

**METROPOLITAN WATER RECLAMATION DISTRICT OF GREATER CHICAGO
MINUTES OF THE CIVIL SERVICE BOARD MEETING OF JANUARY 21, 2026**

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

Others Present: Ted Kosowski, Director of Human Resources
Sean Kelly, Director of Information Technology
Susan Morakalis, General Counsel
James Fisher, Assistant Director of Human Resources
Robert Byrne, Human Resources Manager
Cordelia Henry, Senior Human Resources Analyst
Nina Brody, Human Resources Analyst
James Murray, Assistant Head Attorney
Joseph Cook, Principal Attorney
Elizabeth Fragale, Principal Attorney
Gina Lencioni, Senior Attorney
Liam Reardon, Senior Attorney
Seth Rosenberg, Senior Attorney
Tad Arnold, Attorney
Sergio Senese, Respondent
Daniel Kelley, Attorney
Tymarr Hunt, Respondent
Dushyant Sharma, Respondent
Samuel Howard, Respondent
Wayne Slaughter, Attorney
Clement Cherian, Appellant
Paul Connolly, Chief of Police
Lemar Phillips, Police Sergeant
Patrick Miller, Police Officer
Thomas Dougherty, Police Officer
Michelle Valdez, Observer
Amanda Forteneaux, Observer
Gokboru "George" Aygar, Witness
Robert Byrne, Witness
Rahul Agarwal, Witness
Sean Kelly, Witness
Ron Jones, Witness
Scott Ecklund, Witness
Matthew McGregor, Witness
Hussein Shamsuddin, Witness
John Reichling, Witness
Christina Arvis, Clerk of the Civil Service Board

The meeting was convened at approximately 9:00 AM with Chairman John S. Kendall presiding.

The minutes of the regular meeting of December 3, 2025 were approved.

There were no public comments.

The preliminary call of hearings revealed:

Larry Malone	Larry Malone was not in attendance, these matters were passed until the end of the call.
Chentile Jackson	Continued until March 18, 2026 for status and tentatively set for hearing on May 20, 2026.
Sergio Senese	Set for hearing at 9:15 AM.
Tymarr Hunt	Tymarr Hunt was not in attendance. Tentatively set for hearing on June 17, 2026.
Thameena Ali-Mathari	Thameena Ali-Mathari was not in attendance. Continued until February 11, 2026 for status and tentatively set for hearing on April 15, 2026.
Dushyant Sharma	Dushyant Sharma was given 14 days to respond to the District's Motion to Dismiss.
Samuel Howard	Samuel Howard's attorney was not in attendance, this matter was passed until the end of the call.
Clement Cherian	Clement Cherian was given 21 days to respond to the District's Motion to Dismiss, the District will then have 14 day to respond to Clement Cherian's response. Continued for status on March 18, 2026 and set for argument on April 15, 2026.
Ellen Kokoris	Ellen Kokoris resigned from the District, this matter was stricken from the call.

The attendance and performance review for Trevor Gatwood reported that Trevor Gatwood was in compliance.

Mr. Fisher presented Amendment 518: Amend Personnel Rule 7.05 Correction of Lists.

Mr. Fisher reported that since the last meeting of the Board, there had been forty-six (46) requests for leaves of absence, which the Board ratified.

Mr. Fisher reported that since the last meeting of the Board, there were five (5) expired eligible lists.

Mr. Fisher reported that since the last meeting of the Board, there was one (1) termination of probation.

Samuel Howard Set for hearing on February 11, 2026.

The Board recessed the meeting at 9:22 AM.
The Board commenced the hearing at 9:22 AM.

Sergio Senese The Board, Gina Lencioni, attorney for the District, and Daniel Kelley, attorney for Sergio Senese discussed administrative matters, including availability of copies of exhibits. A motion was made to exclude witnesses.

Gina Lencioni, counsel for the District, called and questioned George Aygar as a witness, and presented District Exhibit Nos. 4, 8, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 26, 31, 32, 34, 38, 40, 48, 49 and 60. District Exhibit Nos. 4, 14, 15, 16, 17, 31, 34, 40, and 48 were admitted into evidence.

The Board recessed the hearing at approximately 11:09 AM.
The Board reconvened the hearing at 11:14 AM.

Sergio Senese Daniel Kelley, counsel for Sergio Senese, cross-examined George Aygar and presented Respondent Exhibit Nos. 80, 83 and 87. Gina Lencioni, counsel for the District, questioned George Aygar on redirect. Daniel Kelley, counsel for Sergio Senese, cross-examined George Aygar as a witness. Gina Lencioni, counsel for the District, questioned George Aygar on redirect.

Gina Lencioni, counsel for the District, called and questioned Robert Byrne and presented District Exhibit Nos. 10, 12, 13, 30, 31, 38, 43, 44, 51 and 55. District Exhibit Nos. 12, 30 and 51 were admitted into evidence. Daniel Kelley, counsel for Sergio Senese, cross-examined Robert Byrne as a witness and presented District Exhibit No. 12.

The Board recessed the hearing at approximately 12:36 PM.
The Board reconvened the hearing at 12:48 PM.

presented District Exhibit Nos. 12 and 60.

The Board recessed the hearing at approximately 1:45 PM.

The Board reconvened the hearing at 2:18 PM.

Sergio Senese

Gina Lencioni, counsel for the District, called and questioned Sean Kelly as a witness, and presented District Exhibit Nos. 10 and 74. Daniel Kelley, counsel for Sergio Senese, cross-examined Sean Kelly as a witness. Gina Lencioni, counsel for the District, questioned Sean Kelly on redirect.

The District rested its case.

Sergio Senese

Daniel Kelley, counsel for Sergio Senese, called and questioned Ron Jones as a witness, and presented District Exhibit No. 58. Gina Lencioni, counsel for the District, cross-examined Ron Jones as a witness.

Daniel Kelley, counsel for Sergio Senese, called and questioned Scott Ecklund as a witness. Gina Lencioni, counsel for the District, cross-examined Scott Ecklund.

Daniel Kelley, counsel for Sergio Senese, called and questioned Matthew McGregor as a witness. Gina Lencioni, counsel for the District, cross-examined Matthew McGregor as a witness.

Daniel Kelley, counsel for Sergio Senese, called and questioned Hussein Shamsuddin as a witness. Gina Lencioni, counsel for the District, cross-examined Hussein Shamsuddin. The Board asked questions of Hussein Shamsuddin.

Daniel Kelley, counsel for Sergio Senese, called and questioned John Reichling as a witness. Gina Lencioni, counsel for the District, cross-examined John Reichling.

Daniel Kelley, counsel for Sergio Senese, called and questioned Richard Piotrowski as a witness. Gina Lencioni, counsel for the District cross-examined Richard Piotrowski as a witness.

Daniel Kelley, counsel for Sergio Senese, called and questioned Christopher Kendall as a witness. Gina Lencioni, counsel for the District, cross-examined Christopher Kendall as a witness.

Daniel Kelley, counsel for Sergio Senese, called and questioned Ervin Cheng as a witness. Gina Lencioni, counsel for the District cross examined Ervin Cheng.

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The Board recessed the hearing at approximately 4:14 PM.
The Board reconvened the hearing at 4:18 PM.

Sergio Senese

Daniel Kelley, counsel for Sergio Senese, called and questioned Sergio Senese as a witness. Gina Lencioni, counsel for the District, cross-examined Sergio Senese and presented District Exhibit Nos. 4 and 19. Daniel Kelley, counsel for Sergio Senese, questioned Sergio Senese on redirect.

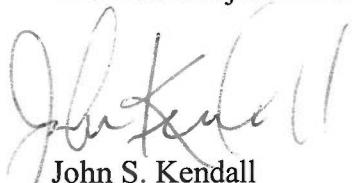
Daniel Kelley, counsel for Sergio Senese, rested his case.

The Board took this case under advisement.

The Board adjourned the hearing at approximately 5:10 PM.
The Board reconvened the meeting at 5:10 PM.

The Board adjourned the meeting at approximately 5:11 PM to an executive session.
The Board resumed the meeting at approximately 5:25 PM.

The Board adjourned the meeting at 5:25 PM.



John S. Kendall
Chairman



Karina Ayala-Bermejo
Vice Chairman



Donald J. Storino
Secretary

Dated: January 21, 2026