



Record of Meeting | February 19, 2026

The Illinois State Toll Highway Authority’s (“Tollway”) Board of Directors met in regular session on Thursday, February 19, 2026, 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

Given Director Sweeney’s advance notice to the Board Secretary of his inability to attend due to business conflicts and given that a quorum of the committee was physically present, in accordance with the Open Meetings Act and Tollway By-laws, Chairman Rivera entertained a motion to allow Director Sweeney’s participation by audio conference. Director Neddermeyer made such a motion, seconded by Director Connolly. The motion PASSED unanimously by voice vote.

Chairman Rivera called the meeting to order at approximately 9:51 a.m. He then asked the Board Secretary to call the roll, those Directors present and absent being as follows:

Board Members Present:	Board Members Not Present:
Director James Connolly	Governor JB Pritzker [<i>ex officio</i>]
Director Jacqueline Gomez	Secretary Gia Biagi [<i>ex officio</i>]
Director Manish Mehta	
Director Melissa Neddermeyer	
Director Scott Paddock	
Chairman Arnaldo Rivera	
Director Jim Sweeney [<i>by phone</i>]	
Director Mark Wright	

The Board Secretary declared a quorum present.

Safety Message



Chief of Maintenance and Traffic Rohan Gayle introduced members of the Tollway Roadway team and recognized their critical work during the recent period of extreme weather.

Mr. Gayle noted that, in addition to managing snow and ice events, the recent stretch of 20 consecutive days of below-freezing temperatures required continuous Zero Weather Road Patrols to search for stranded motorists and respond to drivers who called *999 for assistance.

Mr. Gayle commended the Zero Weather Patrols, Tollway H.E.L.P. truck drivers, and maintenance crews for their outstanding service under difficult conditions, noting that their efforts helped protect customers and enabled them to resume their travels as quickly as possible.

Mr. Gayle also shared a CBS Channel 2 ride-along interview featuring the Zero Weather Patrol.

Public Comment

Chairman Rivera opened the floor for public comment. Steve Bahnsen addressed the Board. Mr. Bahnsen commended the Tollway's use of both exit numbers and road names on its exit signage, noting that this practice makes exits easier for motorists to identify and is also beneficial to advertisers using the Tollway 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 January 21, 2026.

Chairman Rivera entertained a motion to approve **Chair's Item 1**, the minutes of the Regular Board of Directors meeting held January 21, 2026. Director Neddermeyer made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Director Connolly. The motion PASSED unanimously by voice vote.

Item 2: Approval of the Executive Session Minutes of the Regular Board of Directors Meeting held January 21, 2026.

Chairman Rivera stated that without objection, action on Chair's Item 2 will be deferred until after consideration in the Executive Session.

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 several Tollway projects, including the Central Tri-State improvements at 87th Street and Roberts Road, were recognized at the recent ACEC Engineering Excellence Awards Gala.

Executive Director Rouse also acknowledged the Tollway's Roadway team for their efforts during the challenging winter season.

Executive Director Rouse noted that the following week would mark National Engineers Week and thanked Chief Engineering Officer Manar Nashif and the entire Engineering Department for their hard work on behalf of the Agency. She further noted that the Tollway would welcome Girl Scouts for "Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day," during which participants would receive hands-on experience designed to foster interest in STEAM and transportation-related fields.

Executive Director Rouse stated that, at the Illinois Tollway, Black History Month serves as a year-round reminder that thoughtful, informed decision-making is essential to building infrastructure that connects and serves the region as a whole. Ms. Rouse also recognized the passing of Rev. Jesse Jackson and his inspiring leadership in advancing racial, economic, and social justice.

Executive Director Rouse returned the floor to Chairman Rivera.

Items for Consideration

Finance

Item 1: Approval of the Retiree Health Insurance Premium for 2025 to the Illinois Department of Central Management Services per the State Employees Group Insurance Act of 1971 (5 ILCS 375/1, et seq.) in an amount not to exceed \$9,542,692.14.

Item 2: Award of Contract 26-1146 to Wellpoint Life and Health Insurance Company for the purchase of Employee Benefits Stop-Loss Insurance Coverage in an amount not to exceed \$1,234,872.00.

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



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

Engineering

Item 1: Award of Contract RR-25-2023 to Rausch Infrastructure, LLC for Bridge Rehabilitation on the Reagan Memorial Tollway (I-88) from Mile Post 124.1 to Mile Post 136.4 and on the Veterans Memorial Tollway (I-355) at Mile Post 14.6 in the amount of \$4,499,070.12.

Item 2: Award of Contract RR-25-4996 to Path Construction Company, Inc. for Bridge Rehabilitation on the Tri-State Tollway (I-294) between Mile Post 38.3 (Irving Park Road) and Mile Post 39.3 (CPKC) in the amount of \$9,049,581.31.

Item 3: Award of Contract RR-25-2035 to Valor Construction Services, Inc. for Access and Parking Lot Improvements on the Tri-State Tollway (I-294) at Mile Post 5.6 (Plaza 41 Markham Plaza) in the amount of \$499,315.00. [DEFERRED]

Item 4: Extra Work Order on Contract I-16-4669 to F.H. Paschen, S.N. Nielsen & Associates, LLC for Roadway and Bridge Construction on the Elgin O'Hare Western Access IL Route 390 and I-490 Interchange in the amount of \$650,000.00, increasing the upper limit of compensation from \$181,790,009.71 to \$182,440,009.71. [Recusal: Director Mehta]

Item 5: Acceptance of Proposal from Bowman Consulting Group, Ltd. / OSEH Inc. / Alfred Benesch & Company on Contract I-21-4809 for Supplemental Construction Management Services for Roadway Reconstruction and Widening on the Tri-State Tollway (I-294) between Mile Post 27.8 (Ogden Avenue) and Mile Post 29.5 (Cermak Road) in the amount of \$2,000,000.00, increasing the upper limit of compensation from \$15,900,000.00 to \$17,900,000.00. [Recusal: Director Mehta]

Item 6: Award of Contract 25-0112 to Davidson Trucking, Inc. (d.b.a. Davidson Construction Supply) for the purchase of Asphalt Crack-Sealant Material in an amount not to exceed \$355,500.00 (Tollway Invitation for Bid).

Chairman Rivera stated that Engineering Item 3 will be deferred to a future meeting and noted that Director Mehta has indicated in advance his wish to recuse himself from the decision on Engineering Items 4 and 5.

Chairman Rivera entertained a motion to approve **Engineering Item 4**. Director Neddermeyer made a motion to approve this item, seconded by Director Connolly. Chairman Rivera asked that the roll be called on the motion, the vote of yeas and nays being as follows:



Yeas: Director Neddermeyer, Director Connolly, Director Gomez, Director Paddock, Director Sweeney, Director Wright, Chairman Rivera (7)

Nays: (0)

Recusals: Director Mehta (1)

The motion PASSED.

Chairman Rivera then entertained a motion to approve **Engineering Item 5**. Director Neddermeyer made a motion to approve this item, seconded by Director Connolly. Chairman Rivera asked that the roll be called on the motion, the vote of yeas and nays being as follows:

Yeas: Director Neddermeyer, Director Connolly, Director Gomez, Director Paddock, Director Sweeney, Director Wright, Chairman Rivera (7)

Nays: (0)

Recusals: Director Mehta (1)

The motion PASSED.

Chairman Rivera then entertained a motion to consolidate for consideration and action **Engineering Items 1, 2 and 6**. Director Neddermeyer made a motion to consolidate these items, seconded by Director Connolly. The motion PASSED unanimously by voice vote.

The motion to consolidate these items having carried, Chairman Rivera entertained a motion to approve **Engineering Items 1, 2 and 6**. Director Neddermeyer made a motion to approve these items, seconded by Director Connolly. The motion PASSED unanimously by voice vote.

Legal

Item 1: Approval of Intergovernmental Agreement with the Illinois Department of Transportation for costs associated with replacing the I-90 bridge over Business US 20. Cost to the Tollway: \$0. IDOT is reimbursing the Tollway \$3,429,338.16.

Item 2: Amendment to an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Illinois State Polic ("ISP"). Cost to the Tollway: Per fee schedule agreed to by the parties.

Item 3: Authorization to enter into a Settlement Agreement with Lorig Construction Company. Cost to the Tollway: As discussed in Executive Session.

Chairman Rivera stated that action on Legal Item 3 will be deferred until after consideration in the Executive Session.



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

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

Executive Session

Chairman Rivera called for a motion to enter Executive Session pursuant to the exceptions provided in Sections 2(c)(11) and (21) of the Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11) and (21), to consider Tollway matters related to pending or potential litigation and the minutes of closed meetings. Director Neddermeyer made a motion, pursuant to the sections specified, to enter Executive Session, seconded by Director Connolly. The motion PASSED unanimously by voice vote.

At approximately 10:09 a.m., the Board entered the Executive Session.

Return from Executive Session and Action

At approximately 10:25 a.m., the Board re-entered the public session of the meeting.

Chair's Item 2: Approval of the Executive Session Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting held January 21, 2026.

Chairman Rivera entertained a motion to approve **Chair's Item 2**. Director Neddermeyer made a motion to approve this item, seconded by Director Connolly. The motion PASSED unanimously by voice vote.

Legal Item 3: Authorization to enter into a Settlement Agreement with Lorig Construction Company. Cost to the Tollway: As discussed in Executive Session.

Chairman Rivera entertained a motion to approve **Legal Item 3**, as discussed in the Executive Session. Director Neddermeyer made a motion to approve this item, seconded by Director Connolly. The motion PASSED unanimously by voice vote.

Adjournment



ILLINOIS STATE TOLL HIGHWAY AUTHORITY

Minutes of the
Board of Directors Meeting

Meeting Date
February 19
2026



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.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:26 a.m.

Minutes taken by: _____

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Christi Regnery".

Christi Regnery
Board Secretary
Illinois State Toll Highway Authority