

# NEFCO

## NORTHEAST OHIO FOUR COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION

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*Richard Regula, Chair*

*Joseph Hadley, Jr., Executive Director*

### Regular Meeting of the General Policy Board

Wednesday, January 18, 2023

City of Green

Community Hall at Central Park

1755 Town Park Blvd.

Uniontown, OH 44685

8:30 a.m.

### Agenda

1. Call to Order
  - a. Determination of a Quorum
  - b. Approval of the Agenda for the January 18, 2023 NEFCO General Policy Board meeting  
**ACTION REQUESTED**
  - c. Pledge of Allegiance
  - d. Audience Participation (members of the public)  
Any individual or representative of a group may take three (3) minutes to address the General Policy Board on any topic on the agenda.
2. Consideration of the draft minutes of the regular meeting of the NEFCO General Policy Board on December 21, 2022 **ACTION REQUESTED**
3. Consideration of the Financial Status Report: Income and Expenditures through December 31, 2022 **ACTION REQUESTED**
  - a. December bank reconciliations
4. **SPEAKER:** “Economic Development Administration (EDA) Update”; Ms. Ellen Heinz, Economic Development Representative, U.S. EDA
5. Adoption of the 2023-2028 *Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)* document  
**ACTION REQUESTED**
6. Consideration of an Amendment to the Clean Water Plan for the Canton-Nimishillen Basin Facilities Planning Area (FPA) and the Massillon FPA to modify the FPA boundary to provide for the construction of Jackson Township’s Schuring Park via a sanitary sewer connection on Belden Greens Circle NW, which is tributary to the Canton Water Reclamation Facility  
**ACTION REQUESTED**
7. Authorization for the continuation in CY2023 of a policy for the Chair or the Executive Director to provide, without the NEFCO board’s prior approval, requested letters of support for projects and grant applications that are consistent with NEFCO’s work program, or past board actions or positions, and for the handling of other support letter requests as determined by the board  
**ACTION REQUESTED**
8. Appointment of CY2023 NEFCO Administrative and Functional Committees **ACTION REQUESTED**

Cooperation and Coordination in Development Planning  
Among the Units of Government in Portage, Stark, Summit and Wayne Counties

9. NEFCO FY2023 Work Program
  - a. Economic Development Planning
    - 1) Economic Development Administration (EDA)
      - a. Draft *2023-2028 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy*
      - b. Economic Recovery and Resiliency (ER&R) Implementation Committee
      - c. FY2023 appropriations announced for EDA
      - d. Current EDA funding opportunities
      - e. Funding opportunities information added to NEFCO website
      - f. NEFCO region representation on Vibrant NEO Brownfields Steering Committee
    - 2) Economic Development Planning Information
      - a. December unemployment rate decreases to 3.5 percent (Bureau of Labor Statistics)
      - b. Nation's urban and rural populations shift between 2010 and 2020 based on 2020 Census; Census Bureau redefines 'urban' areas (U.S. Census Bureau)
      - c. The new federal grants to help cities ditch 'NIMBY'-backed zoning (*Route Fifty*)
      - d. Rail enthusiasts remain optimistic on future of Ohio corridor (NADO)
    - 3) Funding Opportunities (upcoming deadlines contained in status report)
    - 4) Regional Economic Development News (contained in status report)
  - b. Environmental Planning
    - 1) Procedures for voluntary annual 208 Plan Facilities Planning Areas (FPA) updates; ERTAC to consider at February meeting possible Board action
    - 2) Canal Diversion Dam Removal project; status of federal grant final report
    - 3) Ohio EPA announcements:
      - a. [2023 Draft Water Pollution Control Loan Fund \(WPCLF\) Program Management Plan \(PMP\)](#) is now available for review and comment; [register](#) to attend virtual public hearing on January 18, 2023, at 2:30 p.m.; **deadline for comments is close of business January 18, 2023**
      - b. Revised Drinking Water Assistance Fund 2023 PMP finalized and available for review or download
    - 4) USEPA finalizes rule that repeals the Trump-era "Waters of the U.S." (WOTUS) rule
10. Federal and State legislation or information of importance to local governments
  - a. Federal
  - b. State
11. For the Good of the Order: an opportunity for members to share news about their community/county/agency, or to list an important issue affecting them
12. Other Business

**PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS:** Wednesday, February 15, 2023, is the date for the next meeting of the NEFCO General Policy Board at the **City of Green Community Hall at Central Park**, 1755 Town Park Blvd., Uniontown OH 44685