

NEFCO

NORTHEAST OHIO FOUR COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION

175 South Main Street, Suite 211
Akron, Ohio 44308-1308

(330) 643-8514 • Fax (330) 643-5046
www.nefcoplanning.org

Richard Regula, Chair

Joseph Hadley, Jr., Executive Director

Regular Meeting of the General Policy Board

Wednesday, February 15, 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 February 15, 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 January 18, 2023 **ACTION REQUESTED**
3. Consideration of the Financial Status Report: Income and Expenditures through January 31, 2023
ACTION REQUESTED
 - a. January bank reconciliations
4. Appointment of NEFCO representatives to the Vibrant NEO Brownfields Steering Committee
ACTION REQUESTED
5. Consideration of a renewal of authorization to provide meeting amenities to volunteer members or citizens who attend NEFCO meetings **ACTION REQUESTED**
6. NEFCO FY2023 Work Program
 - a. Economic Development Planning
 - 1) Economic Development Administration (EDA)
 - a. 2023-2028 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy submitted to EDA
 - b. Economic Recovery and Resiliency (ER&R) Implementation Committee; update
 - c. Current EDA funding opportunities
 - d. EDA seeks input for Tech Hubs Program
 - e. EDA transitioning from Grants.gov to EDGE
 - f. Vibrant NEO Brownfields Steering Committee Update (see Item 4)

- 2) Economic Development Planning Information
 - a. January unemployment rate decreases to 3.4 percent (Bureau of Labor Statistics)
 - b. DeWine takes ‘first step’ toward Ohio Amtrak expansion by seeking federal money (Cleveland.com)
 - c. Relocation programs continue to grow in numbers in rural America (*Route Fifty*)
 - d. Tips for winning federal transportation grants (*Route Fifty*)
 - e. As more electric vehicles hit roads, states look to replace the gas tax (*Route Fifty*)
 - f. City planners questioning the point of parking garages (*Route Fifty*)
 - 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 (FPAs) updates; ERTAC to consider at its March meeting possible Board action on March 15th
 - 2) NEFCO Board approved 208 Plan amendments February 2022 through January 2023 submitted to Ohio EPA for state certification
 - 3) Environmental Resources Technical Advisory Committee (ERTAC) announcement:
 - a. Mary Helen Smith, ERTAC chair and NEFCO Board alternate to Portage County Health Commissioner Joe Diorio, announces her retirement effective March 1, 2023
 - 4) Ohio EPA announcement:
 - a. Water Supply Revolving Loan Account (WSRLA) project nominations for Program Year 2024 being accepted through March 3, 2023; for more information [click here](#)
 - b. ERTAC meeting on March 1st to feature presentation by Summit Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) Watershed Coordinator Stephanie Deibel
7. Federal and State legislation or information of importance to local governments
- a. Federal
 - b. State
8. 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
9. Other Business

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS: Wednesday, March 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