



MINUTES

CUYAHOGA COUNTY HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES & AGING
COMMITTEE MEETING

WEDNESDAY, JULY 26, 2023

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 1:02 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

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

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Loh addressed the Committee regarding the various housing challenges and available resources to persons experiencing homelessness.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE JULY 12, 2023 MEETING

A motion was made by Mr. Sweeney, seconded by Mr. Miller and approved by unanimous vote to approve the minutes from the July 12, 2023 meeting.

5. MATTERS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

- a) R2023-0218: A Resolution authorizing an amendment to a master contract with various providers for emergency assistance services for the period 9/1/2021 – 8/31/2023, to extend the time period to 8/31/2024 and for additional funds in the total amount not-to-exceed \$1,575,000.00; 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:

- 1) Contract No. 1628 with A-Z Furniture Co., Inc. in the amount not-to-exceed \$315,000.00.
- 2) Contract No. 1630 with Burlington Stores, Inc. in the amount not-to-exceed \$420,000.00.
- 3) Contract No. 1633 with Dave's Supermarket, Inc. in the amount not-to-exceed \$125,000.00.
- 4) Contract No. 1634 with Penney OpCo LLC dba JC Penney in the amount not-to-exceed \$330,000.00.
- 5) Contract No. 1635 with West 25th Furnishings and Appliances, Inc. in the amount not-to-exceed \$385,000.00.

Mr. David Merriman, Director and Mr. Marcos Cortes, Administrator of the Division of Contracts Administration and Performance for the Department of Health and Human Services and Ms. Lisa Peterka, Senior Supervisor of Social Services for the Division of Children and Family Services, addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2023-0218. Discussion ensued.

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

On a motion by Ms. Stephens with a second by Ms. Turner, Resolution No. R2023-0218 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.

- b) R2023-0219: A Resolution authorizing an amendment with various providers for permanent supportive housing services to chronically homeless single adults and high-barrier homeless persons for the period 7/1/2021 – 6/30/2023, to extend the time period to 6/30/2024 and for additional funds in the amount no-to-exceed \$2,000,000.00; 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:

- 1) Contract No. 1602 with Emerald Development & Economic Network, Inc. in the amount not-to-exceed \$917,663.00.
- 2) Contract No. 1604 with Famicos Foundation, Ltd. dba 1800 Superior Apartments in the amount not-to-exceed \$150,097.00.
- 3) Contract No. 1605 with Front Steps Housing & Services, Inc. in the amount not-to-exceed \$334,538.00.

- 4) Contract No. 1617 with Mental Health Services for Homeless Persons, Inc dba FrontLine Services in the amount not-to-exceed \$160,005.00.
- 5) Contract No. 1606 with Humility of Mary Housing, Inc. in the amount not-to-exceed \$110,796.00.
- 6) Contract No. 1614 with Young Women’s’ Christian Association (YWCA) – Independence Place, LLC in the amount not-to-exceed \$141,576.00.
- 7) Contract No. 1613 with Young Women’s’ Christian Association (YWCA) – Cogswell Hall in the amount not-to-exceed \$185,325.00.

Ms. Melissa Sirak, Director for the Office of Homeless Services; Ms. Elaine Gimmel, Executive Director and Ms. Rachella Tillman, Director of Property Management and Maintenance for Emerald Development & Economic Network, Inc.; Ms. Cynthia Dailey, Senior Shelter Director for the Young Women’s Christian Association (YWCA); Ms. Jennifer Harrison, Director of Housing and Employment for Mental Health Services for Homeless Persons, Inc dba FrontLine Services; and Mr. Mitch Wasserman, Grants Manager for Front Steps Housing & Services, Inc, addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2023-0219. Discussion ensued.

Committee members asked questions of Ms. Sirak, Ms. Gimmel, Ms. Tillman, Ms. Dailey, Ms. Harrison and Mr. Wasserman pertaining to the item, which they answered accordingly.

On a motion by Ms. Stephens with a second by Ms. Turner, Resolution No. R2023-0219 was considered and approved by unanimous vote to be referred to the full Council agenda.

Ms. Stephens amended the prior motion with a second by Ms. Turner, and was approved by unanimous vote, as amended, to include a recommendation for passage under second reading suspension of the rules.

Ms. Turner requested to have her name added as a co-sponsor to the legislation.

- c) R2023-0220: A Resolution authorizing an amendment to Contract No. 3013 with Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry for operations and case management services for a 400-bed Men’s Emergency Shelter, located at 2100 Lakeside Avenue, Cleveland, and for facilitation and coordination of overflow shelter services for single adults and families at various locations for the period 1/1/2023 – 8/19/2023, to extend the time period to 12/31/2023 and for additional funds in the total amount not-to-exceed \$1,575,000.00; 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.

Ms. Sirak, Ms. Maria Foschia, President and Chief Executive Officer and Mr. Michael Sering, Vice President of Housing & Shelter for Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry, addressed the Committee regarding Resolution No. R2023-0220. Discussion ensued.

Committee members asked questions of Ms. Sirak, Ms. Foschia and Mr. Sering pertaining to the item, which they answered accordingly.

On a motion by Ms. Stephens with a second by Ms. Turner, Resolution No. R2023-0220 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. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Chairwoman Conwell announced that The MetroHealth System invited primarily female elected officials, community partners and medical professionals to host the 2023 Multicultural Women's Health Fair & Empowerment Expo that will be held on September 30th. Ms. Conwell said a meeting was held to discuss how to best organize and to boost attendance to ensure a successful event and also met with County staff to discuss ways to encourage attendance from County employees; and urged her colleagues to contact Michele Pomerantz at MetroHealth, if they have any ideas or suggestions regarding the event.

Mr. Sweeney recognized Mr. Cortes for his efforts to process and submit the contracts for consideration in a timely manner.

7. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Chairwoman Conwell adjourned the meeting at 1:42 p.m., without objection.