



**Hammond Port Authority  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
JUNE 2, 2026  
hammondportauthority.com**

**Members Present and In Person**

Thomas E. Kuhn  
Kristin Cantrell  
Diane Kaminsky  
Rosemary Wojdyla  
Eva Huerta

Chairman  
Vice Chairman  
Secretary/Treasurer  
Member  
Member

**Members Present Via Zoom**

None.

**Members Absent**

None.

**Hammond Port Authority Personnel Present**

Jeffery Smith  
Julia Pustek  
Jamie Huck  
Ashley Gordish  
Kevin Smith

Port Authority Director  
Finance Director  
Marina Director  
Bookkeeper & Board Recording Secretary  
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 June 2, 2026 meeting of the Hammond Port Authority Board of Directors was called to order by Chairman Kuhn at 4:31p.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 May 19, 2026 as presented. R. Wojdyla seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

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

No: None.

Abstain: K. Cantrell

Motion passes, 4 approve and 1 abstain.

**Chairman Kuhn called for the Director's Report.**

Port Authority Director J. Smith reported on the following:

As of today, the marina currently has 486 boaters signed up for the season, with 79 brand new boaters and 5 new returning boaters. Last year around this time, we had 406 boaters with 56 new boaters. At the end of the 2025 boating season, the marina finished with 455 boaters. Meaning, we have already surpassed that number by 31 boaters. This is very exciting, especially since we will continue to sell season slips until around the middle of July or so. The Clipper Room continues to receive calls for bookings and inquiries remain steady. Memorial Day weekend was very busy at the marina. While the weekend started with cooler temperatures, activity increased significantly on Sunday and Monday as it warmed up. The Ship Store experienced two busy days and saw strong customer traffic throughout the holiday weekend. We expect this trend to continue in the Ship Store as more boats arrive in the marina. Staff continues hiring seasonal employees. Several college students who return each summer are expected back as school lets out for the summer. We have had an overabundance of applicants to hire from this season. The beach has been busy. Thank you to Milan from the Hammond Sanitary District, who assisted us with moving and distributing sand around the beach. The work significantly improved the appearance of the beach, and several visitors have commented on how much better it looks. Additional lighting and decorations celebrating America's 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and the Marina's 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary have been installed throughout the marina and patio areas. New multicolored lighting has been installed along the Clipper Room balcony, and it can be changed for different holidays and special events throughout the year. Staff recently dealt with an incident involving an unapproved contractor who entered the marina to perform an oil change on a vessel. The incident was reported to the DNR, and staff is working to identify all parties involved to be able to determine appropriate action moving forward. The Splash Pad is now open and operational. Activity has been somewhat limited due to weather conditions, but there have been several good attendance says. We expect it to be busier soon with the improvements in weather and school being out for the summer. Staff has made some upgrades on equipment to better support operations, including a hot dog steamer. Everything has been running smoothly. The Summer Concert Series is fully booked for the season. Leon's Triathlon is scheduled for this weekend. Calumet Avenue and Sheffield Avenue will be temporarily closed during portions of the event. Raquel continues to receive inquiries regarding future events and Pavilion rentals. Lost Marsh Golf Course has remained very busy. Calls continue to come in regarding outings and event

bookings. Staff is optimistic about continued success throughout the rest of the summer season. Mike and the Wolf Lake maintenance staff continue to mow grass throughout the parks and placing mulch in various locations as a part of ongoing maintenance efforts. Staff has been working with Jim Talon and the Hammond Parks Department regarding several benches that were assembled by students through a Home Depot community project. Several of these benches may be installed on Port Authority properties. Staff is evaluating the possibility of installing swing-style seating areas on concrete pads within the parks. The idea was discussed during Mayor's Night Out and received positive feedback. They would be constructed during the winter and placed in the spring. Stantec has completed its work at the mitigation site and along the shoreline. The final report has been submitted. According to Chris from Stantec, last year's shoreline treatment was highly successful and has produced noticeable improvements. Stantec plans to return in October for additional phragmites treatments.

**Chairman Kuhn presented the Chairman's Report.**

The Executive Session of the Hammond Port Authority of June 2, 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
4. Slip Refunds

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.

US 41 Screen Wall- The final designs should be complete soon.

Marina ChargePoint Station Upgrade- We are waiting to hear back about the results of the grant.

Fuel Dock UST- EnviroForensics anticipates completing the bid specs soon.

B & T Dock Installation- The installation of B and T dock are complete.

B & T Dock Plumbing- B dock plumbing is complete. T dock plumbing is expected to be done by the end of the week.

B & T Dock Electric- B dock electric is complete. T dock electric is expected to be done by the end of the week.

Additional Items

- The raised beds at the community garden now have some vegetable plants in them.
- Jeff is going to reach out to Stantec about asking for a donation of native flowers for the community garden.

**Chairman Kuhn called for Old Business.**

There was no old business to discuss.

**Chairman Kuhn called for New Business.**

D. Kaminsky made a motion to approve the contract with DJ Dalé for the June 26<sup>th</sup> concert series for \$1,500.00. This will be for 4 different DJ's that will play dance type music. R. Wojdyla seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

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

No: None.

Motion passes, 5 approve.

E. Huerta made a motion to approve the transfer of funds. D. Kaminsky seconded the motion.

Discussion: T. Kuhn mentioned that this is an annual recommendation that is per budget. E. Huerta added that the transfer of funds is for \$60,000.00 from Fund 628 to Fund 629 Lakefront.

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

628 – Embarkation

629 – Lakefront

630 – Lost Marsh Golf Course

631 – Parks

634 – Marina Construction

708 – Payroll

All Electronic Transfers and Bank of New York Mellon

E. Huerta seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

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

No: None.

Motion passes, 5 approve.

**Chairman Kuhn called for Public Comment.**

D. Kaminsky complimented the marina staff on how nice the decorations and lights look for the 250<sup>th</sup> American anniversary. R. Wojdyla added onto that, saying that the decorations for the Hammond Marina's 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary also look really nice!

**Chairman Kuhn announced the Next Meeting.**

The next regular meeting of the Hammond Port Authority is scheduled for Tuesday, June 16, 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, K. Cantrell, R. Wojdyla, D. Kaminsky, T. Kuhn

No: None.

Motion passes, 5 approve.

The June 2, 2026 Board of Directors meeting adjourned at 4:41pm.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION MEMORANDUM**

The Executive Session of the Hammond Port Authority of June 2, 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
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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.

Board Minutes Prepared By: Ashley Gordish



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Rosemary Wojdyla, Member

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Eva Huerta, Member

ATTEST:

Julia Pustek, Finance Director

Ashley Gordish, Bookkeeper & Board Recording Secretary