



Record of Meeting | October 22, 2025

The Illinois State Toll Highway Authority's ("Tollway") Board of Directors met in regular session on Wednesday, October 22, 2025, in the Boardroom of Tollway headquarters in Downers Grove, Illinois. The meeting was held pursuant to the By-Laws of the Tollway upon call and notice of the meeting executed by Chairman Arnaldo Rivera and posted in accordance with the requirements of the Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS 120/1, *et seq.*

[Bolded entries indicate issues which may require follow-up to present or report to the Board.]

Call to Order / Roll Call

Chairman Rivera called the meeting to order at approximately 9:28 a.m. He then asked the Board Secretary to call the roll, those Directors present and absent being as follows:

Board Members Present:
Director James Connolly
Director Jacqueline Gomez
Director Manish Mehta
Director Melissa Neddermeyer
Director Gary Perinar <i>[departed at 11:03 am]</i>
Chairman Arnaldo Rivera
Director Mark Wright

Board Members Not Present:
Governor JB Pritzker <i>[ex officio]</i>
Secretary Gia Biagi <i>[ex officio]</i>
Director Scott Paddock
Director Jim Sweeney

The Board Secretary declared a quorum present.

Safety Message

Chairman Rivera noted that October is National Cybersecurity Awareness Month and introduced Chief Information Officer Mike Shay and Kividi Kikama, Deputy Chief of IT Security, to deliver the month's Safety Message. Mr. Kikama reviewed current and emerging cybersecurity threats and emphasized protecting both personal and Tollway systems and data. He recommended the following practices:

- Be vigilant for phishing—verify requests and watch for red flags.
- Use secure network practices.
- Maintain cyber awareness and good cyber hygiene.
- Complete security training and stay informed about new threats.



Public Comment

Chairman Rivera opened the floor for public comment. Mr. Steve Bahnsen offered comments in support of the Tollway's improved exit signage along its system.

Chairman Rivera thanked the speaker for his comments.

Chairman's Items

Item 1: *Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Board of Directors Meeting held September 24, 2025.*

Chairman Rivera stated that action on **Chair's Item 1** will be deferred.

Item 2: *Approval of the Executive Session Minutes of the Regular Board of Directors Meeting held September 24, 2025.*

Chairman Rivera stated that action on **Chair's Item 2** will be deferred.

Item 3: *Committee Reports*

Chairman Rivera dispensed with committee reports, noting that Directors were present for the committee meetings.

Having no further items, Chairman Rivera turned the floor over to Executive Director Cassandra Rouse.

Executive Director's Items

Executive Director Rouse reported that the Tollway demonstrated its commitment to fostering future talent by providing high school students from three Chicago-area schools with practical experience at the I-490 Tollway project and maintenance sites. This initiative aims to inspire students by introducing them to real-world engineering and construction tasks while highlighting potential career opportunities within the industry and specifically at the Tollway.

Executive Director Rouse also highlighted several events in coordination with Cook County and local communities including Cook County's groundbreaking event to mark the start of local road improvements in Bensenville and Franklin Park, where delivery of a future Franklin Avenue Interchange will provide direct access to both the new I-490 Tollway and the Tri-State Tollway (I-294) as well as a celebration at 87th Street and Roberts Road under the Tri-State Tollway with



Cook County and the Village of Hickory Hills. Executive Director Rouse thanked Director Melissa Neddermeyer for joining this event.

Executive Rouse acknowledged the following awards received by the Agency and staff:

- The Tollway's Diversity Advisory Council received the IBTTA Outreach, Opportunity and Engagement Award honoring organizations that make meaningful strides in promoting racial justice, equity, inclusion and societal opportunities.
- The Tollway's Transitional Duty Program earned IBTTA's 2025 Toll Excellence Award in Administration and Finance for reimagining how the Agency supports its workforce.
- The Asphalt Pavement Association honored the Illinois Tollway with its Perpetual Pavement by Design Award at the National Asphalt Pavement Association "Road Forward International Summit." The Tollway's award-winning 14.1-mile stretch of I-90 in Winnebago County was built 15 years ago with a pioneering approach that combines innovation and sustainability.
- The Illinois Tollway has been named Agency of the Year by ITS Midwest for continuous investment in advanced technologies that enable the Agency to detect, monitor and manage roadway events anywhere on the five roadways that make up its 294-mile system.
- Jeff Allen, Deputy Chief of Program Implementation in the Engineering Department, and Ahmad Nafakh, Senior Project Manager in the Planning Department, will be honored by the American Society of Civil Engineers with the Government Civil Engineer of the Year Award and the Young Government Civil Engineer of the Year Award.

Executive Director Rouse acknowledged the Tollway's efforts in recognition of Breast Cancer Awareness month and in support of the ongoing fight against breast cancer.

In advance of Veterans Day, Executive Director Rouse recognized Tollway employees who have served in the U.S. armed forces and expressed appreciation for their sacrifices in defending our freedoms.

[A short break was taken for a photo opportunity involving Tollway veterans, the Board of Directors and the Executive Director.]

Executive Director Rouse next introduced Tollway Inspector General T.J. Hengesbach to present the Office of Inspector General's Summary Activity Report for March 1, 2025 through August 31, 2025. [See attached report.](#)

At the conclusion of the presentation, Executive Director Rouse, having no further items to report, returned the floor to Chairman Rivera.



Items for Consideration

Finance

Item 1: Approval of the Fiscal Year 2026 Tentative Budget.

Chairman Rivera entertained a motion to approve **Finance Item 1**. Director Connolly made a motion to approve this item, seconded by Director Gomez. The motion PASSED unanimously by voice vote.

Information Technology

Item 1: Award of Contract 25-0151 to CDW Government LLC for the purchase of Laptops, Monitors, and Related Equipment plus Maintenance and Support in an amount not to exceed \$442,141.00 (Order Against DoIT Master Contract).

Item 2: Renewal of Contract 23-0044R with SDI Presence LLC for the purchase of a Security Operations Center Program in an amount not to exceed \$1,016,794.50 (Tollway Invitation for Bid).

Chairman Rivera stated that Director Mehta has indicated in advance his wish to recuse himself from the decision on Information Technology Item 1. Chairman Rivera then entertained a motion to approve **Information Technology Item 1**. Director Connolly made a motion to approve this item, seconded by Director Gomez. Chairman Rivera asked that the roll be called on the motion, the vote of yeas and nays being as follows:

Yeas: Director Connolly, Director Gomez, Director Neddermeyer, Director Perinar, Director Wright, Chairman Rivera (6)

Nays: (0)

Recusals: Director Mehta (1)

Chairman Rivera entertained a motion to approve **Information Technology Item 2**. Director Connolly made a motion to approve this item, seconded by Director Gomez. The motion PASSED unanimously by voice vote.

Facilities & Fleet Operations

Item 1: Award of Contract 25-0060R to Smart Innovations LLC for the purchase of Generator Rental Services in an amount not to exceed \$177,192.00 for an initial one-year term and a possible one-year renewal term in an amount not to exceed \$189,057.48 (Tollway Invitation for Bid).



Item 2: Award of Contract 25-0107 to Bob Ridings, Inc. for the purchase of Full-Size and Mid-Size SUVs in an amount not to exceed \$366,957.00 (Tollway Invitation for Bid).

Chairman Rivera entertained a motion to approve **Facilities & Fleet Operations Item 1**. Director Connolly made a motion to approve this item, seconded by Director Gomez. The motion PASSED unanimously by voice vote.

Chairman Rivera entertained a motion to approve **Facilities & Fleet Operations Item 2**. Director Connolly made a motion to approve this item, seconded by Director Gomez. The motion PASSED unanimously by voice vote.

Engineering

Item 1: Award of Contract I-25-4766 to F.H. Paschen, S.N. Nielsen & Associates, LLC for Roadway Construction on the Elgin O'Hare Western Access (I-490) between Mile Post 3.3 (Irving Park Road) and Mile Post 4.3 (Devon Avenue) in the amount of \$39,079,595.62. [Deferred]

Item 2: Award of Contract RR-25-9305 to Western Utility LLC for Fiber Optic System Construction Systemwide in the amount of \$3,908,235.88. [Deferred]

Item 3: Acceptance of Proposal from Illinois Construction & Environmental Consulting, Inc. on Contract I-25-4769 for Roadway Construction Management on the Elgin O'Hare Western Access (I-490) from Mile Post 3.1 (Foster Avenue) to Mile Post 4.3 (Devon Avenue) in an amount not to exceed \$5,550,000.00.

Item 4: Acceptance of Proposal from GFT Infrastructure, Inc. (formerly known as Gannett Fleming, Inc.) on Contract I-25-2005 for Design Services for Bridge Reconstruction Design on the Reagan Memorial Tollway (I-88) at Mile Post 121.9 (Canadian National Railway) in an amount not to exceed \$7,270,899.60.

Item 5: Acceptance of Proposal from Milhouse Engineering & Construction, Inc. on Contract I-25-2007 for Design Services for Plaza Improvements Design on the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90) and Reagan Memorial Tollway (I-88) in an amount not to exceed \$2,493,027.65.

Item 6: Acceptance of Proposal from Delta Engineering Group, LLC on Contract RR-25-4993 for Design Services Upon Request Systemwide in an amount not to exceed \$3,000,000.00.

Without objection, Chairman Rivera deferred action on Engineering Items 1 and 2 until a future meeting. Chairman Rivera entertained a motion to consolidate for consideration and action Engineering Items 3-6. Director Connolly made a motion to consolidate these items, seconded by Director Gomez. The motion PASSED unanimously by voice vote.



The motion to consolidate these items having carried, Chairman Rivera entertained a motion to approve **Engineering Items 3-6**. Director Connolly made a motion to approve these items, seconded by Director Gomez. The motion PASSED unanimously by voice vote.

Legal

Item 1: Approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Illinois Department of Transportation ("IDOT") to memorialize maintenance and future jurisdictional responsibilities for the comingled portion of I-490 and Illinois Route 19. Cost to the Tollway: \$0.

Chairman Rivera entertained a motion to approve **Legal Item 1**. Director Connolly made a motion to approve this item, seconded by Director Gomez. The motion PASSED unanimously by voice vote.

Executive Session

Chairman Rivera called for a motion to enter Executive Session pursuant to the exception provided in Section 2(c)(11) of the Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11) to consider Tollway matters related to pending or potential litigation. Director Connolly made a motion, pursuant to the section specified, to enter Executive Session, seconded by Director Gomez. The motion PASSED unanimously by voice vote.

At approximately 10:21 a.m., the Board entered the Executive Session.

Return from Executive Session and Action

[Director Perinar departed the meeting during the Executive Session at approximately 11:03 a.m.]

At approximately 11:43 a.m., the Board re-entered the public session of the meeting.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the Board, Chairman Rivera entertained a motion to adjourn. Director Connolly made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Director Gomez. The motion PASSED unanimously by voice vote.



ILLINOIS STATE TOLL HIGHWAY AUTHORITY

Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting

Meeting Date
October 22
2025



The meeting adjourned at approximately 11:45 a.m.

Minutes taken by: _____

Christi Regnery

Christi Regnery
Board Secretary
Illinois State Toll Highway Authority