

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

June 15, 2026

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, Charlie Cross, Sam Ferguson, Dan Messina, and Kim Sliwa. Board member Bruce Manner was absent. Harbormaster Tim Frame, Assistant Harbormaster Mary Ann Pawlicke and Attorney Joe Zaknoen were also in attendance for the meeting.

GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE

- Tim Glidden, MC Park Board; Dale Moyer, South Shore Sailing School.

MINUTES

- Motion by Dan Messina, seconded by Kim Sliwa to approve the minutes of the June 1, 2026, meeting. Motion approved unanimously.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

- There were no comments from the public at this time.

REPORT FROM HARBORMASTER

Harbormaster Tim Frame reported on the following:

- Boat launches continue at a slow pace this spring, with approximately five boats launched this week.
- Weekly pump-out services are being completed without any issues.
- Staff are keeping up with maintenance work orders, and a small number of slip adjustments remain to be completed.

REPORT FROM ASSISTANT HARBORMASTER OF ADMINISTRATION

Assistant Harbormaster Mary Ann Pawlicke reported on the following:

- Ms. Pawlicke advised that a quote was received by Kovenz Memorials to refurbish the plaques by the entry door of the building. The small plaque would cost \$900.00, and the large plaque would cost \$1,300.00. The plaques would have to be delivered to LaPorte if the project is approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Budget and Financial Oversight Committee

- Chris Cipares reviewed the Claims Docket prepared for June 15, 2026.

Port Authority	\$	\$142,294.59
Capital	\$	0.00
Total	\$	\$142,294.59
- Motion by Chris Cipares, seconded by Sam Ferguson, to purchase four 12-month CDs at \$200,000 each at a rate of 4.05% with funds from the Capital Improvement account. Motion approved unanimously.

Claims and Insurance Committee

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

Port Operations & Personnel & Marina Policy

- Socrates Gray shared that he spoke with local police regarding unauthorized fishing activity around the marina.
- Gate personnel have been instructed to monitor and discourage fishing activities, particularly around the boat ramp area. Staff observed individuals fishing near moored boats by casting over the fence and will address these incidents.
- Safety concerns remain regarding unauthorized access to the catwalk area. Staff and marina users are encouraged to report anyone observed on the catwalk or in restricted areas.
- A recent shoreline inspection revealed that the sand shelf extends farther offshore this year than in previous years. Water depths of only 4–5 feet were observed a quarter mile offshore.
- Charlie Cross reported on findings of the committee review of the marina regarding signage. Re Estimated total cost for replacement and new signage is \$425.
 - Motion by Chris Cipares, seconded by Dan Messina, to remove and replace the existing weathered safety signs with new signage at a cost not to exceed \$500.00. New signs to include additional "**No Fishing**" language and one additional 12 x 24 "**No Fishing**" sign will be installed at the boat launch ramp area on the fence. Staff to provide all labor. Motion passed unanimously.
- Socrates Gray explained that the MCPA donates \$1,000.00 to non-profit each year to support building a sandcastle in the Singing Sands Sand Sculpting contest.
 - Motion by Chris Cipares, seconded by Dan Messina to approve nominating the Coho Club as the participating nonprofit organization. Motion approved unanimously.

Boater Communications and Special Events Committee

- Dan Messina reported that Salmon fishing remains strong, with consistent catches occurring in 70 to 90 feet of water and the Perch fishing activity is beginning to improve as water temperatures increase.
- Mr. Messina also noted that concerns were raised regarding non-permitted vehicles parking in designated parking areas.

Master Planning and Special Projects Committee

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

Advertising and Public Relations Committee

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

REPORT FROM THE ATTORNEY

- Attorney Joe Zaknoen reported that he sent a letter to the Yacht Club attorney advising that it has no authority to restrict parking access in Port Authority parking areas and that any unauthorized signage placed in these areas would be removed by Port Authority personnel.
- An employment-related matter may require discussion during a future executive session pending additional information. A memorandum regarding the employment issue will be circulated to Board members once completed.
- The slip license agreement for the sailing school is finalized pending inclusion of a color exhibit map outlining the leased area.

OLD BUSINESS

- There was no new business to be discussed.

NEW BUSINESS

- There was no new business to be discussed.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

- There were no comments from the public at this time.

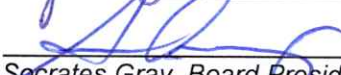
ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Chris Cipares, seconded by Kim Sliwa to adjourn the meeting at 5:16 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Accepted by: 
Tim Frame, Harbormaster

Respectfully submitted, 
Dan Messina, Board Secretary

Approved On: July 7 2026

By: 
Socrates Gray, Board President