

**HAMMOND PORT AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
March 18, 2025
hammondportauthority.com**

Members Present and In Person

Rosemary Wojdyla	Vice Chairman
Eva Huerta	Member
Kristin Cantrell	Member

Members Present Via Zoom

Diane Kaminsky	Secretary/Treasurer
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Members Absent

Thomas E. Kuhn	Chairman
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Hammond Port Authority Personnel Present

Jeffery Smith	Port Authority Director
Julia Pustek	Finance Director
Jamie Huck	Marina Director
Ashley Gordish	Bookkeeper & Board Recording Secretary
Kevin Smith	Attorney- Smith Sersic
Steve Sersic	Attorney- Smith Sersic

Hammond Port Authority Personnel Present Via Zoom

None.

Others Present

Paul Labus	Hammond, IN
Dave Matura	Hammond, IN
Maggie Dominiak	Hammond, IN
Mark Dominiak	Hammond, IN

Others Present Via Zoom

None.

Call to Order and Roll Call

The March 18, 2025 meeting of the Hammond Port Authority Board of Directors was called to order by Vice Chairman Wojdyla at 4:32pm. Three members are present and in person, one member is present via Zoom, and one member is absent. Vice Chairman Wojdyla, Member Huerta, and Member Cantrell are present and in person. Secretary/Treasurer Kaminsky is present via Zoom. Chairman Kuhn is absent.

Vice Chairman Wojdyla called for the approval of minutes.

E. Huerta made a motion to approve the minutes of March 4, 2025. K. Cantrell seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

Yes: E. Huerta, K. Cantrell, R. Wojdyla, D. Kaminsky

No: None.

Motion passes, 4 approve.

Vice Chairman Wojdyla called for the Director's Report.

Port Authority Director J. Smith reported on the following:

All of the bubblers at the marina have been removed. Maintenance staff have been working on getting things ready to open in the spring. They are also working on N dock plumbing, dock boxes, and pedestals. As of now, there are 296 boaters with 25 new boaters. Salyer Plumbing is going to come out to fix the fish cleaning station. The Clipper Room carpet has been installed, but we are still having issues with the vinyl flooring. Someone from Mohawk is going to be coming to look at it and determine what the problem is. Legacy Signs sent an estimate to replace the wayfinding signs that were faded and had graffiti. The cost is \$6,600.00, and there is a claim for the deposit in today's board meeting. Lost Marsh Golf Course has been mowed once. Depending on weather, we are hoping to open for the season on Monday, March 24th. Staff still needs to cut the holes on the green. Niko continues to book outings, and golfers are returning to sign up for memberships. Staff has been checking on the Splash Pad. All of the contracts for the Pavilion Summer Series have been booked. Morton High School and Hammond Central have been sent contracts for their graduation. The annual fireworks have been booked for July 3rd. Raquel has been designing the WHAM shirts, as well as going over the route with Kevin Smith and Hammond Police Department. Wolf Lake maintenance staff are continuing to clean up the shoreline along Wolf Lake and George Lake. Their mowing equipment is ready for the season, and they have some new benches that are ready to be installed along the trails.

Vice Chairman Wojdyla presented the Chairman's Report.

The Executive Session of the Hammond Port Authority of March 18, 2025 began at 4:00p.m. Vice Chairman Wojdyla and Member Cantrell are present and in person.

Secretary/Treasurer Kaminsky and Member Huerta are present via Zoom. Chairman Kuhn is absent. Two members are present and in person, two members are present via Zoom, and one member is absent. The subject matter considered were matters for the discussion of strategy with respect to:

1. Contractual Concerns
2. Initiation or Pending litigation
3. Personnel matters

Pursuant to IC 5-14-1.5-6.1(b) (2) (B), (D), (9). The Board certifies that no subject matter was discussed in the executive session other than the subject matter specified in the public notice.

Vice Chairman Wojdyla called for the Construction Projects Updates.

Port Authority Director Smith reported on the following:

Fire Station #2- The project is expected to be completed by the end of the month.

N-Dock- Electric and plumbing are still being installed. We expect the project to be completed by April 1st.

Wind Turbine at Forsythe Park- Staff is still working on getting information for this project.

Amoco Park Walking Trail- HWC is going to put a design and proposal together.

Clipper Room HVAC Upgrades- There is a claim in today's meeting for a deposit for the project. Once Gatlin Plumbing receives the deposit, it'll be about 2 weeks before they begin working.

Additional Items

- Forsythe Park is going to be receiving some trees again this year as a donation from Baron Funeral Home.

Vice Chairman Wojdyla called for Old Business.

There was no old business to discuss.

Vice Chairman Wojdyla called for New Business.

There was no new business to discuss.

Vice Chairman Wojdyla called for the approval of Purchase Orders.

E. Huerta made a motion to approve the Purchase Orders as follows:

- 626 – Marina Operations
- 627 – Construction
- 628 – Embarkation
- 629 – Lakefront
- 630 – Lost Marsh Golf Course
- 631 – Parks
- 708 – Payroll
- Electronic Transfers

D. Kaminsky seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

Yes: E. Huerta, K. Cantrell, R. Wojdyla, D. Kaminsky

No: None.

Motion passes, 4 approve.

Vice Chairman Wojdyla called for Public Comment.

Paul Labus of Hammond, IN noticed mowing on George Lake. He wonders what the purpose and strategy of this is, as well as how much more is going to be done.

Dave Matura of Hammond, IN questions the mowing that is being done at George Lake. He was told that the City of Hammond has no jurisdiction to mow phragmites. He spoke of his experience walking the George Lake trail and passing other Hammond residents. Matura said that on each of the passing's, Hammond residents were noticing and questioning the mowing on George Lake. He said that this has taken away the peace on the walk. He wasn't going to come back to a board meeting until he was told a plan. Since no one communicated a plan with him, he came to the board meeting for answers.

Maggie Dominiak of Hammond, IN expected communication from the Port Authority on their cutting plans. She felt as if the concerns previously raised in board meetings were calmly brought up, and now it is very disheartening that the Port Authority is avoiding communicating what they are planning to do. She is an involved citizen, and this is not the way Wolf Lake appeared when she was a kid. She wishes the Port Authority would consider both sides of the issues and be willing to collaborate.

Mark Dominiak of Hammond, IN assumed that the next steps taken by the Port Authority were going to be communicated. They wish to be an input partner. There are repercussions for the native species when cutting down phragmites. Dominiak is disappointed that the Port Authority didn't express their plans before going about them.

Vice Chairman Wojdyla announced the Next Meeting.

The next regular meeting of the Hammond Port Authority is scheduled for Tuesday, April 1, 2025. These meetings will be held at 701 Casino Center Drive, Hammond, IN 46320. The Board may attend in person or by Zoom with the stipulations adopted in Resolution 21-03 approved by the Board on July 27, 2021. The Executive Session will begin at 4:00p.m, the Construction Meeting will begin at 4:15p.m. and the Regular meeting will begin at 4:30p.m.

Vice Chairman Wojdyla called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

E. Huerta made a motion to adjourn the meeting. K. Cantrell seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

Yes: E. Huerta, K. Cantrell, R. Wojdyla, D. Kaminsky

No: None.

Motion passes, 4 approve.

The March 18, 2025 Board of Directors meeting adjourned at 4:49pm.

EXECUTIVE SESSION MEMORANDUM

The Executive Session of the Hammond Port Authority of March 18, 2025 began at 4:00p.m. Vice Chairman Wojdyla and Member Cantrell are present and in person. Secretary/Treasurer Kaminsky and Member Huerta are present via Zoom. Chairman Kuhn is absent. Two members are present and in person, two members are present via Zoom, and one member is absent. The subject matter considered were matters for the discussion of strategy with respect to:

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Board Minutes Prepared By: Ashley Gordish