



CUYAHOGA COUNTY COUNCIL

HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES & AGING COMMITTEE

CUYAHOGA COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS

4th FLOOR

MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, JULY 2, 2025—1:00 P.M.

Committee Members

Yvonne M. Conwell, Chair | Dist. 7
Martin J. Sweeney, Vice Chair | Dist. 3
Mark Casselberry | Dist. 4
Michael J. Houser, Sr. | Dist. 10
Robert E. Schleper, Jr. | District 6

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. Council President Miller was also in attendance.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments given.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE JUNE 4, 2025 MEETING

A motion was made by Mr. Sweeney, seconded by Mr. Schleper and approved by unanimous vote to approve the minutes from the June 4, 2025 meeting.

5. MATTERS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

- a) R2025-0216: A Resolution awarding a total sum, not to exceed \$80,000 to the Hunger Network of Greater Cleveland for the Funding for Hunger Network's Hot Meal Sites Project from the Districts 2, 3, 4, 7, & 8 ARPA Community Grant Funds; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

Ms. Julie Johnson, Chief Executive Officer and Ms. Emma Messett, Hunger Relief Program Director for the Hunger Network of Greater Cleveland, addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2025-0216. Discussion ensued.

Committee members and Councilmember asked questions of Ms. Johnson and Ms. Messett pertaining to the item, which they answered accordingly.

On a motion by Ms. Conwell with a second by Mr. Casselberry, Resolution No. R2025-0216 was considered and approved by unanimous vote to be referred to the full Council agenda for second reading.

6. PRESENTATIONS

- a) 2025 ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) Report –
Ken Surratt, Chief Revenue Officer and Maryam Kiefer, Senior Director, Public Policy
for the United Way of Greater Cleveland

Mr. Ken Surratt, Chief Revenue Officer and Ms. Maryam Kiefer, Senior Director, Public Policy for the United Way of Greater Cleveland, addressed the Committee and provided a presentation on the 2025 ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) Report, which included statistics specific to the residents in Cuyahoga County on poverty rates; household incomes vs. expenses; most common industry workers below the ALICE threshold; how the ALICE data is used in the community; ALICE Ohio State Budget Advocacy Agenda; and recommendations for how County Council can use ALICE data.

Committee members and Councilmember asked questions of Mr. Surratt and Ms. Kiefer pertaining to the presentation, which they answered accordingly.

- b) State and Federal Budget Proposals and their Impact on the SNAP and Medicaid Programs –
David Merriman, Director, Department of Health and Human Services and
Kevin Gowan, Director, Cuyahoga Job and Family Services

Mr. David Merriman, Director, Department of Health and Human Services and Mr. Kevin Gowan, Director, Cuyahoga Job and Family Services, addressed the Committee and provided a presentation on the State and Federal Budget proposals and their impact on the SNAP and Medicaid Programs, which included statistics related to the number of residents currently receiving Medicaid, SNAP, Childcare Vouchers and TANF benefits and recent changes implemented to improve customer service levels. The presentation continued by explaining the programs facing federal changes, specifically SNAP and Medicaid, and the potential impact financially and in the community of the proposed changes, as well as the “administrative churn” that will result.

Committee members and Councilmember asked questions of Mr. Merriman and Mr. Gowan pertaining to the presentation, which they answered accordingly.

7. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

There was no miscellaneous business.

8. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Chairwoman Conwell adjourned the meeting at 2:33 p.m., without objection.