



## **MINUTES**

### **CUYAHOGA COUNTY HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES & AGING COMMITTEE MEETING**

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2023**

**CUYAHOGA COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS**

**C. ELLEN CONNALLY COUNCIL CHAMBERS – 4<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR**

**1:00 PM**

#### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

**Chairwoman Conwell called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m.**

#### **2. ROLL CALL**

**Ms. Conwell asked Assistant Deputy Clerk Georgakopoulos to call the roll. Committee members Conwell, Sweeney, Turner and Miller were in attendance and a quorum was determined. Committee member Stephens was absent.**

**A motion was made by Ms. Conwell, seconded by Ms. Turner and approved by unanimous vote to excuse Ms. Stephens from the meeting.**

#### **3. PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Loh addressed the Committee regarding the various housing challenges to persons experiencing homelessness.**

#### **4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE SEPTEMBER 20, 2023 MEETING**

**A motion was made by Ms. Turner, seconded by Mr. Sweeney and approved by unanimous vote to approve the minutes from the September 20, 2023 meeting.**

#### **5. MATTERS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE**

**[Clerk's Note: Item No. 5.b) was taken out of order and considered before Item No. 5.a)]**

- a) R2023-0277: A Resolution making an award on RQ12944 to various providers in the amount not-to-exceed \$1,257,500.00 for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) to Skills Employment and Training

Program for the period 10/1/2023 – 9/30/2024; authorizing the County Executive to execute the master contract and all other documents consistent with said awards and this Resolution; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective:

- 1) Contract No. 3684 with The Centers for Families and Children in an anticipated amount not-to-exceed \$130,000.00.
- 2) Contract No. 3704 with Cleveland Center for Arts & Technology dba NewBridge Cleveland in an anticipated amount not-to-exceed \$400,000.00.
- 3) Contract No. 3707 with Cuyahoga County Public Library in an anticipated amount not-to-exceed \$27,500.00.
- 4) Contract No. 3710 with Goodwill Industries of Greater Cleveland in an anticipated amount not-to-exceed \$50,000.00.
- 5) Contract No. 3706 with Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry in an anticipated amount not-to-exceed \$150,000.00.
- 6) Contract No. 3708 with Towards Employment in an anticipated amount not-to-exceed \$200,000.00.
- 7) Contract No. 3711 with West Side Catholic Center in an anticipated amount not-to-exceed \$300,000.00.

**Mr. David Merriman, Director; Mr. Marcos Cortes, Administrator of the Division of Contracts Administration and Performance and Mr. Paul Bounds, Deputy Administrator for the Department of Health and Human Services; Ms. Ebony Hogan, Career Services Supervisor for the ASPIRE Program for the Cuyahoga County Public Library; and Mr. Ian Marks, Vice President of Workforce Development for Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry, addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2023-0277. Discussion ensued.**

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

**On a motion by Ms. Conwell with a second by Mr. Sweeney, Resolution No. R2023-0277 was considered and approved by majority vote to be referred to the full Council agenda with a recommendation for passage under second reading suspension of the rules, with Mr. Miller recusing himself from the vote.**

- b) R2023-0282: A Resolution awarding a total sum, not to exceed \$10,000, to the Diaper Bank of Greater Cleveland for the Diaper Bank Expansion Project from the District 9 ARPA Community Grant Fund; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

**Ms. Nakeisha Wells, Founder and Executive Director and Ms. Nailah Muhammad, Board President for the Diaper Bank of Greater Cleveland, addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2023-0282. Discussion ensued.**

**Committee members asked questions of Ms. Wells and Ms. Muhammad pertaining to the item, which they answered accordingly.**

**Ms. Conwell stated that she would like to increase the award amount by \$10,000.00 utilizing ARPA funds from District 7.**

**On a motion by Ms. Turner with a second by Mr. Sweeney, Resolution No. R2023-0282 was considered and approved by unanimous vote to be referred to the full Council agenda for second reading.**

**Ms. Conwell requested to have her name added as a sponsor to the legislation.**

- c) R2023-0291: A Resolution authorizing an amendment to Contract No. 3013 with Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry for operations and case management services for a 400-bed Men's Emergency Shelter, located at 2100 Lakeside Avenue, Cleveland, and for facilitation and coordination of overflow shelter services for single adults and families at various locations for the period 1/1/2023 – 12/31/2023, to extend the time period to 12/31/2024, to change the terms effective upon contract signature of all parties, and for additional funds in the amount not-to-exceed \$775,000.00; 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.

**Ms. Melissa Sirak, Director of the Office of Homeless Services and Mr. Michael Sering, Vice President of Housing & Shelter for Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry, addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2023-0291. Discussion ensued.**

**Committee members asked questions of Ms. Sirak and Mr. Sering pertaining to the item, which they answered accordingly.**

**On a motion by Ms. Conwell with a second by Ms. Turner, Resolution No. R2023-0291 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.**

- d) O2023-0016: An Ordinance enacting Section 208.05 of the Cuyahoga County Code to establish a Cuyahoga County Women’s Health Advisory Council to serve as a resource for information, advice and recommendations regarding goals, strategies and programs of the County to support women’s access to the full range of healthcare options, including reproductive and maternal health and to eliminate health disparities; and declaring the necessity that this Ordinance become immediately effective.

**Ms. Sabrina Roberts, Senior Advisor of Partnerships and Engagement and Ms. Zoe Toscos, Senior Projects Manager for the Executive’s Office and Mr. Michael King, Senior Legislative Strategist for County Council, addressed the Committee regarding Ordinance No. O2023-0016. Discussion ensued.**

**Committee members asked questions of Ms. Roberts, Ms. Toscos and Mr. King pertaining to the item, which they answered accordingly.**

**On a motion by Ms. Conwell with a second by Ms. Turner, Ordinance No. O2023-0016 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.**

#### **6. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

**Ms. Conwell announced an upcoming pilot program in 2024 that will offer incentives to service providers under master contracts, who promptly submit invoices, required documents, etc., to ensure timely payments for services received and asked for feedback from her colleagues, based on the experiences from their organizations.**

#### **7. ADJOURNMENT**

**With no further business to discuss, Chairwoman Conwell adjourned the meeting at 2:41 p.m., without objection.**