

**MINUTES  
Illinois Arts Council  
Virtual Board Meeting  
June 28, 2024, 9:30 A.M.**

**Board Members Present:** Nora Daley, Board Chair;  
Rhoda A. Pierce, Vice Chair;  
Michael R. Conn; Joan Clifford;  
Richard Daniels; Henry Godinez;  
Sarah Herda; Vicki Heyman;  
Anne L. Kaplan; Jodie S. Kavensky;  
Valerie King; Peggy Montes;  
Pemon Rami; Hedy Ratner;  
Christina Steelman

**Board Members Not Present:** Les Begay; Gillian Flynn;  
Shirley Madigan; Robert Maguire;  
Marsha Ryan.

Board Chair Nora Daley called the meeting to order at 9:42 A.M.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF DECEMBER 1, 2023 BOARD MEETING**

**It was moved by Richard Daniels and seconded that the Minutes of the December 1, 2023 Board meeting, as presented in the Board book on page 3, be approved. The motion carried.**

**FY24 FISCAL REPORT**

Chief Financial Officer, Sandra Velazquez, provided The Illinois Arts Council FY24 Fiscal Report highlighting \$9.7 million in appropriations and \$3.5 million in line items. Mrs. Velazquez reported that all the grants, awards and line-item funds were awarded for FY24 and all federal grants and awards have been expanded. The report included the agency expended the entire operational expenses, which included operational costs toward retired staff. The capital funds for FY24 and all technical assistant grants were awarded.

**It was moved by Henry Godinez and Jodie Kavensky seconded that the FY24 Budget, as presented in the Board book on page 4, be approved. The motion carried.**

**FY25 BUDGET REPORT**

The Illinois Arts Council Agency's FY25 Budget includes an increase in our grand awards. The agency also has an increase in operational expenses. For the operational expenses, we do anticipate expanding all funds for the FY25. The agency received an \$8.3 million increase for FY25 increasing granting to \$21.2 million.

**It was moved by Henry Godinez and Rhoda Pierce seconded that the FY24 Budget, as presented in the Board book on page 7, be approved. The motion carried.**

## **RATIFICATION OF FY24 GRANTS**

**It was moved by Jodie Kavensky and Vicki Heyman seconded that the FY24 Ratification of Grants, as presented in the Board book page 8, be approved. The motion carried.**

**ABSTENTIONS: Sarah Herda: 38885 Chicago Architecture Biennial; Joan Clifford: 38813 Chicago Theatre Group Inc.; Anne L Kaplan: 38760 The Joffrey Ballet; Henry Godinez: 38813 Chicago Theatre Group;**

## **LEGISLATIVE HEARING REPORT**

Director of Strategic Partnership, Teresa Davis, provided a report of the 2024 Legislative Session. Mrs. Davis reported on legislative meetings taken place during these sessions and the impact it had on solidifying the support of the agency's budget increase. The Illinois Arts Council senior staff visited Springfield, Illinois three times for the Senate Hearing, Capital Day, and the House Hearing.

## **PROGRAMS REPORT**

Deputy Director, Encarnacion Teruel, reported on the newly restructured grant programs by providing an overview of the partnership with National Assembly State Arts Agencies. The one-year partnership provided an investigation into grant practices throughout the state. The findings of the investigation lead the agency to create a reduced suit of grant programs. Mr. Teruel reported on the agency's redesign to provide a streamline process for granting opportunities and a simplified application.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Executive Director, Joshua Davis-Ruperto, provided an update on the Illinois Arts Council's current areas of focus. Mr. Davis-Ruperto reported on plans to partner with Aim and Arrow, an organization to provide a full assessment of the Arts and Foreign Language grant program. Mr. Davis-Ruperto discussed the agency's focus on outreach and strategic partnerships for FY25. The agency will be increasing staff in FY25 with an additional Program Director on the programs team. With the program staff shifting to a regional model this addition will ensure the agency is providing direct relationship building and support to all regions of state. He reported on the upcoming planning process and new partnership with Illinois Humanities to organize the One State Together in the Arts scheduled for October 2025. Mr. Davis-Ruperto discussed an initiative, Illinois Creative Collaborative, developed as an interagency partnership to increase visibility of funding opportunities available to the Illinois creative sector. Mr. Davis-Ruperto announced a board-led project to celebrate the Illinois Arts Council's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2025. A task force will be developed and lead by Council Member, Vicki Heyman and Deputy Director, Encarnacion Teruel. Preliminary discussions have taken place and the planning process with committee members will begin in July 2024. The agency has announced the upcoming board and staff retreat for September 26-27, 2024 in Edwardsville, Illinois at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville.

**It was moved and seconded that the Illinois Arts Council, having completed its scheduled business, be adjourned. The motion carried.**

**Board Chair Nora Daley adjourned the meeting at 10:52A.M.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rhoda A. Pierce". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid.

**Rhoda A. Pierce, Vice Chairman**