



**From:** Toni Preckwinkle, President *TP*  
**To:** Forest Preserves Board of Commissioners  
**Date:** September 9, 2025  
**Re:** New Appointment to the Conservation & Policy Council

**Appointment**

The Council Nominating Committee recommends the appointment of Brandon Hayes to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Megan Bang.

**I concur with the committee's recommendation and seek the Board's advice and consent related to the appointment of Brandon Hayes to the Conservation and Policy Council beginning September 9, 2025 to December 31, 2025.**

Profiles for the proposed new appointment are attached.

## Candidates for the Conservation & Policy Council

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### Brandon Hayes

- Founder and Principal of Bold Bison Communications and Consulting
- Expertise: Communication, Conservation, Arts

Brandon Hayes founded **Bold Bison Communications and Consulting** in 2019 to provide forward-thinking communications solutions, engaging strategy and facilitation services, and inspiring workshops and trainings for nonprofits, particularly in the conservation, climate, and local food movements. Bold Bison is a national firm—working from Florida to Alaska—with geographical emphases in the Great Lakes, Texas, and the West Coast. Clients include the Chicago Region Food System Fund, Chicago Wilderness Alliance, Giant Sequoia Lands Coalition, Green Spaces Alliance of South Texas, Houston Audubon, Iowa State University, The Land Trust Alliance, Montana Land Reliance, The Morton Arboretum, Nantucket Conservation Foundation, National Forest Foundation, and River Network, among many others including dozens of land trusts. Bold Bison is a Certified LGBT Business Enterprise. Brandon is Chair of the Board of Directors of the Institute of Conservation Leadership and is Board President of Chicago Artists for Action. He is a long-time volunteer for the International Crane Foundation’s Annual Midwest Crane Count.