



MINUTES

**CUYAHOGA COUNTY EDUCATION, ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY
COMMITTEE MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MAY 21, 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 Deputy Clerk Carter to call the roll. Committee members Simon, Schleper, Houser and Miler were in attendance and a quorum was determined. Committee member Jones joined the meeting after the roll call was taken.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments given.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM APRIL 30, 2025 MEETING

A motion was made by Mr. Schleper, seconded by Mr. Miller and approved by unanimous vote to approve the minutes from the April 30, 2025 meeting.

5. MATTERS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

- a) R2025-0167: A Resolution adopting the 2026-2040 Solid Waste Management Plan Update for the Cuyahoga County Solid Waste Management District; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

Ms. Beth Biggins-Ramer, Executive Director of the Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District, addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2025-0167. Discussion ensued.

Committee members asked questions of Ms. Biggins-Ramer pertaining to the item, which she answered accordingly.

On a motion by Ms. Simon with a second by Mr. Miller, Resolution No. R2025-0167 was considered and approved by unanimous vote to be referred to the full Council agenda for second reading.

- b) R2025-0168: A Resolution awarding a total sum, not to exceed \$10,000, to Urban Squash Cleveland for operational support for the Youth Development Program from the District 3 ARPA Community Grant Fund; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

Ms. Jean Koehler, Executive Director of Urban Squash Cleveland; and Mr. Liam O'Toole, Operations & Community Squash Coordinator for Urban Squash Cleveland, addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2025-0168. Discussion ensued.

Committee members asked questions of Ms. Koehler and Mr. O'Toole pertaining to the item, which they answered accordingly.

On a motion by Ms. Simon with a second by Mr. Schleper, Resolution No. R2025-0168 was considered and approved by unanimous vote to be referred to the full Council agenda for second reading.

- c) R2025-0169: A Resolution awarding a total sum, not to exceed \$10,000, to Cuyahoga Community College for the Center for Entrepreneurs Mentors Initiative from the District 9 ARPA Community Grant Fund; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

Ms. Renee Richard, President and CEO of Cuyahoga Community College Corporate College; and Ms. Ronna McNair, Executive Director of The Center for Entrepreneurs for Cuyahoga Community College, addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2025-0169. Discussion ensued.

Committee members asked questions of Ms. Richard and Ms. McNair pertaining to the item, which they answered accordingly.

On a motion by Mr. Schleper with a second by Mr. Jones, Resolution No. R2025-0169 was considered and approved by unanimous vote to be referred to the full Council agenda for second reading.

- d) R2025-0170: A Resolution awarding a total sum, not to exceed \$10,000, to Pink Party Retreat for the Pink and Black Honors Project from the District 9 ARPA Community Grant Fund; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

Ms. Nanika Ansari, Executive Director of Pink Party Retreat, addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2025-0170. Discussion ensued.

Committee members asked questions of Ms. Ansari pertaining to the item, which she answered accordingly.

On a motion by Ms. Simon with a second by Mr. Schleper, Resolution No. R2025-0170 was considered and approved by unanimous vote to be referred to the full Council agenda for second reading.

Mr. Jones requested to have his name added as a co-sponsor to the legislation.

- e) R2025-0171: A Resolution awarding a total sum, not to exceed \$10,000, to the Urban League of Greater Cleveland for the 2025 National Urban League Conference 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. R2025-0171.

- f) R2025-0178: A Resolution authorizing an amendment to a grant agreement with College Now Greater Cleveland, Contract No. 2611, for the administration and management of debt repayment scholarships and completion scholarships to eligible post-secondary students in connection with the Cuyahoga County Completion Scholarship Program for the period 9/15/2022 – 9/14/2024, to extend the grant agreement expiration date to 07/31/2027 and authorize College Now Greater Cleveland to reallocate an amount not-to-exceed \$600,000 from the Debt Repayment Program to the Completion Scholarship Program; authorizing the County Executive to execute the amendment and all other documents consistent with this Resolution; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

Mr. Bob Durham, Chief Scholarship Services Officer for College Now Greater Cleveland; and Ms. Maggie McGrath, Executive Director of the Higher Education

Compact of Greater Cleveland, addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2025-0178. Discussion ensued.

Committee members asked questions of Mr. Durham and Ms. McGrath pertaining to the item, which they answered accordingly.

On a motion by Mr. Jones with a second by Mr. Miller, Resolution No. R2025-0178 was considered and approved by unanimous vote to be referred to the full Council agenda with a recommendation for passage under second reading suspension of the rules.

Mr. Jones requested to have his name added as a co-sponsor to the legislation.

- g) R2025-0190: A Resolution supporting an application for funding under the Clean Ohio Fund Green Space Conservation Program available through the Ohio Public Works Commission on behalf of City of Bay Village for the conservation of ecologically significant areas in the Cahoon Creek Habitat Restoration in the City of Bay Village; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

Ms. Meghan Chaney, Senior Planner, addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2025-0190. Discussion ensued.

Committee members asked questions of Ms. Chaney pertaining to the item, which she answered accordingly.

On a motion by Mr. Miller with a second by Mr. Schleper, Resolution No. R2025-0190 was considered and approved by unanimous vote to be referred to the full Council agenda with a recommendation for passage under second reading suspension of the rules.

Mr. Miller requested to have his name added as a co-sponsor to the legislation.

- h) R2025-0191: A Resolution supporting an application for funding under the Clean Ohio Fund Green Space Conservation Program available through the Ohio Public Works Commission on behalf of West Creek Conservancy for the conservation of ecologically significant areas in the Headwaters Connector Trail in the City of Solon; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

Ms. Chaney addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2025-0191. Discussion ensued.

Committee members asked questions of Ms. Chaney pertaining to the item, which she answered accordingly.

On a motion by Ms. Simon with a second by Mr. Miller, Resolution No. R2025-0191 was considered and approved by unanimous vote to be referred to the full Council agenda with a recommendation for passage under second reading suspension of the rules.

Ms. Simon and Mr. Miller requested to have their names added as co-sponsors to the legislation.

6. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

There was no miscellaneous business.

7. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Chairwoman Simon adjourned the meeting at 4:32 p.m., without objection.