

**HAMMOND PORT AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
March 3, 2026
hammondportauthority.com**

Members Present and In Person

Thomas E. Kuhn	Chairman
Kristin Cantrell	Vice Chairman
Rosemary Wojdyla	Member
Eva Huerta	Member

Members Present Via Zoom

Diane Kaminsky	Secretary/Treasurer
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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
Steve Sersic	Attorney- Smith Sersic
Kevin Smith	Attorney- Smith Sersic

Hammond Port Authority Personnel Present Via Zoom

None.

Others Present

None.

Others Present Via Zoom

None.

Call to Order and Roll Call

The March 3, 2026 meeting of the Hammond Port Authority Board of Directors was called to order by Chairman Kuhn at 4:31p.m. Four members are present and in person, and one member is present via Zoom. Chairman Kuhn, Vice Chairman Cantrell, Member Wojdyla, and Member Huerta are present and in person. Secretary/Treasurer Kaminsky is present via Zoom.

Chairman Kuhn called for any conflict of interest statements.

None.

Chairman Kuhn called for the approval of minutes.

R. Wojdyla made a motion to approve the minutes of February 17, 2026 as presented. D. Kaminsky and seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

Yes: E. Huerta, R. Wojdyla, K. Cantrell, D. Kaminsky, 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 has a total of 340 boaters signed up for the upcoming season, including 16 brand new boaters who have never been to our marina and 2 returning boaters. At this time last year, we had 285 boaters signed up. There's been a strong increase in early registration for the 2026 boating season. Due to the recent warm weather, the bubblers have slowly been shut off throughout the marina. Keith shut off the fuel dock this afternoon, so now they are all off. Staff will continue to monitor conditions and temperature in case the bubbler system needs to be turned back on. The dance floor in the Clipper Room is going to be repaired this month, as some of the wooden boards are started to come up. We are going to keep the compass design in the middle of the dance floor. All lights on the main dock will be replaced with LED fixtures to improve visibility, efficiency, and overall safety. The lights are going to be from Universal Lighting, and maintenance staff is going to install them. The Mayor's Annual Fishing Derby is going to be on April 11th at the marina. The Splash Pad remains closed for the season. Staff will begin seasonal preparations and system testing as warmer weather approaches. Raquel is continuing to work on approving contracts and events for the Pavilion. Announcements are expected soon. At Lost Marsh Golf Course, the new carpet has been installed in the office. The area has been fully put back together, and it looks very nice! Niko and Larry are closely monitoring the 10-day weather outlook. If the weather continues to stay nice, there is a possibility the course could open before the end of the month. With that being said, staff will continue to evaluate turf conditions. Niko emphasized that if the grass is not actively growing, early play can cause significant damage because the turf needs time to repair itself. The decision of when to open will ultimately depends on proper growing conditions to protect the turf. The First Tee will be hosting three different camps this summer at Lost Marsh. The sessions will be on June 22-26, July 6-10, and July 20-24 from 9am-10:30am. Wolf Lake maintenance staff has begun spring cleanup throughout the parks with the removal of fallen branches and debris. Staff also began trimming trees and shaping bushes around the parks and near the Pavilion in preparation for the upcoming season.

Chairman Kuhn presented the Chairman's Report.

The Executive Session of the Hammond Port Authority of March 3, 2026 began at 4:00p.m. Chairman Kuhn, Vice Chairman Cantrell, Member Wojdyla, and Member Huerta are present and in person. Secretary/Treasurer Kaminsky is present via Zoom. Four members are present and in person, and one member 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:

Amoco Park Walking Trail- The bids for the project will be opened on March 17, 2026 at 4:30pm.

Forsythe Park Gate- The poles for the gate were placed in the wrong spot. Hammond Fence has not been out to redo them yet.

Fuel Dock UST- Marina staff had a meeting with EnviroForensics. The next step is to decide on the layout of the tanks. We expect to bid the project in September and the work to begin mid-November.

B & T Dock Installation- The dock is going to begin getting delivered March 10th. Lakes and Rivers Contracting will be out at the marina starting this week to begin mobilization.

B & T Dock Plumbing- The quotes for labor only will be opened on March 13, 2026 at 2pm. We expect to award the project at the March 17th board meeting.

B & T Dock Electric- The quotes for labor only will be opened on March 13, 2026 at 2pm. We expect to award the project at the March 17th board meeting.

Additional Items

- We are going to start looking into upgrading the ChargePoint station at the marina, as well as beginning to charge fees for it. Dean from City Engineering is going to be helping us.
- The Mayor is enthusiastic about installing a US 41 screen wall. The Port Authority is contributing money towards the design contract of the screen wall.

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 contract with the Sheryl Youngblood band for Motown Night. E. Huerta seconded the motion.

Discussion: K. Cantrell added that the concert will be on Saturday, September 5, 2026 in the amount of \$4,500.00. T. Kuhn mentioned that this is a free concert at the marina.

Yes: E. Huerta, R. Wojdyla, K. Cantrell, D. Kaminsky, 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 – HPA Construction
628 – Embarkation
630 – Lost Marsh Golf Course
631 – Parks
708 – Payroll
Electronic Transfers

E. Huerta seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

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

No: None.

Motion passes, 5 approve.

Chairman Kuhn called for Public Comment.

None.

Chairman Kuhn announced the Next Meeting.

The next regular meeting of the Hammond Port Authority is scheduled for Tuesday, March 17, 2026. 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.

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

Discussion: None.

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

No: None.

Motion passes, 5 approve.

The March 3, 2026 Board of Directors meeting adjourned at 4:41pm.

EXECUTIVE SESSION MEMORANDUM

The Executive Session of the Hammond Port Authority of March 3, 2026 began at 4:00p.m. Chairman Kuhn, Vice Chairman Cantrell, Member Wojdyla, and Member Huerta are present and in person. Secretary/Treasurer Kaminsky is present via Zoom. Four members are present and in person, and one member is present via Zoom. The subject matter considered were matters for the discussion of strategy with respect to:

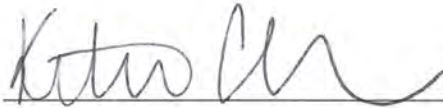
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Thomas E. Kuhn, Chairman



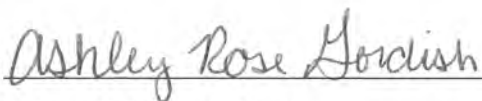
Kristin Cantrell, Vice Chairman

Diane Kaminsky, Secretary/Treasurer



Rosemary Wojdyla, Member

Eva Huerta, Member

ATTEST: 

Julia Pustek, Finance Director

Ashley Gordish, Bookkeeper & Board Recording Secretary