

MINUTES

CUYAHOGA COUNTY PUBLIC SAFETY & JUSTICE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2025
CUYAHOGA COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS
C. ELLEN CONNALLY COUNCIL CHAMBERS – 4TH FLOOR
1:00 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Gallagher called the meeting to order at 1:09 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Mr. Gallagher asked Deputy Clerk Carter to call the roll. Committee members Gallagher, Kelly, Conwell and Turner were in attendance and a quorum was determined. Committee member Simon entered the meeting after the roll call was taken. Council President Miller was also in attendance.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments given.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE NOVEMBER 19, 2024 MEETING

A motion was made by Mr. Kelly, seconded by Ms. Turner and approved by unanimous vote to approve the minutes from the November 19, 2024 meeting.

5. MATTERS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

a) R2025-0007: A Resolution awarding a total sum, not to exceed \$50,000, to the Cuyahoga County Land Reutilization Corporation for the Circle East District Neighborhood Patrol from the District 7 ARPA Community Grant Fund; and declaring the necessity that this Resolution become immediately effective.

Mr. Dennis Roberts, Chief Strategy Officer for the Cuyahoga Land Bank, addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2025-0007. Discussion ensued.

Committee members and Councilmembers asked questions of Mr. Roberts pertaining to the item, which he answered accordingly.

On a motion by Ms. Conwell with a second by Ms. Turner, Resolution No. R2025-0007 was considered and approved by unanimous vote to be referred to the full Council agenda for second reading.

b) R2025-0043: A Resolution authorizing an amendment to Contract No. 228 with The MetroHealth System for Correctional Health Care Services for the Cuyahoga County Jail System for the period 5/9/2019 – 1/31/2025 to extend the term to October 31, 2025, to add funds in the amount of \$17,250,000.00, for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$128,165,111.00; 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. Chris Costin, Business Services Manager; Ms. Julia Gron, Contract Monitor; and Mr. Nestor Rivera, Chief Deputy of Corrections, addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2025-0043. Discussion ensued.

Committee members and Councilmembers asked questions of Mr. Costin, Ms. Gron and Chief Rivera pertaining to the item, which they answered accordingly.

On a motion by Ms. Simon with a second by Mr. Kelly, Resolution No. R2025-0043 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. DISCUSSION

[Clerk's Note: Item 6b. was considered prior to 6a.]

a) Staffing and budget update from Sheriff's Department

Mr. Harold Pretel, Sheriff; and Ms. Donna Kaleal, Business Services Manager, addressed the Committee regarding the budget, overtime, vacancies and security relating to the Sheriff's Department. Discussion ensued.

Committee members and Councilmembers asked questions of Sheriff Pretel and Ms. Kaleal pertaining to the item, which they answered accordingly.

b) Update regarding jail commissary cost increases

Mr. Costin and Mr. Scott Connor, representing Keefe Group, provided the Committee with an overview of the contract, staffing, timeline and projected cost increases for the commissary. Discussion ensued.

Committee members and Councilmembers asked questions of Messrs. Costin and Connor pertaining to the item, which they answered accordingly.

7. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

There was no miscellaneous business.

8. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Chairman Gallagher adjourned the meeting at 2:53 p.m., without objection.