



MINUTES

CUYAHOGA COUNTY HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES & AGING COMMITTEE MEETING

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, 2025

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 1:04 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

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

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Rachelle Reeves addressed the committee regarding the obstacles and challenges experienced by the employees of the Department of Health and Human Services while serving their clients and asked that necessary resources and staffing levels be made a priority.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE FEBRUARY 19, 2025 MEETING

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

5. MATTERS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

- a) R2025-0095: 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 Norman Herr and Walton Road Women's Shelters for the period 1/1/2023 - 12/31/2024 to extend the time period to 12/31/2025, to amend the terms, and for additional funds in the amount not-to-exceed \$2,536,793.00, effective 1/1/2025; and 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 for the Department of Health and Human Services; Ms. Allison Gill, Interim Executive Officer of the Office of Homeless Services; Ms. Helen Forbes Fields, President and Chief Executive Officer and Ms. Cynthia Dailey, Executive Vice President of Programs for the Young Women's Christian Association of Greater Cleveland, Ohio dba YWCA Greater Cleveland, addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2025-0095. Discussion ensued.

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

On a motion by Ms. Conwell with a second by Mr. Casselberry, Resolution No. R2025-0095 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) Overview of Cuyahoga Job and Family Services,
Kevin Gowan, Administrator, Cuyahoga Job and Family Services

Mr. Kevin Gowan, Administrator for Cuyahoga Job and Family Services made a presentation to the committee members which included an overview of the department's mission, services and programs, leadership team, access options to apply for benefits, eligibility, data regarding residents served, community impact, remote services and employment and training programs. Committee members asked questions of Mr. Gowan regarding his presentation, which he answered accordingly.

Mr. David Merriman, Director of the Department of Health and Human Services commented on the exceptional achievements of Mr. Gowan which resulted in efficiency improvements in the department.

7. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Ms. Conwell commented on an upcoming Director's Meeting scheduled for March 18, 2025 at 11:00 p.m., with Mr. Simeon Best, Director of the Office of Reentry; and stated that they will be following up next week on the issues raised by Ms. Reeves during public comment.

8. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Chairwoman Conwell adjourned the meeting at 2:02 p.m., without objection.