CSU Board of Trustees
Full Board Meeting and Board Retreat
Open Session Minutes
May 18, 2026
9:04 a.m.- 10:08 a.m.

Board Members Present
Trustee Andrea Zopp, Chair
Trustee Angelique David, Vice-Chair
Trustee Cheryl Watkins, Secretary
Trustee Dixie Adams Erwin
Trustee Michelle Gooze-Miller
Trustee Jason Quiara
Trustee John Robak

Board Members Absent
Student Trustee Zariah Franklin

Others Present
President Zaldwaynaka (Z) Scott, JD
Teresa L. Bates, Executive Director of Board Relations
Jason Carter, Vice President, Legal Affairs, General Counsel and Chief Compliance Officer
Dr. Sonja Feist-Price, Provost & Executive Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs
Erin Steva, Senior Vice President, External Affairs and Strategic Initiatives

1. **Call to Order**

Chair Zopp called the meeting to order.

2. **Roll Call**

A quorum was verified, and a roll call was taken.

3. **Verification of Meeting Notice**

The meeting notice was posted as mandated by the Illinois Open Meetings Act in the following physical locations: the Student Union Building, Library, Cook Administration Building, and online.

4. **Approval of Agenda**

Chair Zopp moved to approve the agenda. There was one change, the amendment for the Governing Board Regulation will not be discussed at the meeting. Trustee Michelle Gooze-Miller seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

5. **Public Comment**

Public comments were given by Adam Rogers, Pastor Doyle Landry and two recent college graduates Jaylen Rule and Preston Jones.

6. **Approval of Minutes**

Chair Zopp moved to approve the meeting minutes from March 23, 2026. Trustee Jason Quiara seconded the motion.

Trustee Adams-Yes
Trustee David-Yes
Trustee Gooze-Miller Yes
Trustee Quiara-Yes
Trustee Robak-Yes
Trustee Watkins-Yes
Trustee Zopp-Yes

The motion passed unanimously: Ayes, 7 Nays, 0

7. **President's Remarks**

President Scott provided an update on the University's legislative and budget advocacy efforts, highlighting testimony before both the Illinois State Senate and House of Representatives, as well as ongoing engagement with state legislators to advance Chicago State University's priorities. She noted the strong participation of faculty, staff, students, and alumni during Advocacy Day. She discussed funding priorities focused on student success initiatives, information technology infrastructure, and addressing rising operational costs. The President also reaffirmed the University's support for Illinois' proposed equitable funding formula for public universities and its potential benefits for CSU.

President Scott also discussed the success of the University's 373rd Commencement Ceremony, recognizing honorary degree recipients Brett J. Hart, Louis Carr, and Karen Hunter. She also acknowledged commencement keynote speaker Emanuel "Chris" Welch and thanked the Board, campus community, and partners for their continued support of Chicago State University's mission and strategic goals.

8. **Board Reports**

Academic Affairs

Chair Zopp called on Dr. Sonja Feist-Price, Provost and Executive President of Academic and Student Affairs, to present the Academic Affairs report. The Provost provided an update on academic and student affairs initiatives and highlighted the University's continued commitment to student success, academic excellence, and faculty achievement. She shared an overview of recent commencement activities and recognized the accomplishments of CSU graduates.

The Provost also reviewed the tenure process. She noted that tenure candidates successfully completed a comprehensive review process that evaluated their effectiveness in teaching, scholarship, research, and service to the University.

The Provost presented seven professors for tenure. Dr. Jacquelyn Benchik-Osborne, Dr. Brent-In, Dr. Elaina Khasawneh, Dr. Chi-Young Oh, Dr. Latoya Patterson, Dr. John Smith and Dr. Markeisha Woodson. She went over each Professor's credentials.

Chair Zopp called for a motion to approve the resolution for tenure for Dr. Jacquelyn Benchik-Osborne, Dr. Brent-In, Dr. Elaina Khasawneh, Dr. Chi-Young Oh, Dr. Latoya Patterson, Dr. John Smith and Dr. Markeisha Woodson. Trustee Angelique David moved to approve the resolution. Trustee Michelle Gooze Miller seconded the motion.

Trustee Adams-Yes
Trustee David-Yes
Trustee Gooze-Miller Yes
Trustee Quiara-Yes
Trustee Robak-Yes
Trustee Watkins-Yes
Trustee Zopp-Yes

The motion passed unanimously: Ayes 7 Nays 0

The Provost then presented four retired faculty, Dr. Rohan Attele, Dr. Gabriel Gomez, Dr. Daniel Hrocenzik and Dr. Christine List for Professor Emeritus. She presented each Professor's credentials.

Chair Zopp called for a motion to approve the resolution for Professor Emeritus status for Dr. Rohan Attele, Dr. Gabriel Gomez, Dr. Daniel Hrocenzik and Dr. Christine List. Trustee Gooze Miller moved to approve the resolution. Trustee Jason Quiara seconded the motion.

Trustee Adams-Yes
Trustee David-Yes
Trustee Gooze-Miller Yes
Trustee Quiara-Yes
Trustee Robak-Yes
Trustee Watkins-Yes

Trustee Zopp-Yes

The motion passed unanimously: Ayes 7 Nays 0

External Affairs

Chair Zopp called on Erin Steva, Senior Vice President of External Affairs and Strategic Initiatives to present on External Affairs. Ms. Steva presented a resolution to redesign Chicago State University's website. She highlighted the need to modernize the University's digital presence to improve accessibility compliance, user experience, enrollment recruitment efforts, search visibility, and integration with institutional systems. Following a review of the proposal and vendor evaluation process, the administration recommended Carnegie as the vendor to lead the website redesign and migration project.

The project is expected to begin on July 1, 2026, and be completed by June 30, 2027, at a total cost of $485,970, with an additional estimated $179,080 for ongoing website support and licensing in Fiscal Years 2028 and 2029.

Chair Zopp called for a motion to approve the website redesign and migration resolution. Trustee Angelique David moved to approve the resolution. Trustee Gooze-Miller seconded the motion.

Trustee Adams-Yes
Trustee David-Yes
Trustee Gooze-Miller Yes
Trustee Quiara-Yes
Trustee Robak-Yes
Trustee Watkins-Yes
Trustee Zopp-Yes

The motion passed unanimously: Ayes 7 Nays 0

9. Recess into Executive Session

Chair Zopp moved that the Board convene into Executive Session to discuss Real Estate Matters. Trustee Jason Quiara seconded the motion.

Trustee Adams-Yes
Trustee David-Yes
Trustee Gooze-Miller Yes
Trustee Quiara-Yes
Trustee Robak-Yes
Trustee Watkins-Yes
Trustee Zopp-Yes

The motion passed unanimously: Ayes, 7 Nays, 0

10. Return to Open Session

Chair Zopp moved to reconvene into Open session. Trustee Angelique David seconded the motion.

Trustee Adams-Yes
Trustee David-Yes
Trustee Gooze-Miller Yes
Trustee Quiara-Yes
Trustee Robak-Yes
Trustee Watkins-Yes
Trustee Zopp-Yes

The motion passed unanimously: Ayes, 7 Nays, 0

The Board took no action in Executive Session that required action in the Open Session.

11. Adjournment

Chair Zopp moved to adjourn the May 18, 2026, Full Board Meeting. Trustee Angelique David seconded the motion.

Trustee Adams-Yes
Trustee David-Yes
Trustee Gooze-Miller Yes
Trustee Quiara-Yes
Trustee Robak-Yes
Trustee Watkins-Yes
Trustee Zopp-Yes

The motion passed unanimously: Ayes, 7 Nays, 0

May 18, 2026, Board of Trustees meeting adjourned at 10:08 a.m.