



MINUTES

**CUYAHOGA COUNTY EDUCATION, ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY
COMMITTEE MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, 2025
CUYAHOGA COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS
C. ELLEN CONNALLY COUNCIL CHAMBERS – 4TH FLOOR
3:00 PM**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairwoman Simon called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Ms. Simon asked Assistant Deputy Clerk Georgakopoulos to call the roll. Committee members Simon, Schleper, Houser and Miller were in attendance and a quorum was determined. Committee member Jones entered the meeting after the roll call was taken.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments given.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 19, 2025 MEETING

A motion was made by Mr. Schleper, seconded by Mr. Miller and approved by unanimous vote to approve the minutes from the February 19, 2025 meeting.

5. MATTERS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

- a) R2024-0396: A Resolution awarding a total sum, not to exceed \$250,000, to the Murtis Taylor Human Services System for the Students of Promise Leadership Academy from the District 8 ARPA Community

Grant Fund; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

Mr. Bob Ivory, representing Students of Promise Leadership Academy; and Pastor Darian Sheppard, Senior Pastor of Imani Temple Ministries, addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2024-0396. Discussion ensued.

Committee members asked questions of Mr. Ivory and Pastor Sheppard pertaining to the item, which they answered accordingly.

On a motion by Mr. Jones with a second by Mr. Miller, Resolution No. R2024-0396 was considered and approved by unanimous vote to be referred to the full Council agenda for second reading.

Committee member Houser requested to have his name added as a co-sponsor to the legislation.

- b) R2025-0071: A Resolution awarding a total sum, not to exceed \$5,000, to the Case Western Reserve University Office for Diversity, Equity and Inclusive Engagement for the 2-day experience to empower Black Women from the District 9 ARPA Community Grant Fund; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

Mr. Julian Rogers, Associate Vice President for Local Government and Community Affairs; Ms. Evelin Nunez-Rodriguez, Diversity Program Manager for Case Western Reserve University; and Ms. Tiara Sargent, Organizer of Protecting Your Crown Conference, addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2025-0071. Discussion ensued.

Committee members asked questions of Mr. Rogers, Ms. Nunez-Rodriguez and Ms. Sargent pertaining to the item, which they answered accordingly.

On a motion by Ms. Simon with a second by Mr. Miller, Resolution No. R2025-0071 was considered and approved by unanimous vote to be referred to the full Council agenda for second reading.

Committee members Miller, Simon and Jones requested to have their names added as co-sponsors to the legislation.

- c) R2025-0081: A Resolution awarding a total sum, not to exceed \$10,000, to the Black Environmental Leaders Association for the Jaqueline E. Gillon Annual Scholarship Celebration from the District 9 ARPA Community Grant Fund; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

There was no legislative action taken on Resolution No. R2025-0081.

- d) R2025-0094: A Resolution authorizing a Subgrant Agreement with the City of Painesville in the amount not-to-exceed \$80,665,500.00 to implement clean energy and nature-based solutions approved as part of the EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grant work plan for installation of a large solar array and a battery system including brownfield reforestation work for the period 10/1/2024 – 9/30/2029; authorizing the County Executive to execute Contract No. 5195 and all other documents consistent with said agreement and this Resolution; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

Mr. Michael Foley, Administrator of Cuyahoga Green Energy; Mr. Joe Price, Electric Superintendent for the City of Painesville; and Mr. Derek Schafer, Executive Director of West Creek Conservancy, addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2025-0094. Discussion ensued.

Committee members asked questions of Messrs. Foley, Price and Schafer pertaining to the item, which they answered accordingly.

On a motion by Mr. Miller with a second by Mr. Schleper, Resolution No. R2025-0094 was considered and approved by unanimous vote to be referred to the full Council agenda for second reading.

Committee members Simon, Schleper and Miller requested to have their names added as co-sponsors to the legislation.

6. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Ms. Simon discussed the federal government's proposal to cut down trees and the impact that it will have on the Endangered Species Act.

7. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Chairwoman Simon adjourned the meeting at 4:13 p.m., without objection.