

**Board of Commissioners of Cook County**

118 North Clark Street  
Chicago, IL



**Journal of Proceedings**

**Monday, May 20, 2024**

**10:00 AM**

**Special Meeting to honor memory of County Clerk Karen A. Yarbrough**

FRANK J. AGUILAR  
ALMA E. ANAYA  
SCOTT R. BRITTON  
JOHN P. DALEY  
DENNIS DEER  
BRIDGET DEGNEN  
BRIDGET GAINER  
MONICA GORDON

BILL LOWRY  
DONNA MILLER  
STANLEY MOORE  
JOSINA MORITA  
KEVIN B. MORRISON  
SEAN M. MORRISON  
ANTHONY JOEL QUEZADA  
TARA S. STAMPS  
MAGGIE TREVOR

**CEDRIC GILES  
COUNTY CLERK**

*Journal of Proceedings*

*Board of Commissioners*

*May 20, 2024*

Board met pursuant to the following call:

The Honorable Cedric Giles  
Cook County Clerk  
69 West Washington Street, Fifth Floor  
Chicago, Illinois 60602

Re: SPECIAL MEETING NOTICE for May 20th at 10:00 A.M.  
to be held at 118 N. Clark Street, Cook County Board Room 567, Chicago, IL 60602

Dear Clerk Giles:

Pursuant to the authority vested in me, I hereby call a Special Meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Cook County to be convened on Monday, May 20, 2024, at the hour of 10:00 a.m. in the County Board Room, 118 N. Clark Street, Room 567, Chicago, Illinois 60602. The Special Meeting will be an in-person meeting for the County Board and will be able to be viewed by the public at [cookcountyil.gov/service/watch-live-board-proceedings](https://cookcountyil.gov/service/watch-live-board-proceedings).

At said meeting, the following Item requiring Board Action will be heard.

- Item No. 24-3038 In Memory of County Clerk Karen A. Yarbrough

Instructions for how to attend this meeting and participate in public comment will be provided on the Cook County webpage at <https://cook-county.legistar.com/Calendar.asp>. The proceedings will be able to be viewed at [cookcountyil.gov/service/watch-live-board-proceedings](https://cookcountyil.gov/service/watch-live-board-proceedings) on May 20, 2024, starting at 10:00 a.m. Written public comment or live (virtual) testimony on any of the items listed on the Agenda will be accepted at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2PKMORC>. Written testimony will also be accepted at [cookcounty.board@cookcountyil.gov](mailto:cookcounty.board@cookcountyil.gov). Written comments prior to the start of the Special Board meeting will be posted at <https://cook-county.legistar.com/Calendar.asp>. Three minutes per comment will be allowed.

On or around 8:45 a.m. Central Time on the morning of the meeting, a Microsoft Teams link and phone number to join the meeting will be sent to all live (virtual) speakers. You may not log into the meeting until the scheduled meeting time. You may not forward the link to anyone. To reduce the chance of meeting disruption, MEETING PARTICIPANTS WHO FORWARD LINKS WILL BE REMOVED FROM THE MEETING, AS WILL THOSE WHO RECEIVED THE FORWARDED LINK. Speaking order is to be determined by the Chair. You will have three (3) minutes to make your statement. Once your statement is completed, you will be removed from the meeting. Once removed, you will still be able to follow the proceedings for that day at: <https://www.cookcountyil.gov/service/watch-live-board-proceedings>

Copies of the Agenda for the May 20, 2024 Special Board Meeting of the Cook County Board of Commissioners and items to be considered at this meeting will be made available electronically on the Cook County website at <https://cook-county.legistar.com/Calendar.asp>

Please issue the Notice of this Special Meeting and Agenda as required by law.

Very truly yours,  
Toni Preckwinkle  
Cook County Board President

**COPY OF LETTER SENT TO ALL COMMISSIONERS**

President and Members  
Cook County Board of Commissioners

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Toni Preckwinkle, President of the Board of Commissioners of Cook County, has directed me to call a Special Meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Cook County on Monday, May 20, 2024, at the hour of 10:00 a.m. the Special Meeting will be an in-person meeting for the County Board and will be able to be viewed by the public at [cookcountyil.gov/service/watch-live-board-proceedings](https://www.cookcountyil.gov/service/watch-live-board-proceedings).

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Very truly yours,

Cedric Giles

County Clerk

**LEGAL NOTICE**

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Very truly yours,

CEDRIC GILES, Cook County Clerk and  
Clerk of the Board of the Commissioners of Cook County, Illinois

**OFFICIAL RECORD**

President Preckwinkle in the chair.

**CALL TO ORDER**

At 10:00 A.M., being the hour appointed for the meeting, the President called the Board to order.

**QUORUM**

County Clerk Cedric Giles called the roll of members and there was found to be a quorum present.

**ATTENDANCE**

**Present:** Commissioners Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Gainer, Gordon, Miller, Moore, Morita, Quezada, Stamps, and Trevor (13)

**Absent:** Commissioner Deer, Lowry, K. Morrison, and S. Morrison (4)

**REMOTE PARTICIPATION**

**In accordance with Cook County Code Section 2-102(i) Remote Participation in Meetings, a motion was made by Commissioner Lowry, seconded by Commissioner Britton, to allow for remote participation in meeting. The vote of yeas and nays being as follows:**

**Yeas:** Commissioners Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Gainer, Gordon, Miller, Moore, Morita, Quezada, Stamps, and Trevor (13)

**Nays:** None (0)

**Absent:** Commissioner Deer, Lowry, K. Morrison, and S. Morrison (4)

**The motion carried.**

**INVOCATION**

Pastor Darius Brooks, Senior Pastor of Grace Central Church, Westchester, Illinois, gave the invocation.

**REMEMBRANCES**

President Preckwinkle called upon the following speakers:

1. Mayor Brandon Johnson, City of Chicago

2. Hon. Melissa Ervin, Treasurer
3. Alderman Jason Ervin, Alderman
4. Cedric Giles, County Clerk
5. Travis Richardson, Chief Legal Counsel
6. Marlow Colvin
7. Maria Castro, Love Purse
8. Thomas McMahon
9. Brandon Williams
10. Hon. Chloe Pedersen, Circuit Court of Cook County

**PRESIDENT**

**24-3038  
RESOLUTION**

**Sponsored by**

**THE HONORABLE TONI PRECKWINKLE, PRESIDENT, JOHN P. DALEY,  
DENNIS DEER, BILL LOWRY, JOSINA MORITA, KEVIN B. MORRISON,  
MONICA M. GORDON, FRANK J. AGUILAR, ALMA E. ANAYA, SCOTT R. BRITTON,  
BRIDGET DEGNEN, BRIDGET GAINER, DONNA MILLER, STANLEY S. MOORE,  
SEAN M. MORRISON, ANTHONY J. QUEZADA, TARA S. STAMPS AND  
MAGGIE TREVOR, COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**HONORING THE LIFE OF THE HONORABLE COOK COUNTY CLERK KAREN A.  
YARBROUGH**

**WHEREAS**, Karen A. Yarbrough's life journey began on August 22, 1950, when her parents, Donald Williams, Sr. and Mercedes Moore welcomed her into the world; and

**WHEREAS**, Karen A. Yarbrough was a wife, mother, sister, aunt, grandmother, friend and mentor to many. She lived her life with a passion for helping others and exemplified what it means to be a public servant. She was a true trailblazer who inspired a generation of young women and men to follow her example of putting service before self; and

**WHEREAS**, Karen A. Yarbrough earned her B.A. in Business Management from Chicago State University, a Master's Degree in inner-city studies from Northeastern Illinois University, attended Harvard's Kennedy School of Government's Advanced Leadership Studies, a Certificate of Public Leadership from Pepperdine University and a certificate as a Certified Election Registration Administrator from Auburn University; and

**WHEREAS**, Karen A. Yarbrough served as an Illinois State Representative, Cook County Recorder of Deeds, and Cook County Clerk. In these roles, she always stood up for what was right, even when it was unpopular to do so. She never backed down from tough battles, and was proud to serve as a voice for the voiceless, the poor and those needing a second chance in life; and

**WHEREAS**, As a State Representative, Karen A. Yarbrough was a force to be reckoned with. She was able to overcome the influence of special interests to ban smoking indoors in public buildings and was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize for her work to abolish the death penalty in Illinois. Her tireless work ethic and effectiveness in the Capitol earned her an appointment as Assistant House Majority Leader; and

**WHEREAS**, As Cook County Recorder of Deeds, Recorder Yarbrough took a position that was historically thought of as ministerial and turned it into one of advocacy. As Recorder, she established a Property Fraud Unit that served to protect Cook County residents from having their properties stolen from fraudsters, opened an office dedicated to improving the lives of our Veterans, and created the Property After Death workshops that went into communities and informed residents of the importance of sound estate planning; and

**WHEREAS**, As Cook County Clerk, Clerk Yarbrough overcame a number of unprecedented challenges that required creativity, determination and a steady hand. She administered an election through a global pandemic and oversaw the assumption of duties of the Cook County Recorder of Deeds by the Cook County Clerk. She also partnered with the Center for Disability and Elder Law to help families hold onto their homes; and

**WHEREAS**, Karen A. Yarbrough was a force in the Democratic Party serving as the Proviso Township Democratic Committeeperson, Vice Chair and Interim Chair of the Democratic Party of Illinois and State Central Committeewoman for the 7<sup>th</sup> Congressional District of Illinois. In these roles, she helped a countless number of candidates win election to public office in the State of Illinois; and

**WHEREAS**, Karen A. Yarbrough was a dedicated member of Grace Central Church, served as the President of the Maywood-Proviso Rotary Club, and a member of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF COOK COUNTY: the President and its members do hereby hold their reverence in honor of the historic life of the Honorable Cook County Clerk Karen A. Yarbrough, as they offer their deepest condolences to her friends, family, and communities; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to the family of the Honorable Cook County Clerk Karen A. Yarbrough as an expression of appreciation for her life and work. She was an inspiration to us all.

Approved and adopted this 20th of May 2024

TONI PRECKWINKLE, President  
Cook County Board of Commissioners

*Journal of Proceedings*

*Board of Commissioners*

*May 20, 2024*

Attest: CEDRIC GILES, County Clerk

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**A motion was made by Commissioner Daley, seconded by Commissioner Britton, that the Resolution be approved. President Preckwinkle called for a rising vote. The votes of yeas and nays being as follows:**

**Yeas:** Commissioners Aguilar, Anaya, Britton, Daley, Degnen, Gainer, Gordon, Miller, Moore, Morita, Quezada, Stamps, and Trevor (13)

**Nays:** None (0)

**Absent:** Commissioner Deer, Lowry, S. Morrison and K. Morrison (4)

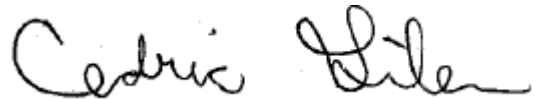
**The motion carried and the Resolution is APPROVED and ADOPTED.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**A motion was made by Commissioner Daley, seconded by Commissioner Britton, that the meeting do now adjourn to meet again at the same time and same place on June 13, 2024, in accordance with County Board Resolution 23-5225.**

**The motion prevailed and the meeting stood adjourned.**

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**COUNTY CLERK**