

TOWN OF LA POINTE
Board of Harbor Commissioners
Thursday December 18th, 2025
9am at Town Hall and Live via YouTube
Approved Minutes

Commissioners Present: Zach Montagne, Glenn Carlson, Mary Ross, Michael Collins, Susan Widmar, Evan Erickson Jr. (absent Jay Wiltz)

Staff Present: Katie Kisner, Chief Administrative Officer and Interim Harbor Commission Secretary

Public Present: Robin Russell (via Zoom), Cal Linehan (via Zoom)

1. Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 9am by Z. Montagne.
2. Roll Call: All members, staff and public present as listed above.
3. Public Comment A*: Evan Erickson Jr. wishes the crew a Merry Christmas and a thank you for working Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.
4. Minutes – 11/20/25; 12/02/25; 12/08/25: Motion by Z. Montagne to approve the 11/20/25 minutes as presented, seconded by Evan Erickson Jr, all in favor, motion carried. Motion by Michael Collins to approve the 12/2/25 and 12/8/25 minutes as presented, seconded by Evan Erickson Jr, all in favor, motion carried.
5. Chief Administrative Officer Report – Katie Kisner: December revenue as of Monday the 15th was \$63,323.50. Katie Kisner provided November monthly reports and the WorkBoat Show report provided by Cal Linehan. Motion by Z. Montagne to place the CAO report on file, seconded by M. Ross, all in favor, motion carried.
6. Discussion on Late Boat Requests: Consensus to follow MIFL LLC's recommendation and not delay the 5pm boat to 5:30pm due to unsafe conditions.
7. 2026 Ferry Schedule: The Harbor Commission discussed adding the 8am ferry back to the freeze up schedule. Motion by Z. Montagne to not make any adjustments to the current schedule and to table the discussion of adding an 8am ferry back to the freeze up schedule for 2026 until next meeting, seconded by G. Carlson, all in favor, motion carried.
8. Discussion on Removal of Winter Surcharge: The Harbor Commission discussed implementing a summer surcharge instead of a winter surcharge. MIFL LLC recommends dropping the surcharge across the board and work it into a 2027 tariff increase. Consensus that it is the Harbor Commission's intention to eventually remove the winter surcharge. No action was taken.
9. Compensation Resolution 2026: Motion by G. Carlson to approve as presented, seconded by Z. Montagne, all in favor, motion carried.

10. Consider Approval of 2026 Harbor Commission Budget: Motion by G. Carlson to approve as presented, seconded by M. Ross, all in favor, motion carried.
11. Mayor of Bayfield Meeting Update: Zach Montagne and Glenn Carlson met with Mayor Lyn Cornelius along with Bayfield Harbor Commission members. It was a great conversation that ended with an agreement to not pursue the head tax requested but that the Town of La Pointe will provide payment in lieu of this. This will most likely result in an addendum to the current MOU between City of Bayfield and Madeline Island Ferry Line Inc.
12. Rapid Response Communications: Consensus to not create a social media page specifically for the Harbor Commission. Cal Linehan will CC Katie Kisner on special trip confirmations and cancellations.
13. Approval of Bills: Motion by Z. Montagne to approve the bills in the amount of \$246,912.64, seconded by E. Erickson Jr, all in favor, motion carried.
14. Future Agenda Items: 2026 Ferry Schedule, Removal of Winter Surcharge, Letter to School, MIFL LLC Ownership
15. Meeting Dates: Thursday January 8th, 2026 at 9am.
16. Public Comment B**: Glenn Carlson states that there are currently no candidates for the Sanitary District and that there will be an open seat in the April election. Evan Erickson Jr. wishes Cal Linehan a Merry Christmas.
17. Review of MIFL Management Contract: Motion by S. Widmar to enter closed session, seconded by Z. Montagne, 6 ayes 1 absent, motion carried. Meeting in closed session at 10:07am.

This meeting may, upon duly made motion, be convened in closed session under State Statute 19.85 (1)(e) Deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session. If the Commission goes into closed session, it will reconvene in open session before adjourning.

Motion by G. Carlson to enter back into open session, seconded by M. Collins, 6 ayes 1 absent, motion carried. Meeting back in open session at 10:19am.

18. Adjourn: Motion to adjourn by S. Widmar, seconded by M. Collins, all in favor, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:19am.

Respectfully submitted by Katie Kisner, Interim Harbor Commission Secretary, Thursday December 18th, 2025.

Minutes approved as presented Thursday January 8th, 2026. K.Kisner.