

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

October 6, 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, John Haynes, Bruce Manner, Dan Messina and Kim Sliwa. Harbormaster Tim Frame, Assistant Harbormaster Mary Ann Pawlicke and Attorney Joe Zaknoen were also in attendance for the meeting.

GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE

Mike Cooper, South Shore Sailing School; Tim Glidden, MC Parks Department

MINUTES

- Motion by Bruce Manner, seconded by Kim Sliwa to approve the minutes of the September 22, 2025 meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

- There were no comments from the public.

REPORT FROM HARBORMASTER

Harbormaster Tim Frame reported on the following:

- Staff have finished collecting all the shoreline buoys.
- Ongoing haul outs and winterizing remains active at the Trail Creek marina. Activity is winding down as the fall season approaches. Current plan is to turn off the water October 15th pending weather.
- Tim reported that he received a letter from Mark Swistek, Long Beach Police Chief Marshal, explaining that the department has applied for a Homeland Security grant to purchase a 29-foot police boat. The boat would be shared among the Michigan City Police, LaPorte County Sheriff's Department, and Fire Department. Chief Swistek requested the Board's consideration for an annual slip at Washington Park Marina and a waiver of the slip rental fees. Motion by Socrates Gray to table the discussion of the subject for a future meeting. Seconded by Kim Sliwa. Motion passed unanimously.

REPORT FROM ASSISTANT HARBORMASTER OF ADMINISTRATION

- Mrs. Pawlicke noted that staff continues to work with Mr. Ferguson on the 2026 Budget and is also gathering needed paperwork for the insurance renewal in November.
- Confirmed that the Long Beach Police Department has paid for winterizing and storage in the past when the department owned a police boat.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Budget and Financial Oversight Committee

- Sam Ferguson reviewed the Claims Docket prepared for October 6, 2025.

Port Authority	\$	\$121,600.25
Capital	\$	0.00
Total	\$	\$121,600.25

- Motion by Sam Ferguson, seconded by Dan Messina to pay all bills as presented. Motion passed unanimously.
- Sam advised the Board of increased expenses per category and led discussion on possible fees to increase that will help to offset increasing expenses.

- Motion by Sam Ferguson, seconded by John Haynes to increase slip rental fees for the 2026 season 6%. Roll call vote: Bruce Manner, Aye; Dan Messina, ineligible to vote; John Haynes, Aye; Chris Cipares, Aye; Sam Ferguson, Aye; Socrates Gray, ineligible to vote; Motion passed unanimously.

Claims and Insurance Committee

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

Port Operations & Personnel & Marina Policy

- Socrates Gray reported that the marina remains in normal winter operation status in accordance with standard seasonal protocols.

Boater Communications and Special Events Committee

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

Master Planning and Special Projects Committee

- There was no report from the committee at this time. The Park Board meeting was cancelled.

Advertising and Public Relations Committee

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

REPORT FROM THE ATTORNEY

- The attorney will research the credit card fee regulation and shared that the Pavillion lease has been reformatted to fit on two pages.
 - Motion by Kim Sliwa, seconded by Sam Ferguson to approved the Pavillion Leasing Agreement as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

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 John Haynes, seconded by Kim Sliwa to adjourn the meeting at 5:49 p.m.

Accepted by: 
Tim Frame, Harbormaster

Respectfully submitted, 
Dan Messina, Board Secretary

Approved On: 10-20-25

By: 
Socrates Gray, Board President