

**METROPOLITAN WATER RECLAMATION DISTRICT OF GREATER CHICAGO
MINUTES OF THE CIVIL SERVICE BOARD MEETING OF JULY 12, 2023**

Board Members Present: John S. Kendall, Chairman
Mazie A. Harris, Vice Chairman
Donald J. Storino, Secretary

Others Present: Ted Kosowski, Acting Director of Human Resources
Robert Byrne, Human Resources Manager
James Murray, Head Assistant Attorney
Joseph Cook, Principal Attorney
Elizabeth Fragale, Principal Attorney
Seth Rosenberg, Senior Attorney
Liam Reardon, Senior Attorney
Tom Luetkemeyer, Special Counsel for the District
Edward Palmer, Respondent
NaVarrio Wilkerson, Attorney
Kevin O'Brien, Appellant
Regina Berry, Respondent
Justin Vick, Appellant
Cynthia Crump, Appellant
Peter Cashaw, Respondent
Lemar Phillips, Police Sergeant
Kevin Benson, Police Officer
Jorge Camarena, Police Officer
Marilyn Cruz, Police Officer
Nina Brody, Clerk of the Civil Service Board
Meisha Searcy, Witness
P.J. Spencer, Witness
Malisa Torres, Witness
Victor Chahin, Observer
Jeanne McDougall, Observer
Jim Mohler, Observer
Shalah Russell, Observer
Daniel Stralka, Observer

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

The minutes of the regular meeting of June 21, 2023 were approved.

The minutes of the executive session of June 21, 2023 were approved.

There was no public comment.

The preliminary call of hearings revealed:

Ashley Warren

Ashley Warren was not in attendance. Passed to the end of the call.

Edward Palmer	Edward Palmer obtained counsel. Continued to October 18, 2023 for status.
Kevin O'Brien	Passed to the end of the call for argument on Motion to Dismiss in Case No. 23-04.
Regina Berry	Set for hearing at 10:15 a.m. Both parties were ready to proceed.
Justin Vick	Continued to September 20, 2023 for status. Disclosures due September 6, 2023
Cynthia Crump	Cynthia Crump was not in attendance. Passed to the end of the call.
Peter Cashaw	Continued to August 2, 2023 for status.
Fenghua Yang	Fenghua Yang resigned. This matter was stricken from the call.
Ann Ko	Continued to September 20, 2023 for status.

Mr. Kosowski introduced Amendment No. 502: Revise the Absolute Requirements, Minimum Qualification Requirements, Substitutions and Promotional Requirements for the classifications of Treatment Plant Operator I, Treatment Plant Operator II, and Treatment Plant Operator III

Mr. Kosowski 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. Kosowski reported that since the last meeting of the Board, there were no expired eligible lists.

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

Ashley Warren	Ashley Warren was not in attendance. Continued to August 2, 2023 for status and tentatively set for hearing on September 20, 2023.
Cynthia Crump	Continued to August 2, 2023 for status.

The Board adjourned the meeting at approximately 10:18 AM
The Board commenced arguments at approximately 10:19 AM

Kevin O'Brien	Bill Reardon, counsel for the District, presented arguments in favor of the Motion to Dismiss. Kevin O'Brien presented arguments against the Motion to Dismiss. Discussion ensued between Bill Reardon, Kevin O'Brien and the Board. The Board concluded that Kevin O'Brien lacked standing and dismissed Case No. 23-04.
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The Board adjourned arguments at approximately 10:40 AM
The Board commenced the hearing at approximately 10:40 AM

Regina Berry The Board, Tom Luetkemeyer, counsel for the District, and Regina Berry discussed administrative matters. Motion to exclude witnesses was made and approved.

Tom Luetkemeyer, counsel for the District, presented opening statements. Regina Berry presented her opening statements.

The Board adjourned the hearing at approximately 10:53 AM to an executive session.

The Board resumed the meeting at approximately 10:58 AM

Kevin O'Brien Case No. 23-02 was continued to August 2, 2023 for status and tentatively set for hearing on September 20, 2023.

The Board adjourned the meeting at approximately 11:00 AM
The Board resumed the hearing at approximately 11:00 AM

Regina Berry Discussion held regarding jurisdiction.

The Board adjourned the hearing at approximately 11:01 AM
The Board resumed the hearing at approximately 11:03 AM

Regina Berry Discussion held regarding jurisdiction. James Murray, counsel for the District, joined the discussion. Witnesses were excluded.

Tom Luetkemeyer, counsel for the District, called and questioned Regina Berry as a witness. Tom Luetkemeyer presented District Exhibit Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 18. Exhibit Nos. 1-5 were admitted into evidence. Regina Berry made a statement to clarify her answers.

The Board adjourned the hearing at approximately 11:59 AM
The Board resumed the hearing at approximately 12:05 PM

Regina Berry Tom Luetkemeyer, counsel for the District, called and questioned Meisha Searcy as a witness. Regina Berry did not cross examine Meisha Searcy, but will recall this witness at a later date.

The Board adjourned the hearing at approximately 12:32 PM
The Board resumed the hearing at approximately 12:35 PM

Regina Berry

Tom Luetkemeyer, counsel for the District, called and questioned PJ Spencer as a witness. Tom Luetkemeyer presented District Exhibit Nos. 7 and 10, which were admitted into evidence. Regina Berry cross examined PJ Spencer. The Board and questioned PJ Spencer. Tom Luetkemeyer questioned PJ Spencer on re-direct. Regina Berry questioned PJ Spencer further.

The Board adjourned the hearing at approximately 1:30 PM
The Board resumed the hearing at approximately 1:40 PM

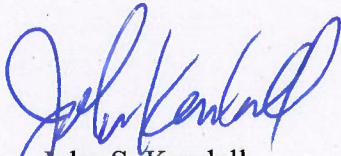
Regina Berry

Tom Luetkemeyer, counsel for the District, called and questioned Malisa Torres as a witness. Tom Luetkemeyer presented District Exhibit Nos. 10 and 17, the first four pages of District Exhibit No. 17 were admitted into evidence. Regina Berry cross examined Malisa Torres. Regina Berry presented District Exhibit No. 12.

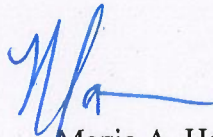
The hearing was continued to July 19, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.

The Board adjourned the hearing at approximately 2:15 PM
The Board resumed the meeting at approximately 2:15 PM

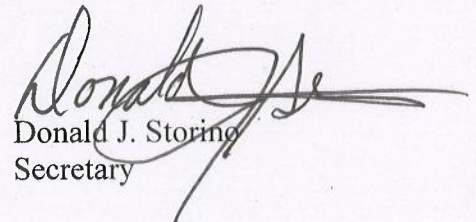
The Board adjourned the meeting at approximately 2:16 PM



John S. Kendall
Chairman



Mazie A. Harris
Vice Chairman



Donald J. Storing
Secretary

Dated: July 12, 2023