



CUYAHOGA COUNTY COUNCIL

EDUCATION, ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY

COMMITTEE

CUYAHOGA COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS

4th FLOOR

Committee Members

Sunny M. Simon, Chair | Dist. 11

Robert E. Schleper, Jr., Vice Chair | Dist. 6

Michael J. Houser, Sr. | Dist. 10

Pernel Jones, Jr. | Dist. 8

Dale Miller | Dist. 2

MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2026 — 3:00 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairwoman Simon called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Ms. Simon asked Deputy Clerk Carter to call the roll. Committee members Simon, Schleper, Houser and Miller 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 THE MARCH 4, 2026 MEETING

A motion was made by Mr. Schleper, seconded by Mr. Miller and approved by unanimous vote to approve the minutes from the March 4, 2026 meeting.

5. MATTERS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

- a) R2026-0077: A Resolution authorizing an amendment to Contract No. 3437 (fka Contract No. 2840) with Maximus Human Services, Inc. for the Ohio Works First Program for the period 1/1/2023 – 6/30/2026, to amend budget terms, and for additional funds in the amount not-to-exceed \$1,700,000.00, effective 1/1/2026; 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. Marcos Cortes, Administrator of the Division of Contracts and Performance; Mr. Darren Ross, Program Manager for Maximus; Mr. Darryl Hill, Career Mentor Supervisor for Maximus; and Mr. Paul Bounds, Deputy Administrator of the Department of Jobs and Family Services, addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2026-0077. Discussion ensued.

Committee members asked questions of Messrs. Cortes, Ross, Hill and Bounds pertaining to the item, which they answered accordingly.

On a motion by Mr. Schleper with a second by Mr. Jones, Resolution No. R2026-0077 was considered and approved by unanimous vote to be referred to the full Council agenda for second reading.

- b) R2026-0078: A Resolution authorizing an amendment to Contract No. 3438 (fka Contract No. 2841) with The Centers for Families and Children for the Ohio Works First Program for the period 1/1/2023 - 6/30/2026, to amend budget terms, and for additional funds in the amount not to exceed \$1,800,000.00, effective 1/1/2026; 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. Cortes; Ms. Melissa Russoniello, Vice President of Workforce Integration at The Centers; and Mr. Bounds, addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2026-0078. Discussion ensued.

Committee members asked questions of Mr. Cortes, Ms. Russoniello and Mr. Bounds pertaining to the item, which they answered accordingly.

On a motion by Ms. Simon with a second by Mr. Schleper, Resolution No. R2026-0078 was considered and approved by unanimous vote to be referred to the full Council agenda for second reading.

6. PRESENTATION

- a) Update from College Now Greater Cleveland

Ms. Kittie Warshawsky, Chief External Affairs Officer, and Ms. Sarah Griffin, Director of Scholarships for College Now Greater Cleveland, provided the Committee with an update on the number of students awarded scholarships, graduation rate, colleges attended and scholarships awarded. Discussion ensued.

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

7. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Chairwoman Simon adjourned the meeting at 3:47 p.m., without objection.