

**METROPOLITAN WATER RECLAMATION DISTRICT OF GREATER CHICAGO
MINUTES OF THE CIVIL SERVICE BOARD MEETING OF JUNE 18, 2025**

Board Members Present: John S. Kendall, Chairman
Karina Ayala-Bermejo, Vice Chairman
Donald J. Storino, Secretary

Others Present: Ted Kosowski, Director of Human Resources
Nina Brody, Human Resources Analyst
James Murray, Head Assistant Attorney
Joseph Cook, Principal Attorney
Elizabeth Fragale, Principal Attorney
Gina Lencioni, Senior Attorney
Liam Reardon, Senior Attorney
Seth Rosenberg, Senior Attorney
Patrick Blanchard, Inspector General
Christopher Almore, Respondent
Wayne Slaughter, Attorney
Daniel Kelley, Attorney
Jose Escobedo, Respondent
Thomas Castro, Respondent
Margarita Silveyra, Respondent
John Zerfahs, Attorney
Juan Saucedo, Police Lieutenant
Lemar Phillips, Police Sergeant
Peter Chen, Police Officer
Patrick Miller, Police Officer
Michelle Valdez, Observer
Gabriel Maurer, Observer
Emily Binder, Observer
Mallory Stolt, Observer
Tina Sudduth, Witness
Robert Byrne, Witness
Christina Arvis, Clerk of the Civil Service Board

The meeting was convened at approximately 10:00 AM with Chairman John S. Kendall presiding.

The minutes of the regular meeting of May 21, 2025 were approved.

The Motion to Preserve and Release Certain Executive Session Minutes was granted.

There were no public comments.

The preliminary call of hearings revealed:

Larry Malone Continued until July 9, 2025 for status and tentatively set for hearing on September 17, 2025. Passed until the end of the call.

Chentile Jackson Continued until July 9, 2025 for status.

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Sergio Senese	Continued until July 9, 2025 for status and tentatively set for hearing on August 20, 2025.
Christopher Almore	Set for hearing at 10:15 AM.
Tymarr Hunt	Tymarr Hunt was not in attendance. Continued until July 9, 2025 for status.
Cheritha Ellis	Cheritha Ellis resigned from the District. This matter was stricken from the call.
Marquita King	Marquita King resigned from the District. This matter was stricken from the call.
Thomas Castro	Continued for status until July 9, 2025.
Margarita Silveyra	John Zerfahs, attorney for Margarita Silveyra, and the District agreed to exchange witness lists and discovery by July 9, 2025. Continued until July 9, 2025 for status, and set for hearing on September 17, 2025.

The attendance and performance review for Michael Baker reported that Michael Baker was in compliance. The terms of the Stipulation have been satisfied. This matter has been stricken from the call.

The attendance and performance review for Jose Escobedo reported that Jose Escobedo was in compliance.

Mr. Kosowski reported that since the last meeting of the Board, there had been thirty-one (31) requests for leaves of absence, which the Board ratified.

Mr. Kosowski reported that since the last meeting of the Board, there were ten (10) expired eligible lists.

Mr. Kosowski reported that since the last meeting of the Board, there were two (2) terminations of probation.

Larry Malone	This matter was recalled and continued until August 20, 2025 for status and tentatively set for hearing on October 15, 2025.
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The Board adjourned the meeting at approximately 10:17 AM.
The Board commenced the hearing at approximately 10:17 AM.

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Christopher Almore The Board, Wayne Slaughter, counsel for Christopher Almore, and Elizabeth Fragale, counsel for the District, discussed administrative matters. Witnesses were excluded. Elizabeth Fragale, counsel for the District, presented opening statements. Wayne Slaughter, counsel for Christopher Almore, presented opening statements.

Elizabeth Fragale, counsel for the District, called and questioned Tina Sudduth as a witness. During the testimony of Tina Sudduth, District Exhibit Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 were presented. District Exhibit Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 were admitted into evidence. The Board asked questions of Tina Sudduth.

Wayne Slaughter, counsel for Christopher Almore, cross-examined Tina Sudduth as a witness.

The Board recessed the hearing at approximately 11:40 AM.
The Board resumed the hearing at approximately 11:58 AM.

Christopher Almore Wayne Slaughter, counsel for Christopher Almore, cross-examined Tina Sudduth as a witness and presented Respondent Exhibit Nos. 1 and 2, Respondent Exhibit No. 1 was admitted into evidence.

Elizabeth Fragale, counsel for the District, questioned Tina Sudduth as a witness on redirect.

Liam Reardon, counsel for the District, called and questioned Robert Byrne as a witness. During the testimony of Robert Byrne, the District presented District Exhibit Nos. 1, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16, which were admitted into evidence. The Board asked questions of Robert Byrne.

Wayne Slaughter, counsel for Christopher Almore, cross-examined Robert Byrne as a witness.

Liam Reardon, counsel for the District, admitted into evidence District Exhibit No. 17. The District rested its case.

The Board recessed the hearing at approximately 12:59 PM.
The Board resumed the hearing at approximately 1:05 PM.

Christopher Almore Wayne Slaughter, counsel for Christopher Almore, called and questioned Christopher Almore as a witness and presented District Exhibit Nos. 2, 3, and 5 and Respondent Exhibit No. 1.

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Christopher Almore

Elizabeth Fragale, counsel for the District, cross-examined Christopher Almore as a witness and presented District Exhibit Nos. 2, 5. The Board asked questions of Christopher Almore as a witness.

Wayne Slaughter, counsel for Christopher Almore, rested his case.

The Board recalled and asked questions of Tina Sudduth as a witness.

The Board took this case under advisement.

The Board adjourned the hearing at approximately 2:10 PM.
The Board resumed the meeting at approximately 2:10 PM.


The Board adjourned the meeting at 2:11 PM.



John S. Kendall
Chairman

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Karina Ayala-Bermejo
Vice Chairman



Donald J. Storino
Secretary

Dated: June 18, 2025