



**Board of Commissioners of Cook County  
Minutes of the Legislation and Intergovernmental Relations Committee**

**Wednesday, June 10, 2026**

**10:45 AM**

**Cook County Building, Board Room,  
118 North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois**

**Issued on: 6/3/2026**

**ATTENDANCE**

**Present:** Britton, Degnen, Aguilar, Anaya, Daley, Lowry, McCaskill, Miller, Moore, Morita, Morrison, Scott, Stamps, Trevor and Vásquez (15)

**Absent:** Gainer and S. Morrison (2)

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Scott, to allow for remote participation in meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Britton, Degnen, Aguilar, Daley, Lowry, McCaskill, Morita, Morrison, Scott, Stamps, Trevor and Vásquez (12)

**Present:** Miller and Moore (2)

**Absent:** Anaya (1)

**Excused Absence :** Gainer and S. Morrison (2)

**Chairman Britton asked the Secretary to the Board to call upon the registered public speakers, in accordance with Cook County Code.**

**PUBLIC TESTIMONY**

**1) Priscilla Mims - League of Women Voters of Cook County**

**2) Mary Gorr - Mount Prospect School District 57**

**3) Jessica Jackson - Concerned Citizen**

**4) Tiwon Sims - Concerned Citizen**

- 5) George Blakemore - Concerned Citizen
  
- 6) Diana McCluskey - Palatine School District 15
  
- 7) Amy Franco - Hillside Public Library
  
- 8) Qushonda Harris - Chicago Shower Association
  
- 9) Daniela Martinez - Maywood Public Library
  
- 10) Jennifer Hovanec - LaGrange Public Library
  
- 11) Zariah Plowden - Harvey, IL
  
- 12) Adam Lasker - Chicago Board of Elections
  
- 13) Tatiana Bledsoe - Chicago, IL
  
- 14) Ben Collins - Park Ridge, IL
  
- 15) Terry LaBella - Oak Lawn, IL
  
- 16) Tim Prendergast - Hodgkins, IL

[26-1695](#)

**COMMITTEE MINUTES**

Approval of the minutes from the meeting of 5/12/2026

**A motion was made by Commissioner Miller, seconded by Commissioner McCaskill, to approve 26-1695. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Britton, Degnen, Aguilar, Anaya, Daley, Lowry, McCaskill, Miller, Moore, Morita, Morrison, Scott, Stamps, Trevor and Vásquez (15)

**Excused Absence:** Gainer and Morrison (2)

[26-1379](#)

**Sponsored by:** TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), Cook County Board Of Commissioners

**PROPOSED APPOINTMENT**

**Appointee(s):** Brian J. Phelan

**Position:** Member

**Department/Board/Commission:** Independent Revenue Forecasting Commission

**Effective date:** 6/11/2026

**Expiration date:** 6/11/2029

**A motion was made by Commissioner Daley, seconded by Commissioner Trevor, to recommend for approval 26-1379. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Britton, Degnen, Aguilar, Daley, Lowry, McCaskill, Miller, Morita, Morrison, Scott, Stamps, Trevor and Vásquez (13)

**Absent:** Anaya and Moore (2)

**Excused Absence:** Gainer and S. Morrison (2)

[26-1413](#)

**Sponsored by:** TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), Cook County Board Of Commissioners

**PROPOSED APPOINTMENT**

**Appointee(s):** Michael Rasic

**Position:** Trustee

**Department/Board/Commission:** Norwood Park Street Lighting District

**Effective date:** 6/11/2026

**Expiration date:** 6/11/2029

**A motion was made by Commissioner Miller, seconded by Commissioner Trevor, to recommend for approval 26-1413. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Britton, Degnen, Aguilar, Anaya, Daley, Lowry, McCaskill, Miller, Morita, Morrison, Scott, Stamps, Trevor and Vásquez (14)

**Absent:** Moore (1)

**Excused Absence :** Gainer and S. Morrison (2)

[26-1414](#)

**Sponsored by:** SCOTT R. BRITTON, FRANK J. AGUILAR, ALMA E. ANAYA, JOHN P. DALEY, BRIDGET DEGNEN, BILL LOWRY, DR. KISHA E. McCASKILL, DONNA MILLER, KEVIN B. MORRISON, TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), MICHAEL SCOTT JR., TARA S. STAMPS, MAGGIE TREVOR and JESSICA VÁSQUEZ, Cook County Board Of Commissioners

#### PROPOSED ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

#### VACANCIES

**BE IT ORDAINED**, by the Cook County Board of Commissioners, that Chapter 2 - Administration, Article IV (Officers and Employees, Division 1 - Generally, Section 2-142 of the Cook County Code is hereby amended as Follows:

**Sec. 2-142. Vacancies.**

The following provisions shall apply to the following separately elected positions: Assessor, County Clerk, Sheriff, and Treasurer (hereafter also referred to as “County Office” or “County Officer”):

- (a) *Committee of same political party to appoint.* In the event of a vacancy, such vacancy shall be filled to no longer than the end of the unexpired term as dictated by this Section by appointment. The appointment shall be done by the appropriate committeepersons of the political party of which the incumbent was a candidate at the time of the candidate's election or appointment. The appointee shall also be of the same political party that the incumbent was at the time of election or appointment.
- (b) *Composition of committee.* In the event of a vacancy, the committee that shall appoint the separately elected County Officer shall consist of Cook County committeepersons of the same political party that the incumbent was at the time of election or appointment. ~~In making appointments under this Section, each committeeperson shall be entitled to one vote. A candidate is required to receive the majority of the total number of votes in order to be appointed.~~ In making appointments under this Section, each Cook County township or ward committeeperson shall be entitled to one vote for each vote that was received, in that Cook County township or ward which the committeeperson represents on the committee, by the County Officer whose seat is vacant at the general election at which that County Officer was elected to the County Office which has been vacated (or the County Officer's elected predecessor, if the County Officer whose seat is vacant was appointed), and a majority of the total number of votes received in such general election

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by the County Officer whose seat is vacant is required for the appointment of the successor.

- (c) *Written appointment filed with County Clerk.* Appointments made under this Section shall be in writing and shall be signed by members of the committee whose total votes are sufficient to make the appointments. Such appointments shall be filed with the County Clerk.
- (d) *Duration.* An appointment made under this Section shall be for no longer than 28 months to the end of the unexpired term. If more than 28 months of the unexpired term of an elected official remains, a special election shall be held at the next general election to elect a person to serve the unexpired term of the elected official. In the case of a special election, the appointed officer shall serve until the election results are certified and the person elected at the special election is qualified. If 28 months or less of the unexpired term remain, the appointed officer shall serve for the remainder of the term.

**Effective date:** This ordinance shall be in effect immediately upon adoption.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Scott, seconded by Commissioner Lowry, to recommend for approval as amended 26-1414. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Britton, Degnen, Aguilar, Anaya, Daley, Lowry, McCaskill, Miller, Morita, Morrison, Scott, Stamps, Trevor and Vásquez (14)

**Absent:** Moore (1)

**Excused Absence :** Gainer and S. Morrison (2)

[26-1409](#)

**Sponsored by:** DR. KISHA E. McCASKILL, FRANK J. AGUILAR, ALMA E. ANAYA, SCOTT R. BRITTON, JOHN P. DALEY, BRIDGET DEGNEN, BRIDGET GAINER, BILL LOWRY, DONNA MILLER, STANLEY MOORE, JOSINA MORITA, KEVIN B. MORRISON, TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), MICHAEL SCOTT JR., TARA S. STAMPS, MAGGIE TREVOR and JESSICA VÁSQUEZ, Cook County Board Of Commissioners

#### **PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

#### **RESOLUTION CALLING FOR A HEARING REGARDING A NATIONAL COMMITMENT TO DEFEND, PROTECT, AND EXPAND THE RIGHT TO VOTE**

**WHEREAS,** the erosion and obstruction of the protections guaranteed under the Voting Rights Act of 1965 signals a troubling return to practices rooted in suppression and exclusion, reinforcing the oppressive notion that the right to vote, especially for Black Americans and underserved communities, remains conditional rather than guaranteed; and

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**WHEREAS**, the right to vote is the foundation of American democracy and has been secured through the sacrifice, courage, and leadership of those who refused to accept exclusion, particularly Black Americans who fought for full participation in this democracy; and

**WHEREAS**, the decision in *Shelby County v. Holder* eliminated federal preclearance protections, removing a critical safeguard that once prevented discriminatory voting laws before they took effect; and

**WHEREAS**, in the absence of preclearance, Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 has become the primary remaining federal tool to challenge discriminatory voting laws after harm occurs; and

**WHEREAS**, recent Supreme Court decisions, including *Louisiana v. Callais*, have narrowed how courts interpret Section 2 by raising the threshold for proving discrimination and limiting the ability of impacted communities to successfully challenge laws that disproportionately burden Black voters and other underserved populations; and

**WHEREAS**, these rulings have made it more difficult to hold jurisdictions accountable for policies that result in unequal access to voting, effectively weakening the enforcement power of federal protection at a time when they are most needed; and

**WHEREAS**, data demonstrates that barriers to voting, including polling place closures, longer wait times, and restrictive voting policies, disproportionately impact Black voters, low-income communities, seniors, and working families; and

**WHEREAS**, Cook County, as one of the most diverse counties in the United States, reflects the full spectrum of American communities and has a responsibility to ensure that democracy remains accessible, equitable, and protected for all; and

**WHEREAS**, safeguarding the right to vote is not a partisan issue, but a national obligation grounded in fairness, representation and equal voices; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

1. Cook County Declares Voting Rights Non-Negotiable

Anything less is a direct affront to the many men and women who gave their lives to secure this right. The right to vote must be protected and guaranteed for every eligible citizen without discrimination, without burden, and without delay.

2. Cook County Calls for the Full Restoration and Strengthening of Federal Protections

Cook County urges Congress to restore and modernize the protection of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, including reinstating effective preclearance standards and strengthening Section 2 to ensure discriminatory voting laws can be challenged and prevented.

3. Cook County Rejects Voter Suppression in All Forms

We stand firmly opposed to any law, policy, or practice that limits, burdens, oppresses, or suppresses access to the ballot, whether direct, indirect, or systemic.

4. Cook County Centers Equity as a National Standard

We must act with intention of protecting communities that have historically been denied equal access to the democratic process.

5. Cook County Demands Accountability at Every Level of Government

We call for immediate, measurable action to ensure fair and equal access to voting nationwide and to strengthen enforcement mechanisms that protect voters from discrimination.

6. Cook County Commits to Immediate Action Through Mobilization and Education

We will organize, inform, and equip communities to ensure every eligible voter can fully exercise their rights.

7. Cook County Affirms the Power and Permanence of Black Voices in Democracy

Black voices are essential, enduring, and will not be silenced, suppressed, or diminished.

8. Cook County commits to protecting the rights of all voters.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this resolution, sponsored by Dr. Kisha E. McCaskill, 5th District Cook County Commissioner stands as a call to action for county, state, and national leadership to confront the ongoing weakening of voting rights protections and to act decisively to defend the integrity of American democracy; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this resolution will be referred to the Legislation and Intergovernmental Relations Committee for a hearing for further discussion.

**A motion was made by Commissioner McCaskill, seconded by Vice Chairwoman Degnen, to recommend for approval 26-1409. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Britton, Degnen, Aguilar, Anaya, Daley, Lowry, McCaskill, Miller, Morita, Scott, Stamps, Trevor and Vásquez (13)

**Absent:** Moore K. Morrison (2)

**Excused Absence :** Gainer and S. Morrison (2)

[26-1230](#)

**Sponsored by:** SCOTT R. BRITTON, TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), FRANK J. AGUILAR, ALMA E. ANAYA, JOHN P. DALEY, BRIDGET DEGNEN, BRIDGET GAINER, BILL LOWRY, DR. KISHA E. McCASKILL, DONNA MILLER, STANLEY MOORE, JOSINA MORITA, KEVIN B. MORRISON, SEAN M. MORRISON, MICHAEL SCOTT JR., TARA S. STAMPS, MAGGIE TREVOR and JESSICA VÁSQUEZ, Cook County Board Of Commissioners

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**CALLING FOR A MEETING OF THE LEGISLATION AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS COMMITTEES ON THE DISTRIBUTION OF PROPERTY TAX REVENUES**

**WHEREAS**, according to a 2024 Tax Year Bill Analysis, the Cook County Treasurer collects nearly \$19.2 billion in property tax dollars from property owners across Cook County (<https://www.cookcountytreasurer.com/pdfs/taxbillanalysisandstatistics/taxyear2024analysisenglishversion.pdf>); and

**WHEREAS**, the property tax system involves several separately elected offices including the Cook County Assessor's Office that sets assessed values and decides appeals; the Board of Review that conducts appeals and revises assessments; the Illinois Department of Revenue that sets the state equalization factor; the Cook County Clerk's Office that calculates taxable rates based on taxing districts' property tax levies pass; and the Cook County Treasurer's Office that prints and mails tax bills, as well as calculates and distributes the collected property tax revenues to taxing districts; and

**WHEREAS**, there are 685 taxing districts within Cook County, including but not limited to municipalities, townships, school districts, park districts, library districts, road districts, sanitation districts, fire protection districts, pension districts, mental health districts, special service areas, TIF districts, and water commissions (<https://www.cookcountytreasurer.com/taxingdistrictsearchbyname.aspx>); and

**WHEREAS**, the Cook County Board President and Cook County Board of Commissioners have heard testimony and have received correspondence from numerous taxing entities, predominantly school districts and library districts, about the adverse effects of delayed property tax bills and revenue disbursements; and

**WHEREAS**, to ensure that future property tax bills and disbursements are made in a timely and reliable manner, it is imperative that the Cook County Assessor, Cook County Board of Review Commissioners, Cook County Clerk, and Cook County Treasurer maintain functional, efficient, and accurate property tax systems; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Cook County Board President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners does hereby request that a meeting of the Legislation and Intergovernmental Relations Committee be convened to update the Board of Commissioners and public

at-large on measures that will or are being undertaken to improve processes and oversight within the property tax systems managed and controlled by the Cook County Assessor, Cook County Board of Review Commissioners, Cook County Clerk, and Cook County Treasurer; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Cook County Assessor, Cook County Board of Review Commissioners, Cook County Clerk, and Cook County Treasurer are requested to participate in the meeting and provide the updates requested in this Resolution relevant to their work determining and delivering property tax bills, the receipt of property tax collections, and disbursement of property tax collections.

**A motion was made by Vice Chairwoman Degnen, seconded by Commissioner Scott, to recommend for receiving and filing 26-1230. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Britton, Degnen, Aguilar, Anaya, Daley, Lowry, McCaskill, Miller, Morita, Morrison, Scott, Stamps, Trevor and Vásquez (14)

**Absent:** Moore (1)

**Excused Absence :** Gainer and S. Morrison (2)

**ADJOURNMENT**

**A motion was made by Commissioner Scott, seconded by Commissioner Lowry, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** Britton, Degnen, Aguilar, Anaya, Daley, Lowry, McCaskill, Miller, Moore, Morita, Morrison, Scott, Stamps, Trevor and Vásquez (15)

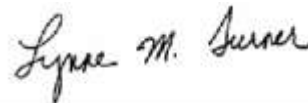
**Absent:** Moore (1)

**Excused Absence :** Gainer and S. Morrison (2)

Respectfully submitted,



Chairman



Secretary

A complete record of this meeting is available at <https://cook-county.legistar.com>.