

# Chicago Park District



## Meeting Minutes - Final

Friday, February 28, 2025

12:00 PM

### EMERGENCY BOARD MEETING

Chicago Park District Administration Building (Park 596)

4830 South Western Avenue

Chicago, IL 60609

### Board of Commissioners

*Commissioner Coya Paz Brownrigg*

*Commissioner Robert Castaneda*

*Commissioner Sean Garrett*

*Commissioner Philip Jackson*

*Commissioner Sharon Bush*

*Vice President Modesto Valle*

*President Marlon Everett*

### **NOTICE OF EMERGENCY MEETING**

In accordance with the provisions of 5 ILCS 120/1 et seq., PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that an EMERGENCY BOARD MEETING will be held on Friday, February 28, 2025 at 12:00 P.M. at the Chicago Park District Administration Building (Park 596) located at 4830 South Western Avenue, Chicago, IL 60609.

For the February 28, 2025 Emergency Board Meeting, public comment will be limited to five (5) registered speakers. Advanced registration to speak will begin Thursday, February 27, 2025 until the start of the meeting on Friday, February 28, 2025 at 12:00 P.M. or until all slots are filled. Please find the public participation rules and registration instructions here:  
<https://www.chicagoparkdistrict.com/public-participation-rules>

### **ORDER OF BUSINESS**

- Roll Call
- Public Comments
- Closed Session
- Open Session
- Adjournment

#### **By order of President Marlon Everett**

In compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. Section 794) and the Americans with Disabilities Act (42 U.S.C. Section 12101 et seq.), the Chicago Park District does not discriminate on the basis of disability in employment or admission/access to programs and activities.

Any person with a disability who desires special accommodations or the services of a sign language interpreter in order to attend a meeting of the Chicago Park District Board of Commissioners, should contact Disability Policy Officer, Larry Labiak, 504 Compliance Officer, 4830 South Western Avenue, Chicago, IL 60609, at 312/742-5097 or [accessibility@chicagoparkdistrict.com](mailto:accessibility@chicagoparkdistrict.com) at least 72 hours before the Board Meeting.

**Marlon Everett**  
**President**

**Sarah Gelder**  
**Secretary**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

President Everett stated for the record that the nature of the Emergency meeting is to ensure consistency of District operations and an efficient transition with regards to the resignation of CEO and General Superintendent Rosa Escareno.

## Roll Call

- Present:** 4 - Commissioner Coya Paz Brownrigg, Commissioner Philip Jackson, Commissioner Robert Castaneda and President Marlon Everett
- Absent:** 3 - Vice President Modesto Valle, Commissioner Sean Garrett and Commissioner Sharon Bush

## 1. PUBLIC COMMENTS

The following members of the public addressed the Commissioners:

1. Nicole Foster-Hill (Acknowledged the Board for an efficient transition for the position of CEO and General Superintendent and requested continued collaboration around addressing encampments at Gompers Park)
2. Louise McCurry (Acknowledged Rosa Escareno for her years of service and positive impact on programming and community engagement in Jackson Park and districtwide)
3. Kenneth Newman (Acknowledged Rosa Escareno for her years of service and requested bond issuance for development of athletic facilities)
4. Pastor Doyle (Congratulated Alderman Carlos Ramirez-Rosa for his appointment as CEO and General Superintendent and addressed the importance of violence prevention initiatives)
5. Miriam Bhimani (Addressed concerns related to policies impacting unhoused community members)

President Everett acknowledged Alderman Carlos Ramirez -Rosa, who was in attendance. Then, Alderman David Moore addressed the Commissioners congratulating Rosa Escareno for her years of service, acknowledging Alderman Carlos Ramirez-Rosa for his successful tenure with the 35th Ward, and requesting increased investment in Ogden (William) Park.

Written testimony was received from Lynn Burmeister and Renae Godish.

## 2. CLOSED SESSION:

Pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1)

President Everett stated that the Commissioners would enter Closed Session to consider matters appropriately discussed in Closed Session, pursuant to the Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS 120 Section 2, Subsection (c) (1).

A motion was made by Commissioner Catstaneda, seconded by Commissioner Paz Brownrigg, that the meeting enter into Closed Session. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** 4 - Paz Brownrigg, Jackson, Castaneda and Everett

**Absent:** 3 - Valle, Garrett and Bush

[25-1135-020](#)

[8](#)

**Attachments:** [25.02.28 Executive Session Minutes](#)

### 3. OPEN SESSION:

**A motion was made by Commissioner Castaneda, seconded by Commissioner Paz Brownrigg, that the meeting return to Open Session. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 4 - Paz Brownrigg, Jackson, Castaneda and Everett

**Absent:** 3 - Valle, Garrett and Bush

[25-1064-022](#)

[8](#)

#### **RESOLUTION TO APPOINT CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND DELEGATE AUTHORITY TO NEGOTIATE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT**

**Attachments:** [Resolution](#)

**President Everett read the Resolution into record. A motion was made by Commissioner Castaneda seconded by Commissioner Paz Brownrigg that the Resolution be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 4 - Paz Brownrigg, Jackson, Castaneda and Everett

**Absent:** 3 - Valle, Garrett and Bush

### 4. ADJOURNED

**A motion was made by Commissioner Jackson, seconded by Commissioner Castaneda, that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 4 - Paz Brownrigg, Jackson, Castaneda and Everett

**Absent:** 3 - Valle, Garrett and Bush