



**Hammond Port Authority
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 21, 2026
hammondportauthority.com**

Members Present and In Person

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

Members Present Via Zoom

None.

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
Steve Sersic	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 April 21, 2026 meeting of the Hammond Port Authority Board of Directors was called to order by Chairman Kuhn at 4:30p.m. All five members are present and in person. Chairman Kuhn, Vice Chairman Cantrell, Secretary/Treasurer Kaminsky, Member Wojdyla, and Member Huerta are present and in person.

Chairman Kuhn called for any conflict of interest statements.

None.

Chairman Kuhn called for the approval of minutes.

E. Huerta made a motion to approve the minutes of April 7, 2026 as presented. R. Wojdyla 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:

As of today, the marina has 408 boaters with 44 brand new boaters and 3 returning new boaters. Last year around this time, we had 344 boaters with 33 new boaters. The Clipper Room continues to receive calls for bookings, and inquiries remain steady. The water at the marina is not fully turned on yet. Lines are being turned on in phases, and any leaks identified are being repaired as they are found. Staff expects the water to be in full service soon. The fuel dock is open on an on-call basis, and we have had a handful of fuel sales already. The ship store continues to get busier, especially with the construction workers at the marina. Launch is scheduled for this weekend. We will have Brownell and additional staffing at the marina on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday to assist with launching boats and organizing the lot. The annual Mayor Thomas McDermott Jr. Fishing Derby was held at the marina on Saturday April, 11th. There was a great turnout of well over 50 participants of all ages, and overall it was a very successful event. The Port Authority has been receiving a strong number of applications for part-time seasonal positions, specifically in lifeguarding. We are expecting the staffing levels to be solid for the upcoming season. There is no activity at the Splash Pad. Staff has been working on opening procedures, including ordering supplies and turning on water. There was a bird's nest in one of the vents causing noise in the building. Staff has identified and addressed the issue. The Summer Concert Series has been booked. An additional DJ-style concert is scheduled for June 26th as a new event. Plans are being considered to offer beer and seltzers during the events. The Golf Course has had a strong start to the season, with a high number of golfers recently. There were a few days where turnout was limited due to forecasted rain or unfavorable weather, but overall the course has remained busy. Staff anticipates a busy and strong golfing season. Wolf Lake maintenance staff continues to do seasonal cleanup. Mowers are out, and crews are clearing large branches and debris throughout the parks. Forsythe Park has been holding water from recent rainfall limiting access to the center of the park. There is still beaver activity, with the beavers interested specifically in larger trees farther from the shoreline. In response, trees have been wrapped with corrugated plastic piping to provide better protection. A section of sidewalk along the HOA homes on New York Avenue, which had not been completed previously, is now being addressed through the City's sidewalk program. JJ Newell is currently performing the work and will be installing the missing section soon.

Chairman Kuhn presented the Chairman's Report.

The Executive Session of the Hammond Port Authority of April 21, 2026 began at 4:00p.m. Chairman Kuhn, Vice Chairman Cantrell, Secretary/Treasurer Kaminsky, Member Wojdyla, and Member Huerta are present and in person. 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- Staff has decided to hold off on making any further decisions regarding the project until the BP strike is over.

Forsythe Park Gate- The project has been completed.

US 41 Screen Wall- The project is in the design phase.

Marina ChargePoint Station Upgrade- There has been no updates on the project.

Fuel Dock UST- The grant is in progress, and staff anticipates the bids to go out in early July. The project is on track.

B & T Dock Installation- B dock installation is complete. T dock has started, but there was an issue. There was a section of T dock missing. Meeco Sullivan has been contacted, and they will be shipping the missing items soon. Fortunately, Lakes and Rivers were able to continue dock installation regardless of the missing sections.

B & T Dock Plumbing- B dock plumbing is in progress. T dock plumbing will begin once the dock installation is complete.

B & T Dock Electric- B dock electric is in progress. T dock electric will begin once the dock installation is complete.

Additional Items

- Staff is going to begin a timeline for the bonds and start to think about which docks will be replaced next.

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 cash fund. R. Wojdyla seconded the motion.

Discussion: T. Kuhn added that this is an annual recommendation.

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

No: None.

Motion passes, 5 approve.

E. Huerta made a motion to approve the Emerald Green facility use agreement. D. Kaminsky seconded the motion.

Discussion: T. Kuhn mention that all parties were happy with the agreement. E. Huerta added that the agreement is for May 1, 2026 through April 30, 2027.

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.

D. Kaminsky 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

634 – Marina Construction

708 – Payroll

Electronic Transfers

The Board of Directors also authorizes staff to pay the appropriate claims as allowed in Resolution 25-09 Respecting Payments of Certain Debts Incurred by the Hammond Port Authority in a Timely Manner and any claims that may incur late fees.

E. Huerta seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

Yes: 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, May 19, 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.

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

Discussion: None.

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

No: None.

Motion passes, 5 approve.

The April 21, 2026 Board of Directors meeting adjourned at 4:38pm.

EXECUTIVE SESSION MEMORANDUM

The Executive Session of the Hammond Port Authority of April 21, 2026 began at 4:00p.m. Chairman Kuhn, Vice Chairman Cantrell, Secretary/Treasurer Kaminsky, Member Wojdyla, and Member Huerta are present and in person. The subject matter considered were matters for the discussion of strategy with respect to:

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Board Minutes Prepared By: Ashley Gordish



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TKELL

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Diane Kaminsky

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Rosemary Wojdyla

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Eva Huerta

Eva Huerta, Member

ATTEST:

Ashley Rose Gordish

Julia Pustek, Finance Director

Ashley Gordish, Bookkeeper & Board Recording Secretary