



**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF COOK COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

Virtual Meeting

Consent Agenda

Thursday, September 23, 2021, 10:00 AM

Second Set

[21-5312](#)

Presented by: TONI PRECKWINKLE, President, Cook County Board of Commissioners, LUIS ARROYO JR, County Commissioner, ALMA E. ANAYA, County Commissioner, FRANK J. AGUILAR, County Commissioner

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING NATIONAL HISPANIC/LATINX HERITAGE MONTH

WHEREAS, National Hispanic Heritage Month was founded to celebrate the heritage and culture of Hispanic and Latinx communities; and

WHEREAS, Cook County celebrates the vast contributions made by Hispanic and Latinx residents in our communities; and

WHEREAS, Cook County is proud to celebrate the diversity of its residents and the richness of culture; and

WHEREAS, Hispanic and Latinx individuals have long been part of the fabric of Cook County, first being reported on the Illinois census in 1850 and reaching a reported population of 25,211 by 1930; and

WHEREAS, the Hispanic and Latinx population has increased to 1,382,778, and represent the largest minority group in Cook County; and

WHEREAS, in September of 1968, President Lyndon Johnson signed Public Law 90-498 into law, authorizing the President to designate the week of September 15th as “National Hispanic Heritage Week” in recognition of the extraordinary contributions of the Hispanic and Latinx community, and in recognition of the anniversaries of several Latin American countries independence day celebrations; and

WHEREAS, the independence of the countries of Guatemala, Costa Rica, Honduras, Nicaragua and El Salvador are celebrated on September 15th, followed by Mexico on September 16th, Chile on September 18th and Belize on September 21st; and

WHEREAS, with the approval of Public Law 100-402 in 1988, President Ronald Reagan proclaimed September 15th through October 15th as National Hispanic Heritage Month; and

WHEREAS, Hispanic and Latinx individuals of every generation have made immense contributions through their courageous service in the United States Military, the arts, education, mathematics, science, literature, technology, and philanthropy in this county and the world; and

WHEREAS, Hispanics and Latinx have contributed to historical school desegregation efforts in the United States of America, starting in the 1930’s in the State of Texas, that led to efforts in California, that culminated in the impactful decision made in the state California in 1946 in Mendez v. Westminster School

District, and Hispanic and Latinx, long after the desegregation of schools, have continued to fight for better education, such as the 2001 Hunger Strike in the Little Village community to have a new high school built; and

WHEREAS, Hispanic and Latinx continue to strive and excel in higher education, and continue to endeavor for the acceptance of immigrant students in institutions of higher learning, and continue to strive for equal treatment by the Federal Government on education financing; and

WHEREAS, Hispanic and Latinx have contributed to Cook County's social, political and economic development for over one hundred years and Hispanic and Latinx contributions began at the turn of the century when millions of Mexicans came to the United States to work in agriculture under the Federal Bracero Program; and

WHEREAS, the population numbers of Hispanics and Latinx in Cook County greatly expanded during World War I and World War II when Puerto Rican and Mexican immigrants began arriving in large numbers to work in the steel mills, stockyards and packinghouses and helped to build Cook County into an industrial powerhouse; and

WHEREAS, Hispanics and Latinx have made considerable strides in the electoral arena, and continue to be a growing force shaping the local and national discourse that have led to growing numbers in leadership at all levels; and

WHEREAS, Hispanic and Latinx leaders in all levels of government have continued to shape the dialogue concerning the state and future for all Hispanics and Latinx individuals, and continue to make their respective communities proud of their efforts; and

WHEREAS, Hispanics and Latinx have established vibrant communities in the traditional port of entry communities of Humboldt Park, Little Village, Pilsen, Back of the Yards, Southeast Chicago and continue to live and flourish throughout Cook County; and

WHEREAS, there are more than 50,000 Hispanic and Latinx owned businesses across Cook County and this entrepreneurial vibrancy has helped revitalize numerous communities in Chicago and suburban communities; and

WHEREAS, Cook County's economy has always been a magnet for immigrant laborers from all over the world and immigrants from Mexico, the Caribbean, Central America and South America in particular and Cook County continues to welcome and value the contributions of immigrants.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cook County Board President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners does hereby continue to celebrate September 15th through October 15th as Hispanic and Latinx Heritage Month in Cook County, and encourages all Cook County residents to learn about the contributions of this community as well as partake in the many celebrations, festivities and activities in honor of National Hispanic and Latinx Heritage Month; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this text be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body.

[21-5314](#)

Sponsored by: DONNA MILLER, FRANK J. AGUILAR, SCOTT R. BRITTON, JOHN P. DALEY, DENNIS DEER, BRIDGET DEGNEN, BRANDON JOHNSON, BILL LOWRY, STANLEY MOORE, KEVIN B. MORRISON, PETER N. SILVESTRI, LARRY SUFFREDIN and DEBORAH SIMS, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING SICKLE CELL AWARENESS MONTH IN COOK COUNTY

WHEREAS, the month of September is National Sickle Cell Awareness Month, a month-long initiative designated by Congress to help focus attention on the need for research and treatment of sickle cell disease; and

WHEREAS, this year's theme designated by the Sickle Cell Disease Association of America is "**Sickle Cell Matters 2021**"; and

WHEREAS, Sickle cell disease (SCD) is an inherited blood disorder in which red blood cells may become sickle-shaped and harden. For a baby to be born with sickle cell disease, both parents must carry a sickle cell trait or genes. Sickle cell disease is not contagious, and there is no universal cure; and

WHEREAS, about 1 in 13 African Americans carry the sickle cell trait, and many do not know they have it, and an estimated 100,000 people in the U.S. have SCD, with approximately 2,000 babies born with SCD annually in the United States; and

WHEREAS, people of many ethnic backgrounds can have SCD, but it disproportionately affects Black and Brown Americans, with an estimated 1 in 365 Black Americans and 1 in 14,000 Hispanic Americans suffering from SCD; and

WHEREAS, Sickle Cell disease leads to complications including chronic severe and unpredictable pain, anemia, frequent infections, swelling in extremities, fatigue, delayed growth and is one of the underlying medical conditions that causes increased risk for severe illness from the virus that causes COVID-19, defined as hospitalization, admission to the ICU, intubation or mechanical ventilation, or death; and

WHEREAS, a recent study by the Medical College of Wisconsin and the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) analyzed COVID-19 cases among a sample of people with SCD who are living in the United States between March 20, 2020, and May 21, 2020, with an average age of 28.6, and reported the following main findings: the majority had one or more SCD-related complications reported in the past. (For example, more than half had been hospitalized three or more times during the past 3 years for a pain crisis.) and 69% of patients were hospitalized during their COVID-19 illness, 11% were admitted to an intensive care unit (ICU) and 7% died; and

WHEREAS, these findings of high hospitalization, ICU admissions, and death rates among people with COVID-19 and SCD highlight the need for people with SCD to take extra precautions to prevent COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, President Biden recently passed a proclamation declaring September as National Sickle Cell Awareness month, reaffirming our commitment to improving the quality of life and health outcomes for all individuals living with SCD by improving access to quality health care, collaborating with partners in the public and private sectors, adhering to the guidance of scientific experts and researchers, and supporting all families affected by SCD; and

WHEREAS, this national focus is essential and reinforces the National Institutes of Health (NIH) continued support of SCD research, education, and capacity building, including the “Cure Sickle Cell Initiative” to accelerate safe, effective, and scalable gene therapies to cure the disease; and

WHEREAS, because of the many advances and medical breakthroughs in genetic therapies and research, we are now closer to finding a cure for all SCD patients; and

WHEREAS, individuals can help be part of the solution by donating blood to support transfusions, especially because the pandemic has caused a critical shortage of blood, advocate for better treatment, education and research, educate others about sickle cell disease and sickle cell trait, and get tested for sickle cell trait if you are of African descent and do not know your status; and

WHEREAS, this Honorable Body wishes to promote and raise awareness of Sickle Cell Disease in Cook County and encourage everyone to be a part of this national effort to increase awareness about sickle cell disease and sickle cell trait during the month of September and stand united to improve the health of those living with this disease;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners, on behalf of the more than 5.2 million residents of Cook County, do hereby take this opportunity to acknowledge Sickle Cell Awareness Month; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in conjunction with National Sickle Cell Awareness Month, that the month of September be hereby declared Sickle Cell Awareness Month in the County of Cook; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this text be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body.

[21-4394](#)

Sponsored by: LARRY SUFFREDIN, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING AYDIN DINCER AND EVANSTON EATERY PRAIRIE JOE'S

WHEREAS, Prairie Joe's, a colorful breakfast and lunch eatery at Central and Prairie in Evanston, has announced it is closing at the end of October. Prairie Joe's slogan was "Real people, real food, real art." It has been a fixture in the Central Street business district for more than thirty years; and

WHEREAS, Prairie Joe's was the quintessential neighborhood gathering place. While the experience was about the food for sure, it was also about the people you would see and interact with there: the neighbors who met their friends weekly; the regulars who sat at the counter; local politicians, families with small children; teachers from Haven; and groups of Haven students who came for shakes on half days, when school was in person; and

WHEREAS, Prairie Joe's menu was as eclectic as the art that hung from its ceiling and on its walls. Families with young children came to eat there in part for the stimulating experience of looking at all the art. Many people favored breakfast; but lunch was also interesting. Alongside their signature burgers, sloppy joes and grilled cheese, one could order some combination of lentils, hummus, beets, eggplant, feta, beef patties, sticky rice, soup, or Greek salads. The offerings were vast and varied; and

WHEREAS, local elected officials Cook County Commissioner Larry Suffredin and Metropolitan Water Reclamation District Commissioner Debra Shore regularly used Prairie Joe's as their "district office" to meet with constituents and other persons with concerns about the country and district. As Commissioner Suffredin noted, "A lot of county policy was formulated in the booths at Prairie Joe's;" and

WHEREAS, Aydin Dincer, the owner, is also an artist whose work adorned the walls and was offered for sale there. Aydin acknowledged agonizing over the decision, but he hopes to dabble in a less demanding venture focusing on soups, art, and casseroles. "Trends and fads come and go," he said. "I was able to offer my customers a place of comfort, familiarity, and continuity;" and

WHEREAS, Aydin was joined in the work of the restaurant by his wife, Diane, and children, Yasmin Dincer-Ubl and Joe Dincer-Ubl, all of whom helped wherever they were needed; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of Cook County, on behalf of the 5.2 million residents of Cook County, honors the work and contributions of Aydin Dincer, and herewith expresses its sincere gratitude for the invaluable contributions he has made to the Citizens of Cook County, Illinois; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, , that a suitable copy of this Resolution be spread upon the official proceedings of this Honorable Body and that an official copy of same be tendered to Aydin Dincer..

[21-5376](#)

Sponsored by: PETER N. SILVESTRI, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

HONORING MORREALE COMMUNICATIONS AS IT CELEBRATES ITS 15-YEAR ANNIVERSARY

WHEREAS, in 2006, Kim Morreale founded Morreale Communications based in Chicago's Northwest Side; and

WHEREAS, Kim Morreale designed Morreale Communications with a unique blend of journalism, government, media, and creative services to provide innovative and strategic solutions for a variety of clients in the public and private sectors; and

WHEREAS, the core values of Morreale Communications include accountability, diversity, excellence, integrity, and collaboration; and

WHEREAS, Morreale Communications is a certified WBE/WBENC agency, leading the industry with an all-female leadership team and a 90% female and minority workforce; and

WHEREAS, the team at Morreale Communications offers diverse perspectives and includes collective experience as former news reporters, private-sector leaders, and government advisors. The depth and breadth of its talent offers a uniquely blended team of experts designed to meet the needs of each client and project; and

WHEREAS, Morreale Communications works collaboratively with clients in highly regulated industries, such as energy, healthcare, transportation, insurance, and financial services to take complex issues and translate them into messages that audiences can engage with; and

WHEREAS, Morreale Communications helps local, state, and federal organizations educate and communicate effectively with constituents and businesses; and

WHEREAS, Morreale Communications also has expertise in architecture, engineering, and construction projects, including developing communications strategies for major infrastructure projects; and

WHEREAS, in addition, Morreale Communications is known for its advocacy for organizations, tapping into its network built on decades of experience working in government, media, and politics, to name a few; and

WHEREAS, Morreale Communications is committed to giving back to the community and supports multiple charities-with a focus on disability organizations, domestic violence organizations, and children's organizations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners does hereby congratulate Morreale Communications as it celebrates its 15-year anniversary at Carmine's Rosemont on October 6, 2021; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this resolution be tendered to Morreale Communications as an expression of our esteem.

[21-5388](#)

Sponsored by: ALMA E. ANAYA, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING RICH MORRIS ON HIS RETIREMENT AFTER 41 YEARS IN EDUCATION

WHEREAS, Donald Richard “Rich” Morris was born on August 31, 1958, in Chicago, Illinois to the late Donald and Margaret Helen Morris; and

WHEREAS, Rich Morris grew up in the Ashburn neighborhood with his siblings, Kathy Frank, Mary Devens, Patricia Derrig, Eileen Danovich, and late Charles Morris; and

WHEREAS, Rich Morris married Diane Morris on July 29, 1988 and became the lovely father of Cathleen, Kerry, Molly, and Bridget Morris; and

WHEREAS, Rich Morris graduated in 1980 with a Bachelor in Elementary and Special Education from Northern Illinois University; in 1983, earned a Masters degree in Special Education from the University of Illinois Chicago (UIC); and in 1987, a Masters in Administration and Supervision from Roosevelt University; and

WHEREAS, Rich Morris graduated in 1980, worked in Nicholson and Dumas Schools. Began as a substitute teacher and later became full-time position teaching cross-categorical, upper-grade special education in a self-contained classroom; and

WHEREAS, Rich Morris became the Principal at Burroughs Elementary in April 30, 1990, and went on to serve for 31 years in this role, and

WHEREAS, under his leadership, Burroughs Elementary became the top achieving school in the Brighton Park neighborhood and has a 1+ rating; and

WHEREAS, Rich Morris’ outstanding leadership was recognized by Chicago Public Schools (CPS), and Burroughs Elementary was selected to be part of CPS's Independent School Principal program, which is designed for high-performing principals who can ensure continued strong performance with minimal oversight from the district; and

WHEREAS, Under Rich Morris’ leadership, Burroughs Elementary was the first school to partner with Brighton Park Neighborhood Council (BPNC) as part of the Full-Service Community School Initiative; and

WHEREAS, Rich Morris has mentored several principals in the area, and dedicated time to built community leadership; and

WHEREAS, Rich Morris provided significant leadership to the Brighton Park Neighborhood Network (BPNN) through serving on the steering committee, and worked hard to build a culture at Burroughs Elementary in which children, families, and the community are at the center of decisions that are made; and

WHEREAS, after 41 years in education and commitment to his community, Donald Richard “Rich” Morris is retiring.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners hereby congratulates Donald Richard “Rich” Morris on 41 years in education and wishes him a happy retirement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this text be spread upon the proceedings of this Honorable Body and that a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to Donald Richard “Rich” Morris.

[21-5394](#)

Sponsored by: KEVIN B. MORRISON, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION HONORING THE SCHAUMBURG BUSINESS ASSOCIATION ON ITS 20TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY

WHEREAS, The Schaumburg Business Association represents more than 700+ businesses and 4,000+ active SBA members, of all sizes and from all major industries; and

WHEREAS, The Schaumburg Business Association aims to improve the quality of life and economic vitality of the Schaumburg Area; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Schaumburg Business Association is to create unique opportunities and foster alliances for organizations doing business in Schaumburg, thereby enhancing the business environment and the quality of life in our community.; and

WHEREAS, The Association was formed in 2001 to represent the needs of businesses within the Association; and

WHEREAS, the SBA celebrates 20 successful years of creating a thriving business community; and

WHEREAS, the Schaumburg Business Association has connected their members to each other and the

community and serves as the primary advocate for businesses; and

WHEREAS, the SBA has been a vital partner to Cook County in driving economic development; and

WHEREAS, Cook County is grateful for the dedicated service of the Schaumburg Business Association; and

WHEREAS, the SBA represents the best of the 15th District and Cook County, acting as a leader in creating thriving communities; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Cook County Board of Commissioners do hereby honor the Schaumburg Business Association on their 20th Anniversary; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this resolution is presented to the Schaumburg Business Association.

[21-5395](#)

Sponsored by: KEVIN B. MORRISON, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION HONORING JENNIFER OROZCO

WHEREAS, Jennifer Orozco works as Director of Advanced Practice Providers at Rush University Medical Center; and

WHEREAS, Jennifer served as a leader for Rush during COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, Jennifer was named a Healthcare Hero by Governor J.B. Pritzker last December for her work during the pandemic; and

WHEREAS, her role during the pandemic has included leading COVID-19 testing and redeploying of personnel across the Rush system; and

WHEREAS, Jennifer Orozco was named President of the American Academy of Physician Assistants and her one year term started on July 1st; and

WHEREAS, using her role she hopes to focus on ensuring access to care, providing mental health services, and expanding telemedicine; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 has highlighted the need for support for all members of the healthcare workforce including physician assistants who often have to deal with overburdensome and inconsistent state-level regulations despite being highly trained; and

WHEREAS, Jennifer serves as a true leader in our community showing the important work done by physician assistants in serving residents of Cook County; and

WHEREAS, Cook County is grateful for the dedicated service of healthcare workers like Jennifer Orozco especially during the difficult circumstances of the pandemic; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Cook County Board of Commissioners do hereby honor Jennifer Orozco for her dedicated service and her leadership; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this resolution is presented to Jennifer Orozco.

[21-5397](#)

Sponsored by: KEVIN B. MORRISON, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION HONORING BUBBY'S BEEFS & RED HOTS ON BEING INDUCTED IN THE VIENNA BEEF HOT DOG HALL OF FAME

WHEREAS, Bubby's Beefs & Red Hots is located in Elk Grove Village, Illinois across from the Elk Grove Technology Park; and

WHEREAS, Bubby's was started by owner Andy Arnowitz nearly two decades ago; and

WHEREAS, Bubby's was named after what his daughters affectionately call their grandmother; and

WHEREAS, Vienna Beef was launched in 1893 in Chicago, Illinois by Emil Reichel and Sam Ladany, two immigrants from Vienna, Austria; and

WHEREAS, Vienna Beef got its start selling hot dogs to attendees at the 1893 World's Fair; and

WHEREAS, Vienna Beef has long been supplying hot dog stands across Chicago and the county and is most closely associated with the Chicago-style hot dog; and

WHEREAS, Vienna Beef opened the Vienna Beef Hot Dog Hall of Fame in 2006 to honor long standing hot dog stands that have developed into neighborhood landmarks; and

WHEREAS, Arnowitz rarely takes vacations and is committed to serving residents of his community along with longtime employees Carlos Perez and Arturo Castelan; and

WHEREAS, Bubby's represents the best of the 15th District and shows the importance of local small businesses serving our community; and

WHEREAS, Cook County is grateful for the dedicated small businesses in our communities; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Cook County Board of Commissioners do hereby honor Bubby's Beefs & Red Hots for this honor; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that suitable copies of this resolution are presented to Bubby's Beefs & Red Hots.