

**MICHIGAN CITY PORT AUTHORITY
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

October 20, 2025

The regular meeting of the Michigan City Port Authority Board of Directors was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by President Socrates Gray in the Port Authority board room.

ATTENDANCE

President Socrates Gray presided. Board members in attendance included Chris Cipares, Sam Ferguson, Bruce Manner, Dan Messina, and Kim Sliwa. Board member John Haynes was absent. Harbormaster Tim Frame, Assistant Harbormaster Mary Ann Pawlicke and Attorney Joe Zaknoen were also in attendance for the meeting.

GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE

- None

MINUTES

- Motion by Bruce Manner, seconded by Sam Ferguson to approve the minutes of the October 6, 2025 meeting. Motion approved unanimously.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

- There were no comments from the public.

REPORT FROM HARBORMASTER

Harbormaster Tim Frame reported on the following:

- Crew is in the process of turning off all the water and shutting down the bathrooms.
- Boats continue to be hauled out of the marina.
- Winterization activity and Christmas light installation began.

REPORT FROM ASSISTANT HARBORMASTER OF ADMINISTRATION

- Seasonal activity continues in the office, and the 2026 slip rental invoices will be mailed later in the week.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Budget and Financial Oversight Committee

- Sam Ferguson reviewed the Claims Docket prepared for October 20, 2025.

Port Authority	\$	\$50,917.26
Capital	\$	0.00
Total	\$	\$50,917.26
- Motion by Sam Ferguson, seconded by Dan Messina to pay all bills as presented. Motion approved unanimously.
- Sam advised the Board that he continues to work on the 2026 Budget with Ms. Pawlicke and progress has been delayed due to the computer issues with the city computer systems.
- Sam Ferguson reported that further discussion took place among Sam Ferguson, Chris Cipares, and Socrates Gray with staff regarding methods to recover costs associated with credit card processing fees for marina rental fees, services, and fuel purchases.
- Motion by Sam Ferguson, seconded by Bruce Manner to approve increasing dock fuel prices by \$.10 cents per gallon for both gas and diesel fuel. Motion approved unanimously.

- Motion by Sam Ferguson, seconded by Dan Messina to implement a surcharge matching the processing cost of credit card transactions for Slip Rentals and Services at the Port Authority, beginning January 1, 2026, if possible to offset fees charged by credit card companies. Motion approved unanimously.

Claims and Insurance Committee

- There was no report from the committee at this time.

Port Operations & Personnel & Marina Policy

- Socrates Gray reported on his discussion with Chief Swistek concerning the Long Beach Police Department's request to use a slip for the new police boat. Chief Swistek advised that B&E Marina will take care of the vessel's maintenance and that the police will store the boat in their Long Beach garage when not in use. As no storage space at the marina will be needed, Socrates requested that a list of individuals authorized to use the police boat be provided to ensure proper oversight of access at the marina.
 - Motion by Sam Ferguson, seconded by Dan Messina to provide the Long Beach Police with a 30-foot slip free of charge for the 2026 Boating season. Motion approved unanimously.

Boater Communications and Special Events Committee

- Dan Messina reported that he has received compliments on the appearance of the new "Do Not Feed the Birds" sign installed at the marina.
- He also relayed a question about winter access to the boat launch ramp, and the Port Authority confirmed it is not blocked during the winter season.

Master Planning and Special Projects Committee

- Confirmed that the park board meeting did not include any topics relating to the Port Authority.

Advertising and Public Relations Committee

- There was no report from the committee at this time.

REPORT FROM THE ATTORNEY

- The attorney will research acquiring the proper signage needed to notice patrons of the newly approved credit card surcharge to be added to credit card payments.

OLD BUSINESS

- There was no old business to be discussed.

NEW BUSINESS

- There was no new business to be discussed.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

- No comments from the public at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Kim Sliwa, seconded by Chris Cipares to adjourn the meeting at 5:31 p.m.

Accepted by:


Tim Frame, Harbormaster

Respectfully submitted,


Dan Messina, Board Secretary

Approved On:

11-3-25

By:


Socrates Gray, Board President