

**MICHIGAN CITY PORT AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

December 6, 2021

TIME & PLACE

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

ATTENDANCE

Board President Sam Ferguson presided. Board members in attendance included Amanda Beutner, Chad Childers, Socrates Gray, John Haynes, Bruce Manner and Dan Messina. Harbormaster Tim Frame and Assistant Harbormaster of Administration Mary Ann Pawlicke were also in attendance along with Attorney Joe Zaknoen.

GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE

Guests in attendance included Phil Friese (*Park Board*) and Michael Halpin (*WPM slip holder*).

GUEST COMMENTS

During the previous meeting of 11/15/21, Mr. Halpin who was in attendance, inquired into the boards decision making of the 2022 rate increases stating although it appeared to be an approximate four (4%) percent, other fees such as the overage of the slip extension fee went up 50% which seemed a bit excessive and in addition, according to the October 18th minutes, a three (3%) percent increase had been approved. He also was concerned that these rates had been approved *after* the bills were mailed out to slip holders and questioned this procedure. Mr. Halpin expressed his ongoing concerns that his questions were left unanswered.

Harbormaster Frame explained that although an overall slip rate increase was at a percentage, other miscellaneous rates were budgeted differently such as the overage amount reasoning that this was to encourage larger boats to relocate into a dock that is more conducive to its overall length so that a boater does not take a smaller slip simply to get a lower rate then have the vessel hang out past the end of the finger pier.

MINUTES

Upon motion made by John Haynes, seconded by Chad Childers, the board approved the minutes to the previous meeting.

REPORT FROM HARBORMASTER

Harbormaster Frame reported on the following:

- Festival of Lights took place this past Saturday, December 4th. Christmas lights were ceremoniously turned on and will remain until January 2022.
- *Larsen-Danielson* continues to work on the redecking of 100 West with approximately one hundred sixty (160-ft) feet remaining and expects to be completed by Christmas, weather permitting.

- Wiring of the 700/800 docks continue and are making progress.
- With the exception of one sailboat, all boats have been pulled and relocated inside the building accordingly.
- Winter marina maintenance is about completed with setting de-icers and removal of dock ladders and extensions.

REPORT FROM ASSISTANT HARBORMASTER

Assistant Harbormaster of Administration Mary Ann Pawlicke reported on the following:

- Submitted a listing for the 2022 Board of Directors meeting dates.
- *General Insurance Services* forwarded an email confirmation stating they will attend the next meeting to submit the 2022 policy. Mr. Haynes informed the board he had been in contact with *Michiana Insurance* who was waiting on additional information but will also be in attendance.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. On behalf of the ***Budget and Financial Oversight Committee***, Socrates Gray reviewed the claims dockets to be paid:
 - **MCPA** Payment register = \$ 33,379.97
 - **MCPA EFT** register = \$ 6,953.07
 - **MCPA** Capital Improvements = \$ 61,562.47

Upon motion made by Socrates Gray, seconded by Amanda Beutner, the board unanimously approved all bills to be paid; total docket in the amount of \$101,895.51 as presented.

2. On behalf of the ***Claims and Insurance Committee***, John Haynes reiterated that both **GIS** and *Michiana Insurance* representatives will be submitting their 2022 policy bids during the next meeting. In discussing this, Attorney Zaknoen explained that there was no specific process in terms of the insurance submissions and sited **section code 34-13-320** that simply states: *Any liability insurance so purchased shall be purchased by invitation to and negotiation with providers of insurance and may be purchased with other types of insurance.*
 - Mr. Manner expressed his concerns placing the board in the position to make a decision during the final meeting of the year; as our current policy expires December 31st it is imperative that a ruling be made. In past years we have only dealt with **GIS** and were accustomed with their format, so beyond the annual rate increase, there was not much more to decide upon. As the board needs to make a determination between two competing companies, there should have had more time to put this under review.
 - Mr. Manner suggested that Mr. Haynes request to have both companies forward their submissions electronically prior to next Monday to give the board an opportunity to review their bids.

3. On behalf of the ***Port Operations, Personnel and Marina Policy Committee***, Sam Ferguson reported on the following:
 - Per mention made by Mr. Messina, a previous conversation ensued regarding cell phones and security cameras; Mr. Ferguson would like to review this matter with the operations committee before making a commitment as he does not have all information needed.
 - Waiting for an update on the dinner cruise boat.
 - The Boater Communication Committee will be meeting for discussion.

- Met with the Hobie Cat representatives last month to assist with their facility project; no updates to report at this time.
4. On behalf of the **Boater Communications and Special Events Committee**, Dan Messina had nothing to report.
 5. On behalf of the **Master Planning and Special Projects Committee**, Bruce Manner had nothing to report. On behalf of the Park Liaison, they have developed a 5-year **MasterPlan** which can now be reviewed online. Mr. Friese informed the board it had not yet been approved by the State.
 6. On behalf of the **Advertising and Public Relations Committee**, Amanda Beutner had nothing to report.

REPORT FROM ATTORNEY

Attorney Joe Zaknoen reported on the following:

- The **MCPA** is officially set up on the **ZOOM** account which will require a microphone and camera on a computer or lap-top; will just need an advance notification to initiate the invite.
- There are pending issues regarding the **DNR** public access trail (*boardwalk*) and their section of property; before we accept the offer, we need to know what responsibilities, obligations and or limitations we could potentially be burdened with. It was thought that there may be a pending litigation due to an injury somebody had sustained; as such we can make no commitment or decision to take over this property until all circumstances are settled.

OLD BUSINESS

The board discussed voting procedures for a new slate of officers and made an amendment accordingly.

Upon motion made by Bruce Manner, seconded by John Haynes, the board approved to amend the **MCPA** election bylaws from voting originally taking place the final meeting of the year to this evening's meeting, December 6, 2021.

Attorney Zaknoen announced the nominations for the 2022 slate of officers as follows:

- **President:** Socrates Gray
- **Vice President:** Bruce Manner
- **Secretary:** Dan Messina
- **Treasurer:** Sam Ferguson

A roll call vote was taken: Amanda Beutner, **aye:** Chad Childers, **aye:** Sam Ferguson, **aye:** Socrates Gray, **aye:** John Haynes, **nay:** Bruce Manner, **aye:** Dan Messina, **aye:** The directors approved the 2022 Slate of Officers as presented.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion made by Chad Childers, seconded by John Haynes, the board adjourned the meeting at 5:46 p.m.

Accepted by: _____
Tim Frame, Harbormaster

Respectfully submitted, _____
Dan Messina, Board Secretary

Approved On: _____

By: _____
Sam Ferguson, Board President

There were no attachments for this meeting.
Minutes prepared by Kristen N. Winkelstern