the committee after receipt of the report conducted several meetings with the Accounting Officer of the fund together with officers from the office of the Auditor General and consequently compiled a report;

Hon. Speaker, I wish to give Notice of Motion that this House discusses and approves the audit report of Machakos County Assembly Car Loan Scheme for the year ended 30th June 2018.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Musau.

### STATEMENT REPLY

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Hon. Members, under this order we have one business to be transacted by the Chairperson Health or any other person who might have been designated to conduct the business; this pertains statement response by Hon. Cosmas Masesi, Chairperson Health and Emergency Services Committee. If he is not there and no one has been given the mandate to do it, can we go to the next order please?

*(Hon. Speaker consulted with the Clerk at the Table)*

So, this Statement will go back to the House Business Committee to be balloted again to be brought before the House next week because the sponsor of the Statement is not in the House.

### MOTION

#### REPORT ON THE STATUS OF ATHI RIVER/MAVOKO SLAUGHTER HOUSE

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Hon. Members, under this Order, we have one business to be transacted by Hon. Moses Mitaa.

**Hon. Mitaa:** Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

Hon. Speaker, that aware that the Mission for the Department of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries in Machakos County is to promote innovative, commercially oriented and modern Agriculture through development and enactment of enabling legal framework;

Aware that Article 183(3) of the Constitution of Kenya provides that, the County Executive Committee shall provide the County Assembly with full and regular reports on matters relating to the County;

Informed that in exercise of the functions vested on County Assembly in Article 185(3) of the Constitution, the County Assembly through the Committee of Agriculture requested for the half year performance report for the Department of Agriculture for the FY 2020/2021;

Cognizant that pursuant to Standing Order 190(5) the committee analyzed the section of the report on the status of Mavoko slaughter house, conducted site visits and consequently compiled a report;

Hon. Speaker, I wish to move the Motion that this Hon. House discusses and approves the report of the Committee of Agriculture on the status of Athi River/Mavoko slaughter house;

Thank you, Hon. Speaker and I want to request Hon. Constance Mbula to second my motion.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Hon. Constance Mbula.

**Hon. (Ms) C. Nzioki:** Thank you Chair. I second the report.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Thank you. Hon. Moses, you may read the report.

**Hon. Mitaa:** Thank you, Hon. Speaker. The following is a report of the committee on agriculture on the status of Mavoko/Athi River slaughter house; a section of the half year status report FY 2020/2021.

#### *INTRODUCTION*

Hon. Speaker, agriculture is one of the functions devolved to Counties under Schedule Four of the Constitution. The control and management of County abattoirs/slaughter houses is further placed under County Governments. The condition of the abattoirs has been of great concern to the County residents due to their poor hygiene and dilapidated infrastructure.

Abattoirs in the urban areas face various challenges especially in their requirements of important infrastructure and services. They require services in terms of roads, provision of water, provisions of treatment and disposal of waste water, management of solid wastes through provision of landfills, and effective and wise use of the by-products that are derived from the operations in the slaughterhouses. In the current state of the world, slaughterhouses need to be modernized, and Urban and Regional Planning Standards and requirements incorporated within their operations.

#### *MANDATE OF THE COMMITTEE*

Madam Speaker, the Committee on Agriculture is established pursuant to the Second Schedule of the Standing Orders with specific mandate to deal with all matters related to agriculture, including crop and animal husbandry, cooperatives, livestock sale yards, county abattoirs, plant and animal disease control, irrigation, fisheries, cooperative societies and veterinary services (excluding regulation of the profession).

#### *COMMITTEE COMPOSITION*

Madam Speaker, the committee on Agriculture comprises of the following Hon. Members;

|                        |                    |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Hon. Moses Mitaa       | - Chairperson      |
| Hon. Michael Mutiso    | - Vice Chairperson |
| Hon. Ikusya Kaloki     | - Member           |
| Hon. Benedette Musyoka | “                  |
| Hon. Mark Muendo       | “                  |
| Hon. Geoffrey Kamulu   | “                  |
| Hon. Joshua Nzuki Muli | “                  |
| Hon. Constance Nzioki  | “                  |
| Hon. Antony Mulu       | “                  |
| Hon. Nicholas Mutuku   | “                  |
| Hon. Paul Nyanzi       | “                  |
| Hon. Rozina Kanini     | “                  |
| Hon. Tariq Mulatya     | “                  |

#### *BACKGROUND*

Hon. Speaker, during the public participation on budget estimates for FY 2019/2020 and the Finance Bill 2020/21, residents of Athi River complained bitterly on the poor state of the Mavoko slaughter house and reluctance of County Government of Machakos to address the matter despite the huge amount of revenue collected from that facility.

The residents of Athi River have severally demonstrated and demanded that the Mavoko slaughter house and which is located at a slum area be closed down until its blocked sewer line is unblocked to avoid discharging sewerage on roads. The residents confessed that the facility has been a health hazard to the community for more than three years since its sewerage system was blocked.

Further the residents confirmed that their attempt to address the matter with the concerned authorities were futile hence they have no alternative other than express their dissatisfaction to the County Government of Machakos. In 2016 and 2019 the abattoir was temporarily closed by NEMA because of the blocked sewer line, lack of water and general poor sanitation in the facility. The above situation prompted the committee to tour the area to do fact finding in exercise of the oversight role bestowed to the Assembly by the Constitution.

The committee on Agriculture considered the complexity of this matter and while confining itself to its specific mandate as provided in the Second Schedule of the Standing Orders, it came up with the following terms of reference to guide it in the inquiry process on the status of Athi River slaughter house:

1. Determine from records the extent of animal inflow to the slaughter house.
2. To determine budget implementation in the facility during the FY 2020/2021.
3. To find out the current status of infrastructure in the facility.

*(A cellphone rung loudly)*

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** A minute Hon. Member; remove it from the chamber please.

*(The cellphone was removed from the House by the Serjeant at Arms)*

Go ahead please Hon. Moses.

**Hon. Mitaa:** Thank you.

4. Determine the general management of the facility.
5. Recommend appropriate interventions to improve its status.

#### *A SECTION OF HALF YEAR STATUS REPORT FOR SLAUGHTER HOUSES*

Hon. Speaker, pursuant to Article 183(3) of the Constitution of Kenya, the County Executive Committee shall provide the County Assembly with full and regular reports on matters relating to the County. The committee requested for half year report from the Department of Agriculture and the following was provided as the status of slaughter houses, Athi River/Mavoko being inclusive:

Table 1: The half year status for slaughter houses FY 2020/2021

| Project                        | Location                                       | Outcome                         | Output          | Budget    | Commencement              | Completion                 | Status | Comments           |
|--------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|-----------------|-----------|---------------------------|----------------------------|--------|--------------------|
| Renovation of slaughter houses | Mavoko<br>Muvuti<br>Kiima<br>Kimwe<br>Mutituni | Improved Public health services | Improved status | 2,000,000 | 1 <sup>st</sup> July 2020 | 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2021 | 0%     | Budget reallocated |

I think there is a mix up here Mr. Chair because there is inclusion of other slaughter houses.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** What I am trying to see is that there is one in Mavoko, another one in Muvuti/Kiima Kimwe and another in Mutituni.

**Hon. Mitaa:** Hon. Chair, under location, we have included all but the output and outcome they are covered as one. So, we Mavoko, there is Muvuti/Kiima Kimwe and then Mutituni; for all under outcome, improved public health services.

#### *Observations from Table 1*

1. The Kiima Kimwe slaughter house included in this report was abandoned in 2018 and has not been in operation. The committee conducted a site visit and confirmed this.
2. During the Supplementary Appropriation Bill done in September 2020, all the Ksh. 2,000,000 allocated to rehabilitate the three slaughter houses was re-allocated, hence nothing was done to improve their state.
3. The Ksh. 2,000,000 allocated to rehabilitate the 3 slaughter houses was very little to do any sensible work.
4. As at December, 2020 that is end of the half year, the status of the three facilities was 0 per cent since there were no funds to rehabilitate them.

#### *COMMITTEE VISIT TO ATHI RIVER SLAUGHTER HOUSE*

Hon. Speaker, the Committee visited the facility on 16th March, 2021 and again on 18th May, 2021 and held a meeting with, the Veterinary officer, the revenue officers, officials of the butchers who are the main stakeholders and two Muslim employees who represent Muslim faith in the slaughter house. The following were the committee observations;

#### *Animals slaughtered from 10th April to 13th May 2021*

Hon. Speaker, upon requesting the data on animals slaughtered in the facility from 10th April to 13th May, 2021 from the Chief Officer, the following was provided:

Hon. Speaker, there is a table and the title is cows slaughtered, the date and with your permission I will just go through.

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On 10th April, 2021, they slaughtered 13 and collected Ksh. 3,900.

On 11th April, 2021 they collected Ksh. 3000---

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** I think what you can do, Hon. Chair, is to say that for the months of 10th April upto 13th of May, 2021 then you give the total number of cows slaughtered and the total amounts of money.

**Hon. Mitaa:** Thank you for your guidance, Hon. Speaker. From 10th April to 13th May, 2021, total number of cows slaughtered was 319 collecting Ksh. 95,700. For goats between 10th April to 13 May, 2021 total number was 496 and total amount was Ksh. 53,000. For camels between 10th April to 13 May, 2021 total number was 1,105 and amount collected was Ksh. 643,000.

#### *Observations from the three tables*

On the data on the number of cows, goats/sheep and camels slaughtered from 10th April to 13th May, 2021, the committee observed that:

1. The total revenue collected was Ksh. 791,700. This translates to about Ksh. 9,500,400 per year.
2. That this facility is a key revenue stream which if well facilitated and managed can contribute towards attaining the expected revenue target.
3. The report indicates that no animals are slaughtered on Sundays but on inquiring from the butchers, they confirmed that on many Sundays, animals are slaughtered. This is a loophole of cartels and a window of corruption.

#### *The slaughtering process*

On this matter the committee observed that:

1. Camels are slaughtered at night. The vet doctor is fully in charge in overseeing the slaughtering and also collecting the slaughter charges on behalf of the County Government. This is because during the night all revenue officers and the manager are not on duty. This poses doubt on the correctness of the records of camels slaughtered and money surrendered to the County Government by the Vet doctor.
2. Camels are the key revenue earner whereby an average of 40 camels are slaughtered per day. The camels are sourced from North Eastern and Athi River abattoir boasts of being the only abattoir that slaughters camels around Nairobi and the Lower Eastern.

#### *Record Keeping and revenue issues*

On this matter the committee observed the following:

1. That despite the high enrolment of livestock entering the slaughter house on daily basis, there was no reliable records kept by the revenue officers. For instance, the committee requested for records for the material day that is 16th March, 2021 and the previous four days and no record could be availed.
2. That for the previous four days, the revenue officer collected money in cash and kept in her house totaling to Ksh. 42,000. The committee demanded that the money be deposited in the County Revenue Account and the cash money was returned to the butchers. Further, on inquiring from the Director of Revenue and Senior Revenue Officer in Mavoko Ward, they confessed that they were not aware if cash transactions were taking place in that facility.

3. That receipts were issued only to selected individuals. Most of the individuals who were interviewed by the committee confessed that they rarely get receipts after paying for slaughter charges.

Mr. Chair, I beg to pause.

*(Hon. Musau took over reading of the report)*

**Hon. Musau:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for allowing me to stand in for my colleague.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Go ahead.

**Hon. Musau:**

4. The fact that there is no transparency as far as issuance of receipts is concerned and over-reliance on the vet doctor to run the facility at night and collect revenue on behalf of the County signals a fact that there is conspiracy between the management of the slaughter house to swindle funds for the County Government of Machakos.

#### *5.5 Provision of Water and electricity*

On this matter the committee observed that:

1. Since 2019, the County Government of Machakos has never provided the facility with water. The facility relied on water from Mavoko Water Company but it was disconnected in 2019 following unpaid bill of Ksh. 5,000,000 for water and electricity.
2. The butchers contribute their money on daily basis at a rate of Ksh. 5,000 to purchase water from private water providers. They informed the committee that they have written countless messages to the Governor and the Deputy Governor on the complaint of water but all in vain.
3. The committee observed a dry borehole adjacent the slaughter house that was sunk some years back.

#### *Acute shortage of staff*

It was observed that:

1. The facility currently has no Manager. The last one to serve in this facility retired in 2019.
2. There are only two county slaughter officers whereby one of them will retire this year in September and the other one in November next year.
3. There are no personnel to do cleaning in the facility. The butchers contribute money to engage on daily basis casuals who do the cleaning work.

#### *The slaughter structure*

This is the main house where the slaughtering work is carried from. The committee noted that:

1. The old slaughtering house was condemned by NEMA and the butchers shifted to another unfinished structure opposite which was constructed purposely for camels.
2. The reason why the structure was condemned was because the whole building including the floor could not warrant slaughtering activity as required by Veterinary laws.

3. The butchers have since 2019 contributed money and done repairs of the old building.
4. The roof is made is made of asbestos, a roofing material that is currently not licensed because of its health and environmental dangers.
5. The county government since the devolved system of government came into place has never spent any penny to repair this slaughter house which is one of the main revenue bases in the county.

### *Security*

On the matter of security the committee observed that:

1. The facility has no perimeter fence hence people cross over any time of the day and this is risky given that the facility handles food materials.
2. On the gate there is no security officer to control what enters into the slaughter house

### *Slaughter gun, bullets and licence*

At the time of visit the committee observed that:

1. The County government has for long neglected its role of repairing the gun. Butchers occasionally contribute money to repair the gun at a cost of Ksh. 16,000 after every two months.
2. The County government has for two years never provided bullets. The butchers contribute on monthly bases Ksh. 32,000 to purchase bullets.
3. The license to operate the gun expired in the mid-2020 and the county government has never renewed the license. The butchers operate the gun just on friendly agreement with the Kenya Police Service.

### *RESPONSES FROM THE CHIEF OFFICER*

Hon. Speaker, on 6<sup>th</sup> May, 2021, the committee invited the Chief Officer to respond on the various issues observed from the facility. The Chief Officer responded as follows:

1. That the 0% status of rehabilitation of the slaughter houses indicated in the half year status report was attributed to lack of funds since the little amount that was allocated was later reallocated to other programs.
2. On the matter of staff, it was stated that the Department has no adequate staff and that since 2013 the Department has lost over 100 staff with no replacement up to date. The officer went ahead to say that in the next one year, the Department will have no single meat inspector because the current ones are retiring soon hence Machakos residents will be forced to eat uninspected meat.
3. On the matter of bullets, it was stated that there is a challenge in procurement where the Department procures but no respondent turns up. This is because County Governments do not pay cash whereas the suppliers want the payment to be done in cash. However, she the stated that procurement of bullets is in the process and quotations were issued, received and evaluated and they are awaiting opinion from Head of Procurement.
4. On the matter on the general infrastructure and provision of water, it was stated that the facility can only be improved if adequate funds are appropriated into the facility. It was also stated that the facility was expected to be rehabilitated this year by the World Bank under Kenya Urban Support Program (KUSP) of which it was allocated Ksh.14,000,000. The programme is yet to start.



5. On provision of water the Chief Officer stated that water supply to the facility by MAVWASCO was disconnected in November, 2018 due to inherited huge water bill from the defunct Machakos Municipal Council which had accumulated to Ksh. 5,212,645 by end of November, 2018. The Department is settling the debt in installments and that in 2019 the Department paid Ksh. 927,000.

### *MAJOR FINDINGS*

Hon. Speaker, after analyzing the half year status report and the records on livestock enrolment to Athi River slaughter house, the committee came up with the following findings:

1. Rehabilitation of Athi River slaughter house was one of the priority projects factored in the budget of FY 2020/2021. However, the project was not undertaken because the funds allocated were supplemented to other projects.
2. That accounting officers are not consulted when doing budget reallocation and this is detrimental to the residents of Machakos County since priority projects risk from being phased out when doing supplementary budget.
3. Record keeping though being the key tool to determine the number of animals slaughtered and in control revenue collection is not done as required by the officers assigned in Mavoko slaughter house.
4. It is evident from the report that Machakos County Government for several years has failed to meet the revenue target because of deliberate failure to disclose correct records and this is connected to cartels of individuals who pocket raw revenue.
5. Machakos County has failed to put in place mechanisms of how to collect revenue from camel butchers who slaughter at night giving the vet doctor a leeway to manage the collection and records of camels slaughtered on daily basis. From records, camels provide the highest amount of revenue.
6. That the department has remained silent to watch butchers pay revenue for service from the abattoir but no receipts are given in addition to allowing secret cash transactions to be taking place and no action is being taken.
7. Despite the fact that this facility is a key revenue earner for the County, it lacks the pre-requisite infrastructure and sufficient water. The butchers are forced to contribute from their pockets to buy water. Again, the pods for depositing the animal waste appeared neglected and unattended.
8. The stakeholders of the slaughter house have for a long time complained of poor services in the slaughter house by the County Government including writing to the Governor and Deputy Governor but their voice has never been heard.

### *RECOMMENDATIONS*

Hon. Speaker, based on the above findings the committee recommends as follows:

1. Mavoko slaughter house, a key revenue source is facing infrastructural challenges and lack of water. Machakos county government in the next financial year should allocate adequate funds to rehabilitate the facility and another amount for provision of water and electricity and payment of Ksh. 5,000,000 owed to MAVWASCO and Kenya Power.
2. The Department of Agriculture should after 60 days of adoption of this report, provide the Assembly with the implementation status of the funding of Ksh. 14 Million by Kenya Urban Support Program (KUSP) which was budgeted to rehabilitate Mavoko slaughter house.
3. That if services to the residents of Machakos are to be delivered in fullness, there is need to consult the Chief Officers of the Specific department on which programs

- need to be addressed during the supplementary budget. This will ensure that projects included in the budget are relevant to the needs of the society.
4. The deliberate failure to keep reliable records of animals slaughtered and revenue collected is an indication of underground curtails planned to deprive the County Governments of Machakos its rightful revenue while enriching few individuals. The committee therefore recommends that the Department of Agriculture in collaboration with that of Finance should streamline and ensure that accurate records of animals slaughtered daily and revenue collected tally and reflect true situation in Mavoko slaughter house.
  5. The Department of Finance has provided pay bill numbers for the purpose of transmitting revenue returns. The committee recommends that the Assembly committee on Finance in collaboration with the Department of Finance should make a follow-up to ensure that butchers pay directly to the County Government using the till number provided and that revenue officers only do the task of ascertaining the payment messages from the butchers.
  6. It is the right of every person once payment is done to be issued with a payment receipt. The committee therefore recommends that the Department of Finance should take up this matter and ensure that receipts are issued and that the same receipts tally with pay bill transactions and the number of animals slaughtered on daily basis.
  7. The Department of Agriculture in collaboration with that of Finance should do a further investigation to find out if at all there is undisclosed arrangement of slaughtering animals from this facility on Sundays and take necessary actions to streamline this black-market activity.
  8. A slaughter house is required by public health to have sufficient and regular flow of water. The County Government of Machakos through its program of provision of free water should prioritize provision of water to the facility by sinking a borehole which will also serve the community around the area.
  9. The County Government of Machakos should, encourage and facilitate construction of good and standard abattoirs by the private sectors. This will complement in the provision of abattoir services and at the same time provide a competitive platform for service delivery.
  10. Human resource is a key factor in any production process. The County Government of Machakos in the next financial year should recruit more staff to serve in the Department of Agriculture and livestock to replace those who have retired, those retiring soon and also post some to the needy stations like the Mavoko slaughter house which is giving the County a lot of revenue.
  11. The County Government of Machakos should gazette a market day for Athi River and set aside a place for livestock sale yard. This is because the area is bordered by a strong catchment for livestock keeping like Kajiado County. This will go a long way in increasing revenue collection and also provide business opportunities.

## 8.0 CONCLUSION

Hon. Speaker, Kenya adopted fiscal decentralization to facilitate provision of basic services such as water, sanitation and health at the subnational level to eradicate poverty and improve the wellbeing of its citizens. Progress towards achievement of this aspiration will depend on the extent to which county governments can manage leakages attributed to manual collection of revenue, weak internal control systems and poor coordination of revenue collection.

The rising impunity by those in public service who are expected to safeguard our resources and provide services with utmost humility, accountability and integrity has eroded public confidence.

Disclosure of information as provided for in the Constitution is not by chance rather it is meant to enhance transparency and reduce avenues for corruption thereby realizing value for money which is dearly paid by Kenyans who mostly hustle to get their daily bread.

Hon. Speaker, It is therefore my privilege and pleasure on behalf of the Committee on Agriculture to table before this Hon. House the report on the status of Mavoko/Athi River slaughter house for discussion and adoption. Thank you, Hon. Speaker

**Hon. Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Moses Mitaa and Hon. Musau.

*(Question proposed)*

**Hon. Kieti:** Thank you, Hon. Speaker. Hon. Speaker, I want to thank the Chair for the committee on agriculture and the Members for the report that they have brought forward concerning the Athi River slaughter house. Mr. Speaker, I want to say that I was invited in one of the site visits to that slaughter house and I want to say that what is appearing in the report is a true copy of what is on the ground.

There is a lot of mess in that area and Mr. Speaker, owing to the fact that meat is very delicate and meat can be poisoned either through contamination or even poor handling, Mr. Speaker, this is a matter which needs to be addressed with allot of urgency because when you visit the place, the stakeholders that is the people manning the facility at the moment, those who slaughter the cows and the other staff there are very cooperative, but you wonder why the county government has ignored supporting those people to give services to the common *wananchi* because whatever is happening there when you look at the buildings are dilapidated, they are in poor state, the floor, everything and it is these people who raise money for repairs in those buildings.

It is a pity to hear from the stakeholders that they even contribute to but water to clean and when you look at the place these people are not able to buy enough water to clean that slaughter house. So, I want to say that just as the recommendations that have been given by the committee, this is a matter that needs to be addressed and the county government needs to support that facility so that it does not become a source of disease to the community or the people who are feeding on the meat from that facility and I want to say that this is not just in Athi River, I think that the other facilities have the same challenges.

So, this is just a matter that cuts across all the slaughter houses. We need them to be well cleaned and to have enough personnel to man them so that the meat that comes from those places is meat that is free from any form of contamination. Thank, Mr. Speaker.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Thank you. Hon. Cosmus Masesi.

**Hon. Masesi:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First, I want to appreciate the report by the agriculture committee led by the able chair my brother Hon. Moses Mitaa. Mr. Speaker, this gives a light on what is happening within these slaughter houses and remember this a public slaughter house and still we have the private ones whereby I am doubting if the county government gets any revenue from them if in the public slaughter houses, we are losing this amount of money. Mr. Speaker, I want to believe also the finance committee needs to come up very strongly and see how they can manage this leakage and make sure that all funds all finances which are gotten out of these slaughter houses are channeled to our county accounts.

Mr. Speaker, also I want to believe the agriculture committee needs to have the vet doctor who is in charge of these doctors across the county and get to give some light on how these veterinary doctors operate. In most cases within our wards, these personnel sometimes they have to be paid extra money for them to come and check on the quality of the meat which is slaughtered within our wards. Sometimes we have to intervene and make sure that they do their work which I

want to believe they have been paid for and they have to perform without this much force being used.

Mr. Speaker, again we have to make sure that our people get clean and inspected meat because again we know health is wealth; we have to make sure that our people get what is clean and finally let those personnel come up with a good schedule on when they are doing the slaughtering so that we can have clean and clear data on how many animals are being slaughtered in the facilities. Thank you.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Thank you. Hon. Mueni.

**Hon. (Ms.) Mueni:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mine is to say that the people in the slaughter house make money in that place, even they were asking to be given the house so that they can be leased which means they see a lot of money there and they just try to be given the same but the workers of the county executive are really making a lot of money because even I think the workers who are there earn more than the MCAs who are here and you cannot know.

So, Mr. Speaker, I think the executive and even the people who are there collecting the money we were saying that they are not supposed to stay there for three months which is very important so that they can be rotating. But from up, from the office up to that place those people are thieves. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Thank you, very much. On the outside chamber Hon. Robert Kisini.

**Hon. Kisini:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I happen to be the Member of that particular ward where that slaughter house is. Mr. Speaker, I want to first of all to thank the Chairman and the entire team because of the good report they have tried to give or they have given. I think they were very true and they have highlighted most of the things which are happening there. Mr. Speaker, on the modernization of the slaughter house, it is very key because just to report, I want to tell you Mr. Speaker this slaughter house was constructed way back in 1982-83 and it started to operate as a modern slaughter house way back those years and I think it was constructed by money gotten from Scandinavian countries, I think that is DANIDA.

It is serving the whole of Mavoko sub-county and it also goes all the way to Kajiado County. Most of the animals which are slaughtered there are from Kajiado, from the whole sub-county of Mavoko and at times even Nairobi. So it is very important to note that this is a key slaughter house which serves in the metropolitan area and it needs to be rehabilitated to match with the current years.

Mr. Speaker about the finances, I just want to comment the Committee because they saw where the weaknesses are and I think the Finance department is going to seal those loopholes. It is a wonder if someone can stay with money to a tune of Ksh. 42,000 for three days without receipting them. Mr. Speaker, it is important for me talk about the issue of water and sewage which is mainly supplied by Mavwasco, you have seen that the County Government does not pay and water was disconnected because of a debt payment of Ksh.5 Million and over.

So Mr. Speaker Athi River slaughter house is handling food and it is only supported by butchers. They are the ones who buy water and bring it there. Mr. Speaker I would request the County Government to come in and settle out the whole outstanding amount so that the slaughter house can work effectively. Mr. Speaker, we really upgraded the sewer line for Athi River area and even up to that area but I do not know if the slaughter house was connected. The water tanks are very near where we do our treatment and soon we will open a project of over Ksh. 2 billion so I hope all these facilities are going to be connected and the County government is going to pay effectively the Mavwasco.

Most of the staff are retired; they were trained during those days of Municipal Councils and I am requesting county government to replace them or employ again. So Mr. Speaker I want to echo the statement which also the Agriculture committee had put in the report that this facility needs to be fenced. I would request the Budget committee to allocate funds and build a perimeter wall around the facility so that it can be protected from intruders.

Mr. Speaker, I once again echo and say that we need to modernize this slaughter house and we requesting the County Government to put a lot of money as I have seen that they had budgeted to allocate Ksh. 14 million from KUSP. Thank you, Mr. Speaker and the committee for highlighting all those ills which are happening at my ward.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Thank you. Hon. Johana in the outside chamber.

**Hon. Munyao:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I stand to support this report by the committee on Agriculture on the Status of Mavoko, Athi River Slaughter House. Mr. Speaker, health is very key and it worries at the present time to learn that such a facility is till roofed with asbestos which we know it is very dangerous and I am still wondering why the same facility was not condemned together with the other earlier reported facilities. Mr. Speaker we also noted from the report that a very key gadget, the gun which is used in the same facility is really not following any record.

There is not proper procurement of the bullets even the repairs have been placed in the hands of just the butchers whereas it is a government property. Lack of proper accountability means the same gadget is exposed to abuse and we cannot account for how the bullets are used, we are not sure whether the same gadgets can never be used as a toy gun or a bullet to do other illegal operations and therefore I would recommend that we do away with the gun and use other means or have the gun be in use as the law dictates.

Mr. Speaker the issue of personnel, we know it is cutting across all the departments in the County. We know the department has already going through a wage bill issue which is above what is recommended and we know there are essential services which are immersed in the County (??). So Mr. Speaker I recommend that we either review the audit of personnel so that we can know how far we are with the wage bill and be able to recruit in some of this areas which we cannot do without personnel.

Mr. Speaker, still on the same, I would advise that if as a County we are unable to manage the slaughter houses, because we are privy to what is also happening to other slaughter houses, I would recommend that we become serious with the facilities or we privatize. We give them to other private operators who can make the premises of such facilities a bit more orderly and therefore maximize on collection of revenues, we levy them and operate so that we are sure that our people are not exposed to health risks and that the facilities are operating as required.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, it is so surprising to realize that it is also the butchers who are contributing funds to do repairs and other maintenance of the facilities, I want to imagine that under such circumstances the County workers who are operating that facility are working under the mercies of the butchers and therefore we expect them not to be able to exert any authority on the said butcheries and therefore we expect things not to work as expected.

Therefore, I still insist if we are unable to operate as a government to run those facilities, let us give those facilities to our people, women groups, youth groups and other organized groups who can do work in those facilities and the work of the government would be to collect levies from such facilities and allow our people to create employment and run those facilities in a more orderly manner. Thank you; I support the report which is so rich and very informing.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Thank you. Hon. Munguti.

**Hon. Munguti:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to start by congratulating the committee which is led by Hon. Mitaa for this good report. First I would start by looking at infrastructure challenges which is facing the Mavoko slaughter house. Mr. Speaker you will bear witness with me that anything dealing with finances there should be good accountability and one thing I would like to understand is that we have our finance team or department which is doing all this and my input is that we give automation of money and payments being done on automated machines so that we can stop this issue of money being dished out in cash form and that is one way of closing this kind of money being taken away by some individuals.

Also Mr. Speaker, I also understand that this slaughter has been taken over by the KDF in a manner that they are taking meat from the same slaughter house.

**Hon. Mitaa:** Point of information Hon. Speaker.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Point of information Hon. Mitaa.

**Hon. Mitaa:** Thank you Hon. Speaker, I wish to inform my colleague that Athi River slaughter house is not Kenya Meat Commission so this is under County Government of Machakos. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Thank you for the correction. Go ahead Hon. Munguti.

**Hon. Munguti:** Thank you Mr. Speaker and the Hon. Member for that information, and I stand to be corrected. Also Mr. Speaker, I would like our County Government to sink a borehole in the same slaughter house so that at least instead of accruing bills from the KPLC concerning water bills which are pumped through the water department, at least we can have free water in the slaughter house. Also Mr. Speaker, it would be prudent for the department of Agriculture to ensure that they uplift the standard of that slaughter house by improving the structure through building a modern slaughter house.

Also I want to echo the sentiments of Hon. Munyao that if we are not able to run it we can privatize because we have seen it in several areas and it has worked and if we privatize the slaughter house, we give the department to do certain calculations so that we know in a year or in a month what can we achieve from it because it would be prudent for this county to ensure that we get good amount of money from the same slaughter house.

Mr. Speaker, it is also good that I have noticed they lack staff and we have allocated money so that we can have workers employed in the County government. It is my prayer that through the committee of labor, they would follow up from the department of labor and ICT and ensure that as we do recruitment of staff, we can have some staff who are qualified to do this kind of job to be employed in the same department.

Lastly as I support this report is that we ensure if the funding is going to come from this World Bank, I have seen it is going to fund us with Ksh. 14 Million through KUSP, it is very prudent for this House through the Implementation committee to insure they work hand in hand and see all the monies has been put to the same department and the slaughter house has been improved through the infrastructure. Thank you, Mr. Speaker and I support the report.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** May the mover of the motion respond please.

**Hon. Mitaa:** Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I want to appreciate my colleagues Hon. Members for the healthy discussion we have had. I also want to thank my colleague Hon. Joseph, I developed muscle cramp and I could not continue reading the report and it is part of life. Hon. Speaker, this facility is very important in our county and in our country. My humble request because as a said

earlier in my contribution in the morning, departments cuts across and I would request committee of finance to make right intervention because Mr. Speaker, the loophole which is here is on the revenue collection and that is how the employees are able to raise money, to charge the people who bring their cows to be slaughtered and instead of issuing receipts, they put the money in the pockets and when we went there it had taken four days for the revenue officer to make remittance to the County revenue office.

So I want to request the Finance department, the finance committee to make interventions and ensure that there is close monitoring of any revenue collected in that facility and then we plough or invest in the facility so that we improve on the infrastructure of that facility since it is a very important facility in our county. It is the only facility which is slaughtering camels and it is something we must be proud of.

I want to echo words of the Area MCA Hon. Kisini, yes they have been connected to the sewer line but much is needed to be done so that now we fully qualify to use that sewer line Hon. Chair. So I want to appreciate Hon. Members and as Agriculture committee we will ensure that any work related to our department we work and see that there is improvement. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Moses.

*(Question put and agreed to)*

Hon. Members, I need to just to make one brief comment before we adjourn the House. It is really disheartening to see such reports coming before the House over and over again and nothing being done on them. This is one single revenue collection point, and one of the most uncomplicated one, where by a cow is brought, received and slaughtered; it is a very simple operation but that one simple operation you can see is earning Ksh. 9.5 million in a year excluding the leakage which is much more than what is recorded. It surprises me because I know we also have a Chief Officer in-charge of public health.

We have a Chief Officer in-charge of Revenue Collection and simple things like controlling night slaughtering. What is so difficult in controlling night slaughtering? What is so difficult in ensuring that on Sundays, if there is slaughtering going on Sunday somebody is there to collect revenue? No receipts, no water, a facility giving you Ksh. 9.5 million, a borehole sinking and equipping is Ksh. 2.5 million. If this facility is giving us 9.5M we cannot put Ksh. 2.5 million to sink a borehole and put solar on it so that there are no expenses and water is provided for it. This shows you the level at which revenue pilferage is done in this County.

We have so much leakage of revenue that instead of money being collected together and put in the County Revenue fund and utilized to develop the County; it is ending up in people's pockets. We are making few millionaires, few multi-millionaires at the expense of thousands of people in this county and the challenge which has been given to the Finance committee in this House in ensuring that they close this issue of revenue pilferage is simple. It is about putting mechanisms in place and I challenge that department, the committee led by Hon. Mwanthi to visit the area to see if they can be able to assist in ensuring that revenue is collected at all times.

You will realize that we have Athi River, we have another one in Mutituni as you have seen there, there are several, Mutituni is the same case. I can assure you in Mutituni, if this guys are doing about 319 cows, Mutituni is doing close to 200. You may think it is a small abattoir but the amount of slaughtering done there is quite high but the abattoir of revenue realized there is very minimal.

So I would like to say that this is a very important report and I put also to the chair of implementation committee to ensure that the recommendations which have been made by this committee are adhered to and followed to and I am very sure this will serve our people a great deal in ensuring that there is money coming to them. A facility which is handling food at this age has an

asbestos roof and you all know that asbestos is cancerous; it has been banned from all over the place yet that slaughter house is still having asbestos roof. We have people working there, we have slaughtering happening there, it is really a sad affair and I would like the committee take this seriously so that we can ensure that these ills that have been highlighted by the committee are handled.

### ADJOURNMENT

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** The House stands adjourned Hon. Members to resume on Wednesday, 28th July, 2021 at 10.00 a.m. Enjoy the rest of the afternoon.

The House rose at 3.51 p.m.