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Busia leaders criticise water ministry over figures

BUSIA

By Egessa Hajusu

The Busia district works committee has castigated water ministry for giving 'misleading' figures on the safe water coverage in the area.

The committee chaired by Stanley Wejuli Guloba, the Bulumbi sub-county councillor, noted that the false information had deprived the district of opportunities from other development partners who want to improve the water sector.

The committee, which sat at Chango Macho Hall on Tuesday, was reacting to a report presented by Ogoola Pyajapyani, which stated that the district had 522 deep boreholes yet the number is 400.

Ogoola, who was accused of giving false information to the committee, withdrew his report which he confessed having copied from the water

ministry's website.

The acting district chairperson, Paul Ogutu, who is also the secretary for works, said efforts to lobby WaterAid to support the water sector failed on grounds that Busia was not badly off.

"The NGO said according to information from the water ministry, Busia was not doing badly in the water sector," Ogutu said.

The district water engineer, Joseph Lubega, said other districts had equally complained about the safe water coverage figures at the ministry.

Concerning roads, the committee recommended that the district increases the number of kilometres, so as to attract increased funding from the road fund.

Patrick Odong, the councillor Masinya sub-county, said a total of 16 roads under sub-counties should be upgraded to district roads.