



MINUTES

CUYAHOGA COUNTY HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES & AGING COMMITTEE MEETING

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6, 2024

CUYAHOGA COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS

C. ELLEN CONNALLY COUNCIL CHAMBERS – 4TH FLOOR

1:00 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairwoman Conwell called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

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

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Loh addressed the committee regarding the challenges of persons experiencing homelessness at local shelters.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE FEBRUARY 21, 2024 MEETING

A motion was made by Mr. Miller, seconded by Ms. Turner and approved by unanimous vote to approve the minutes from the February 21, 2024 meeting.

5. MATTERS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

- a) R2024-0077: A Resolution awarding a total sum, not to exceed \$50,000, to the Catholic Charities Corporation for Capacity Building Development for the Catholic Charities St. Martin de Porres Family Center from the District 7 ARPA Community Grant Fund; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

Ms. Karnese McKenzie, Agency Director of St. Martin DePorres Family Center, addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2024-0077. Discussion ensued.

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

On a motion by Ms. Conwell with a second by Ms. Stephens, Resolution No. R2024-0077 was considered and approved by unanimous vote to be referred to the full Council agenda for second reading.

Ms. Stephens and Ms. Turner requested to have their names added as co-sponsors to the legislation.

b) R2024-0087: A Resolution authorizing Title IV-D Cooperative Agreements with various providers, in the total amount not-to-exceed \$11,473,857.03 for child support services for the period 1/1/2024 – 12/31/2024; authorizing the County Executive to execute the agreements and all other documents consistent with this Resolution; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective:

- 1) Agreement No. 4154 with Cuyahoga County Treasurer's Office in the amount not-to-exceed \$19,701.15.
- 2) Agreement No. 4155 with Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas/Division of Juvenile Court in the amount not-to-exceed \$3,322,443.68.
- 3) Agreement No. 4159 with Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas/Division of Juvenile Court/Cashiers Department in the amount not-to-exceed \$18,273.85.
- 4) Agreement No. 4163 with Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas/Division of Domestic Relations in the amount not-to-exceed \$3,796,651.78.
- 5) Agreement No. 4172 with Cuyahoga County Prosecuting Attorney's Office in the amount not-to-exceed \$4,316,786.57.

Ms. Tyra Taylor, Chief Counsel for the Department of Law introduced a proposed substitute to Resolution No. R2024-0087. Discussion ensued.

A motion was then made by Mr. Miller, seconded by Ms. Turner and approved by unanimous vote to accept the proposed substitute.

Mr. David Merriman, Director and Mr. Marcos Cortes, Administrator of the Division of Contracts and Performance for the Department of Health and Human Services; and

Mr. Jeffrey Bloom, Administrator for the Office of Child Support Services, addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2024-0087. Discussion ensued.

Committee members asked questions of Mr. Merriman, Mr. Cortes and Mr. Bloom pertaining to the item, which they answered accordingly.

On a motion by Ms. Conwell with a second by Mr. Sweeney, Resolution No. R2024-0087 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, as substituted.

- c) R2024-0088: A Resolution authorizing an amendment to Contract No. 3014 with Young Women’s Christian Association of Greater Cleveland, Ohio dba YWCA Greater Cleveland for operation and case management services at the Norma Herr Women’s Shelter for the period 1/1/2023 – 12/31/2023, to extend the time period to 12/31/2024, to change the terms, effective 1/1/2024, and for additional funds in the amount not-to-exceed \$2,536,793.00; 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.

Mr. Merriman, Ms. Melissa Sirak, Director of the Office of Homeless Services; Ms. Helen Forbes Fields, President and Chief Executive Officer and Ms. Cynthia Dailey, Executive Vice President of Programs of the YWCA of Greater Cleveland, addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2024-0088. Discussion ensued.

Committee members asked questions of Mr. Merriman, Ms. Sirak, Ms. Forbes Fields and Ms. Dailey pertaining to the item, which they answered accordingly.

On a motion by Ms. Stephens with a second by Ms. Turner, Resolution No. R2024-0088 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. PRESENTATION

- a) The Center for Community Solutions –
 - Introduction of Ms. Emily Campbell, President and Chief Executive Officer
 - An overview of organization’s mission and recent initiatives

Ms. Emily Campbell, President and Chief Executive Officer, addressed the Committee and provided an overview of the organization’s mission and recent initiatives and provided data regarding poverty rates and its’ impact on residents in Cuyahoga County. Discussion ensued.

Committee members asked questions of Ms. Campbell pertaining to the presentation, which she answered accordingly.

7. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Ms. Conwell spoke about the “Senior Tsunami” anticipated in 2030, when 60% of our residents will be aged 60 or older, and said that she had met with the Director of the Office of Budget and Management to discuss on how to best prepare the next 3 biennial budget cycles to ensure the level of support services are appropriate to address the anticipated needs of seniors in Cuyahoga County and asked for the support of her colleagues. The committee members discussed the possible strategies and resources available to bring attention to lobbyists and state legislatures to garner funding support of critical senior programs and the need to find collaborative partners to achieve this goal.

8. ADJOURNMENT

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