



**Hammond Port Authority
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
JULY 7, 2026
hammondportauthority.com**

Members Present and In Person

Thomas E. Kuhn	Chairman
Kristin Cantrell	Vice Chairman
Diane Kaminsky	Secretary/Treasurer
Rosemary Wojdyla	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
Steve Sersic	Attorney- Smith Sersic

Hammond Port Authority Personnel Present Via Zoom

None.

Others Present

None.

Others Present Via Zoom

Joel Sanford	D36
Joe Garcia	L23

Call to Order and Roll Call

The July 7, 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, Secretary/Treasurer Kaminsky, and Member Wojdyla are present and in person. Member Huerta is present via Zoom.

Chairman Kuhn called for any conflict of interest statements.

None.

Chairman Kuhn called for the approval of minutes.

D. Kaminsky made a motion to approve the minutes of June 16, 2026 as presented. R. Wojdyla seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

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

No: None.

Abstain: T. Kuhn

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, there are 524 slipholders at the marina, with 92 brand new boaters and 7 new returning boaters. Last year around this time, we had 446 slipholders with 74 new boaters. The marina ended the 2025 season with 455 slipholders and 82 new boaters. The marina had its annual seaweed treatment completed last week. The Clipper Room continues to stay busy with parties and inquires. The beach has been very crowded with the warm weather as of lately. July 4th weekend was on the slower side due to the weather. All repairs have been made from the damage caused by the storms a couple of weeks ago, which mostly affected Q and R docks. This Saturday, July 11th, is our annual Venetian Night from 6pm-11pm. Hello Weekend will be headlining the entertainment, and there will be 8 food vendors. The theme is video games, and we hope everyone can attend! The Splash Pad continues to be busy. On July 3rd, the Pavilion hosted the Bill Porter Orchestra and fireworks. Bill Porter informed us that this was his last July 3rd performance, and we hope he enjoys his retirement! Due to the storms, we had to adjust the timing of the events for the night. The sound crew was heavily concerned about lightning, so we managed to get the display done before the heavy rain. On June 26th, the Pavilion had the Freestyle & House Party event. The event was very successful, with a crowd of a couple thousand people. There were no issues during the event, and maintenance staff worked hard to clean up the cans and bottles left behind. The Pavilion hosted HyRyder, a Grateful Dead tribute band, on June 27th. The next concert in the Summer Concert Series is Second Hand News, a Fleetwood Mac cover band, on July 25th. Lost Marsh Golf Course has had a very busy year. A couple of weeks ago, the Lakeshore Chamber of Commerce held their annual golf outing. There was a great turnout, despite a little rain towards the end. Niko has continued to book outings throughout the rest of the season. There were a few trees that came down on the course from the severe weather over the weekend. Maintenance staff immediately cleaned up and took care of everything. The golf course has experienced an unusually high number of downed trees this season due to these intense storms. Wolf Lake maintenance staff has been dealing with storm damage and fallen trees. Currently, Forsythe Park remains completely flooded and hasn't had an opportunity to dry out. The Festival of the Lakes set up has begun. The crew will cut the grass one more time before the festival starts on Wednesday. We expect to have the park turned back over to us in about 2 weeks, and everything will be cleared out in time for our upcoming concert on the 25th.

Chairman Kuhn presented the Chairman's Report.

The Executive Session of the Hammond Port Authority of July 7, 2026 began at 4:00p.m. Chairman Kuhn, Vice Chairman Cantrell, Secretary/Treasurer Kaminsky, and Member Wojdyla are present and in person. Member Huerta 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.

Chairman Kuhn called for the Construction Projects Updates.

Port Authority Director Smith 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 did not receive the grant. Staff is going to consider to continue to move forward with the project.

Fuel Dock UST- The project is going to be advertised for bid on July 18th and July 22nd, and the bid opening will be on July 31st. The project is going to be reimbursed 50% by IDEM.

B & T Dock Installation- The installation of B and T dock are complete. The jet ski lifts are the final pieces to be installed. Staff is beginning to plan for replacing 3 docks next year.

Additional Items

- Mike is starting the process of upgrading pumps and pipes at the Splash Pad.

Chairman Kuhn called for Old Business.

There was no old business to discuss.

Chairman Kuhn called for New Business.

None.

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

Electronic Transfers

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.

Joel Sanford from slip D36 is requesting a full refund for his 2026 season slip. He had mechanical issues with his boat, and he still does not have them fixed yet. Sanford does plan on paying as a transient once his boat is fixed.

Joe Garcia from slip L23 is requesting a full refund for his 2026 season slip. Garcia has been at the marina for many years, and decided to come back as a full time slipholder since his kids are now graduated. Once he put the boat in the water, it wouldn't start. Cabela's let him know that there are issues with the motor.

Chairman Kuhn announced the Next Meeting.

The next regular meeting of the Hammond Port Authority is scheduled for Tuesday, July 21, 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 July 7, 2026 Board of Directors meeting adjourned at 4:42pm.

EXECUTIVE SESSION MEMORANDUM

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Board Minutes Prepared By: Ashley Gordish



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ATTEST:

Julia Pustek, Finance Director

Ashley Gordish, Bookkeeper & Board Recording Secretary