



Cuyahoga County Women's Health Commission

Minutes

Thursday, June 12, 2025 | 9:30 AM

Administrative Headquarters, 2079 E. Ninth Street

4th Floor – Committee Room B

The public may also view the meeting via live-stream by using the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/cuyahogacounty>

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Chair Tenille Kaus at 9:50am

2. Roll Call

In attendance: Heather Brissett, County Councilwoman Yvonne Conwell, Emily Campbell, Councilwoman Tenille Kaus, Jazmin Long, David Merriman, Dr. Connie Moreland, Sabrina Roberts on behalf of County Executive Chris Ronayne, Mayor Kim Thomas
Arrived after roll call: Councilwoman Nakeisha Nickerson, County Executive Chris Ronayne

Absent: Dr. Lauren Benne, Dr. Melanie Golembiewski, Councilwoman Jasmin Santana

3. Moment of Silence and Reflection

Thank you for the work that all of our members do on a regular basis. Many were coming from other meetings already and we are grateful to all our members for sharing their time with us today.

4. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

Heather Brissett moved to approve the prior meeting minutes; Jazmin Long seconded.

Motion was unanimously approved by all in attendance.

5. Public Comment

No public comment was received.

6. New Business

a. Overview of Fibroid Event – Councilwoman Meridith Turner

County Councilwoman Meredith Turner shared an overview of the successful Fibroid Awareness Community event that she hosted this Spring at the Warrensville library. The event was sponsored by MetroHealth and many organizations in the black community were invited to participate in the event.

129 people registered and 59 attended. 47 attendees filled out evaluation forms with 94% of respondents requesting follow-up or expressing interest in attending future events.

This community education event was a great opportunity for women to come together to share their stories and be heard. It was an intergenerational gathering where the storytelling was invaluable and validating for those in attendance. Women in attendance expressed interest in continued programming and support group connections with additional topics including – menopause, mental and emotional health, fertility, endometriosis. The Commission would like to take steps to replicate this community education event in the fall.

Commission members discussed having counselors available at similar events in the future since mental health topics were so prevalent. Other resources were recommended including representatives from Birthing Beautiful Communities and health care professionals.

b. Policy Update – Emily Campbell

Emily Campbell shared an update on Medicaid policies that are actively being considered at the Federal and State legislatures as part of the budget process. At the

Federal level, just before Memorial Day, the a budget bill was passed by a very thin margin. There is not total agreement within Congress about what to do with the budget. Emily outlined a few specific lines of language from the budget about what is being cut and prohibitions that have been written into the bill. There are provisions in the federal budget that would mean that if Ohio doesn't make changes to our Medicaid budget, there would be severe cut backs to what the state will receive.

Center for Community Solutions (CCS) is continuing to advocate on this issue, and we are seeing that advocacy is working in making legislators at the federal level think twice about what is being put in these bills.

The state budget is scheduled to be completed before July 1. It currently does not take into account some of the potential federal cuts. Much of the work in continuing to provide services will fall on the local governments.

c. Period Poverty Presentation – Katura Pleasant

Katura Pleasant is a Cleveland Foundation Public Service Fellow that is placed with Cuyahoga County in the Department of Health and Human Services. She shared a presentation on the topic of period poverty, which is a passion project that she has been working on throughout her fellowship year. She provided an overview of what period poverty is, how it impacts Cuyahoga County residents, and some education on how we can help.

Katura recommended that free products be placed in restrooms in all County buildings for employees and members of the public to use freely. Councilman Schleper, in attendance at today's meeting, offered to assist with any of these initiatives and supports this work.

Councilwoman Turner shared that she would like to designate what is left of her ARPA money to be used for this issue.

7. Next Meeting

- a. September 25, 2025 at 9:00am

8. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Nakeisha Nickerson; Councilwoman Yvonne Connwell seconded. Motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 10:56am.