

**HAMMOND PORT AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
April 15, 2025
hammondportauthority.com**

Members Present and In Person

Thomas E. Kuhn	Chairman
Rosemary Wojdyla	Vice Chairman
Diane Kaminsky	Secretary/Treasurer
Kristin Cantrell	Member

Members Present Via Zoom

Eva Huerta	Member
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Members Absent

None.

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

Hammond Port Authority Personnel Present Via Zoom

None.

Others Present

David Dabertin	Hammond, IN
Dave Matura	Hammond, IN
Edward Gresk	Hammond, IN
Maggie Dominiak	Hammond, IN
Mark Dominiak	Hammond, IN

Others Present Via Zoom

None.

Call to Order and Roll Call

The April 15, 2025 meeting of the Hammond Port Authority Board of Directors was called to order by Chairman Kuhn at 4:39pm. Four members are present and in person, and one member is present via Zoom. Chairman Kuhn, Vice Chairman Wojdyla, Secretary/Treasurer Kaminsky, and Member Cantrell are present and in person. Member Huerta is present via Zoom.

Chairman Kuhn called for the approval of minutes.

D. Kaminsky made a motion to approve the minutes of April 1, 2025. R. Wojdyla seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

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

No: None.

Motion passes, 5 approve.

Chairman Kuhn called for the Director's Report.

Port Authority Director J. Smith reported on the following:

The marina is open, and boaters are continuously coming in to pay for their slips. As of today, there are 328 boaters with 33 new boaters. The concrete work near the ship store is going to start being removed and replaced tomorrow. The tree stumps will be taken out on Saturday by Public Works. The ship store is preparing to open by placing orders and stocking shelves. We are waiting for Legacy Signs to begin replacing our wayfinding signs. Grace, the lifeguard coordinator, came into the office to check on lifeguard related things and go through applications. She plans on doing a day of lifeguard interviews in a couple of weeks. The fuel dock is going to open and be on call starting Monday. The Clipper Room HVAC work began today. Lost Marsh Golf Course is open, and they are going to continue to adjust their hours according to daylight. This season, we are doing GPS advertising on the golf carts. Niko has sold 2 so far, Viking Claims Adjuster and a Porche dealership in Chicago. We have started doing interviews for the much needed seasonal help. The golf course is on track to have more memberships this season compared to last season, we will have the numbers to announce at the next meeting. The summer concert series is booked at the Pavilion. Dyer Construction has started working on installing a concrete pad at the Pavilion. They installed a small walkway from the trail to the ADA ramp today. Raquel continues to work on things for WHAM and National Night Out. Wolf Lake maintenance staff started to cut grass yesterday. They focused on Carolina Avenue north of 117th Street to take care of the leaves covering the curb at the entrance of the park. Once the pontoon boat goes into the water at Wolf Lake, we are going to head over to the island to cut up the tree that fell over the winter. Right now, it is laying in the spot where fireworks are set off. HWC Engineering sent a proposal for the walking trail at Amoco Park.

Chairman Kuhn presented the Chairman's Report.

The Executive Session of the Hammond Port Authority of April 15, 2025 began at 4:00p.m. Chairman Kuhn, Vice Chairman Wojdyla, Secretary/Treasurer Kaminsky, and Member Cantrell are present and in person. Member Huerta is present via Zoom. Four members are present and in person, and one person is present via Zoom. 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.

Chairman Kuhn called for the Construction Projects Updates.

Chairman and Construction Committee Chairman Kuhn reported on the following:

Fire Station #2- The firefighters moved into the new fire station on Thursday. They should be completely moved out of the old fire station in about a week. Once that is done, the demolition bid process will begin.

N-Dock- Electric has been completed. Plumbing is almost done, there is just a couple of pipes and gluing jobs to finish up. Fireboxes have been ordered and should be delivered soon.

Wind Turbine at Forsythe Park- No updates to report.

Amoco Park Walking Trail- We received a proposal from HWC Engineering. We are going to see if we can use any information from a previous proposal and work designs.

Wayfinding Sign Repairs- A deposit has been made. The content is being checked, and the signs are starting to be made.

Clipper Room Flooring- This project has been complete. A click-in floor was installed over the vinyl floor. We are interested in getting the wood dance floor refinished.

Clipper Room HVAC Upgrades- Gatlin Plumbing began the HVAC work today.

B & T Dock Replacement- We have a bond council timeline that needs to be evaluated by the Mayor's Office. Dean from City Engineering will be doing the bid specs, and we already have the designs.

Chairman Kuhn called for Old Business.

There was no old business to discuss.

Chairman Kuhn called for New Business.

K. Cantrell made a motion to approve the Wolf Lake Memorial Park Use Agreement with Cause 4Paws Gary, Inc for the Hound Pound 5K Dog Walk/Run. R. Wojdyla seconded the motion.

Discussion: K. Cantrell added that the Hound Pound 5K Dog Walk/Run will be held at the Pavilion at Wolf Lake and Wolf Lake Memorial Park on Sunday, September 21, 2025. It is also recommended to waive the common and ordinary fees because Cause 4Paws is a nonprofit.

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

No: None.

Motion passes, 5 approve.

Chairman Kuhn called for the approval of Purchase Orders.

R. Wojdyla made a motion to approve the Purchase Orders as follows:

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

D. Kaminsky seconded the motion.

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

No: None.

Motion passes, 5 approve.

Chairman Kuhn called for Public Comment.

David Dabertin of Hammond, IN came to the meeting to express his concern with the environment. He believes there were some missed steps, and the work done was sloppy. Citizens have worked hard to preserve the George Lake area. It is also a travesty that PolyJohn is causing microplastics in the water. Dabertin was also offended by the no fishing or swimming signs put up by the Port Authority, and he mentioned that it could be a legal matter to regulate fishing signs. He would appreciate an opportunity to have a back and fourth discussion instead of just relaying their messages to the board.

Dave Matura of Hammond, IN echos David Dabertin's remarks. He is here because of his genuine concern for the environment. He says that citizens aren't looking for a manicured park, they are just looking to enjoy the natural ecosystem. Because of vegetation being cut down at Wolf Lake, there have been some different varieties of birds at George Lake. We need to make sure that we preserve the environment for them. Taking care of the environment is good for everyone and everything! There has been a lack of Port Authority employees picking up trash and litter around property. Matura added that he thought the camera at Wolf Lake was unnecessary. He emphasized being present at the meetings because he deeply cares about the environment, not because it is his job.

Edward Gresk of Hammond, IN has lived in the neighborhood for around two and a half years. He agrees that some of the areas need to be manicured and the dead vegetation cleaned up. Gresk also noticed employees driving past garbage on golf carts instead of stopping and cleaning up. However, his main concern for coming to the board meeting today is the George Lake trail. There is vegetation 20 feet tall, and he worries for the safety of the residents walking the trail when it's dark. The area needs to be groomed better for safety purposes when walking.

Maggie Dominiak of Hammond, IN truly loves the area she lives in. She wants to stress that the area isn't just for humans, but for animals as well. The place needs to be protected in a better manner. Dominiak is tired of coming to the board meetings and asking for the same things. She adds that it is important to listen to the people of the neighborhood and meet their needs instead

of the needs of fishermen who are just visitors. This is hurting animals, and this is not okay. Dominiak wants to bring a positive change and for people to care about where they live.

Chairman Kuhn announced the Next Meeting.

The next regular meeting of the Hammond Port Authority is scheduled for Tuesday, May 6, 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.

Chairman Kuhn called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

R. Wojdyla made a motion to adjourn the meeting. D. Kaminsky seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

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

No: None.

Motion passes, 5 approve.

The April 15, 2025 Board of Directors meeting adjourned at 5:00pm.

EXECUTIVE SESSION MEMORANDUM

The Executive Session of the Hammond Port Authority of April 15, 2025 began at 4:00p.m. Chairman Kuhn, Vice Chairman Wojdyla, Secretary/Treasurer Kaminsky, and Member Cantrell are present and in person. Member Huerta is present via Zoom. Four members are present and in person, and one person is present via Zoom. The subject matter considered were matters for the discussion of strategy with respect to:

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Board Minutes Prepared By: Ashley Gordish