



## CUYAHOGA COUNTY COUNCIL

### HUMAN RESOURCES, APPOINTMENTS & EQUITY COMMITTEE

CUYAHOGA COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS  
4<sup>th</sup> FLOOR

#### MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2025—10:00 A.M.

#### Committee Members

Martin J. Sweeney, Chair | Dist. 3  
Michael J. Gallagher, Vice Chair | Dist. 5  
Yvonne M. Conwell | Dist. 7  
Michael J. Houser, Sr. | Dist. 10  
Meredith M. Turner | Dist. 9

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

**Chairman Sweeney called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.**

#### 2. ROLL CALL

**Mr. Sweeney asked Assistant Deputy Clerk Georgakopoulos to call the roll. Committee members Sweeney, Gallagher and Conwell were in attendance and a quorum was determined. Committee member Turner was absent. Committee member Houser arrived after the roll call was taken.**

#### 3. PUBLIC COMMENT

**There were no public comments given.**

#### 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE JULY 29, 2025 MEETING

**A motion was made by Mr. Gallagher, seconded by Ms. Conwell and approved by unanimous vote to approve the minutes from the July 29, 2025 meeting.**

#### 5. MATTERS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

- a) R2025-0261: A Resolution adopting various changes to the Cuyahoga County Non-Bargaining Classification Plan; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

**Mr. Albert Bouchahine, Manager of Classification and Compensation for the Personnel Review Commission, addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2025-0261. Discussion ensued.**

**Committee members asked questions of Mr. Bouchahine pertaining to the item, which he answered accordingly.**

**On a motion by Ms. Conwell with a second by Mr. Gallagher, Resolution No. R2025-0261 was considered and approved by unanimous vote to be referred to the full Council agenda for second reading.**

- b) R2025-0264: A Resolution confirming the County Executive's appointment of Michael Negray to serve on Cuyahoga County Corrections Planning Board for the term 1/2/2025 – 1/1/2028; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

**Mr. Ben Schaefer, Legislative Liaison for the Executive's Office, addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2025-0264. Discussion ensued.**

**Committee members asked questions of Mr. Schaefer pertaining to the item, which he answered accordingly.**

**Mr. Michael Negray addressed the Committee regarding his nomination to serve on the Cuyahoga County Corrections Planning Board. Discussion ensued.**

**Committee members asked questions of Mr. Negray pertaining to his experience, expertise and qualifications, which he answered accordingly.**

**On a motion by Mr. Gallagher with a second by Ms. Conwell, Resolution No. R2025-0264 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.**

**Mr. Sweeney requested to have his name added as a co-sponsor to the legislation.**

- c) R2025-0265: A Resolution confirming the County Executive's reappointment of Dr. Lauren Beene to serve on the Cuyahoga County Women's Health Commission for the term 5/1/2025 – 4/30/2028; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

**Mr. Schaefer addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2025-0265. Discussion ensued.**

**Committee members asked questions of Mr. Schaefer pertaining to the item, which he answered accordingly.**

**Dr. Lauren Beene addressed the Committee regarding her nomination to serve on the Cuyahoga County Women's Health Commission. Discussion ensued.**

**Committee members asked questions of Dr. Beene pertaining to her experience, expertise and qualifications, which she answered accordingly.**

**On a motion by Ms. Conwell with a second by Mr. Gallagher, Resolution No. R2025-0265 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) O2025-0004: An Ordinance amending Sections 1501.01 and 1501.02 of the Cuyahoga County Code and Section 3.02 of the Cuyahoga County Employee Handbook to prohibit discrimination on the basis of a person's hair texture or hair style commonly associated with a particular race or national origin in the areas of housing, employment, and places of public accommodation.

**Mr. Trevor McAleer, Legislative Budget Advisor for County Council introduced a proposed substitute to Ordinance No. O2025-0004. Discussion ensued.**

**Committee members asked questions of Mr. McAleer pertaining to the item, which he answered accordingly.**

**A motion was then made by Mr. Sweeney, seconded by Mr. Houser and approved by unanimous vote to accept the proposed substitute.**

**Mr. McAleer, Mr. Victor Manolache, Assistant Law Director; and Ms. Sarah Nemastil, Director of the Department of Human Resources, addressed the Committee regarding Ordinance No. O2025-0004. Discussion ensued.**

**Committee members asked questions of Mr. McAleer, Mr. Manolache and Ms. Nemastil pertaining to the item, which they answered accordingly.**

**On a motion by Mr. Houser with a second by Mr. Sweeney, Ordinance No. O2025-0004 was considered and approved by unanimous vote to be referred to the full Council agenda for second reading, as substituted.**

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

**Ms. Agatha Hickerson, Public Service Fellow for the Executive's Office, who began working with Mr. Chris Alvarado, Director of the Department of Regional Collaboration last month, was introduced to the Committee members.**

#### **7. ADJOURNMENT**

**Chairman Sweeney adjourned the meeting at 11:05 a.m., without objection.**