DOCKS AND HARBORS BOARD
MEETING AGENDA

June 25, 2026 at 5:00 PM

Port Office Conference Room/Zoom Webinar

https://juneau.zoom.us/j/84600348003 or Dial: 1-833-548-0276 Meeting ID: 846 0034 8003

A. CALL TO ORDER : 5:00 PM in Port Office and via Zoom
Mr. Sooter called the board to order at 5:06 pm.

B. ROLL CALL:
Present: Matthew Leither, Nick Orr, Annette Smith, Mark Ridgway, and Shem Sooter.
Absent: James Becker, Tyler Emerson, Clayton Hamilton, and Robert Horchover.

Quorum was established.

Also in Attendance: Port Director Uchytil, Harbormaster Creswell, Port Engineer Sill, Assembly Liaison Maureen Hall.

C. PORT DIRECTOR REQUESTS FOR AGENDA CHANGES
Port Director Uchytil requested no changes to the agenda.

D. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA AS PRESENTNED OR AMENDED
Mr. Ridgway motioned to approve the agenda as presented. Hearing no objection, the motion passed by unanimous consent.

E. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:
No public participation was received.

F. SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS
Port Director Uchytil recognized Port Engineer Sill for five years of dedicated service to the City and Borough of Juneau. A certificate of appreciation was presented.

G. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. **April 30, 2026 Minutes**
   Mr. Ridgeway motioned to approve the April 30, 2026 minutes without objection.

H. CONSENT AGENDA

1. **Public Requests for Consent Agenda Changes**
   No public requests for consent agenda changes were received.

2. **Board Member Requests for Consent Agenda Changes**
   No Board member requests for consent agenda changes were received.

3. **Items for Action**

A) DIPAC Submerged Property Needs – Amalga Harbor
Presentation by Port Director

RECOMMENDATION: TO PURSUE ADNR SUBMERGED LANDS FOR FUTURE LEASE TO DIPAC

No separate discussion was recorded.

B) Uninsured Vessel Surcharge – FY2027 Change
Presentation by Harbormaster

RECOMMENDATION: TO REDUCE THE FY27 UNINSURED VESSEL SURCHARGE FROM $1.50 TO $1.00 PER LINEAR FOOT

No separate discussion was recorded.

C) 2028 ADOT Harbor Facility Grant Application
Presentation by Port Director

RECOMMENDATION: THE ASSEMBLY APPROVE TWO RESOLUTIONS OF SUPPORT FOR ADOT HARBOR FACILITY GRANT AT ECHO COVE AND STATTER PHASE 4

No separate discussion was recorded.

D) ACTION RECOMMENDATION:

Ms. Smith moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Hearing no objection, the motion passed by unanimous consent.

I. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

1. Conditional Use Permit - Tracy's Crab Shack Art

Presentation by Port Director
Port Director Uchytil reported that the CBJ permitting office received a request from Tracy’s Crab Shack for an amendment to its conditional use permit to allow seasonal crab artwork at the facility. He stated staff had no objection provided the artwork does not interfere with emergency vehicle access and is secured so it does not create a wind hazard. The artwork would be seasonal and removed during the winter. Port Director Uchytil noted that draft language stating Docks & Harbors did not object was included in the packet.

a. Board Discussion
The Board had no questions or concerns.

b. Public Comment
No public comment was received.

2. Review of Docks & Harbors Bylaws & CBJC 85.02.030 (Vacancies)

Presentation by Port Director
Port Director Uchytil reviewed the Docks & Harbors bylaws and CBJC 85.02.030 in preparation for the annual board meeting scheduled for the last Thursday in July. He reported that the Assembly had interviewed applicants and that Shem Sooter and Tyler Emerson were reappointed, with Steve Box expected to join the Board.

Port Director Uchytil noted that Docks & Harbors did not currently have standing committees, and any special committees would expire at the end of the month, with committee assignments beginning anew in July. He identified likely upcoming items including a drive-down float bid award, a restaurant bid award, and project closeout transfer.

Port Director Uchytil reviewed vacancy provisions, including failure to qualify and take office within 30 days, absence from Juneau for 90 days or more, resignation, failure to attend three consecutive meetings unless excused by the Board, missing more than 40% of regular board meetings in a 12-month period, and removal by the Assembly.

a. Board Discussion
Board discussion included how the 40% attendance threshold would be calculated depending on the number of regular meetings held in a 12-month period. Port Director informed the board that 40% is roughly 4.8 months out of the year. A Board member asked whether any current members met the vacancy conditions? Port Director Uchytil responded that there were likely members who did. Board members discussed the importance of attendance while recognizing that members may occasionally have unavoidable conflicts.

b. Public Comment
No public comment was received.

J. STAFF, COMMITTEE, AND MEMBER REPORTS

1. Visitor Industry Task Force – Liaison
The Visitor Industry Task Force liaison Shem Sooter reported that crossing guards appeared to be working well based on public testimony. The liaison also reported public concerns regarding helicopter flight paths over Auke Bay, Fritz Cove, and Thane, discussion about whether the Visitor Industry Task Force should become a more permanent body, and comments regarding management of the whale-watching fleet and its interaction with other harbor users. Public testimony was described as mixed, with substantial comments regarding helicopters and fewer comments regarding whale watching than expected.

Additional comments concerned cruise industry impacts on local retail operations.

2. Assembly Liaison

Assembly Liaison Maureen Hall reported that a flood meeting was scheduled in the Valley that evening with Flood Fighting Advocates, including a presentation by Aaron Hood regarding glacial lake outburst flood science and remarks by Brian Erickson of Hecla regarding a lake tap and potential partnership with the Army Corps. She reported that the Assembly passed the budget at its June 8 meeting and that the Human Resources Committee interviewed candidates for the Airport, Docks & Harbors, and Eaglecrest boards. She stated that Steve Box was expected to join the Docks & Harbors Board and described his background in the waterfront and commercial fishing community.

No questions were asked.

3. Harbormaster

Harbormaster Creswell reported that Harris Harbor potable water was back in service after passing bacteriological testing, though permanent repair parts were still pending for the water line from the uplands to the float. He reported that temporary water service remained in place at the Auke Bay Loading Facility while permanent repairs were pending.

Harbormaster Creswell reported that staff remained busy with summer startup work, cleaning, and ongoing maintenance. Statter Harbor staff continued bull rail repairs, concrete repairs, and other facility maintenance. Aurora Harbor staff were planning an additional trip to Taku Harbor and were managing short staffing. Port staff were engaged in cruise ship operations and lot management.

He reported that Docks & Harbors was mostly staffed, with one Aurora Harbor vacancy expected to be filled soon. In response to questions, he discussed deteriorated bull rails that were splitting and stated staff were preparing a hardware list for repairs. He also reported that limited commercial salmon openings were expected on Thursdays in July, though participation was not expected to reach pre-2019 levels. A question regarding past dredging and submerged lands was referred to Port Engineer Sill for additional information.

4. Port Engineer

Port Engineer Sill reported that a sinkhole opened in the D-HART parking lot. He explained that a storm drain carrying runoff from the roundabout passes through the parking lot, under Docks & Harbors access road, and discharges near the kayak ramp. The culvert had rusted out, washing out fines and creating a large void. Steel plates were in place, and CBJ attorneys were discussing repair responsibility with the State. Port Engineer Sill stated the facility was not on Docks & Harbors property and was not constructed or maintained by Docks & Harbors, while the State had indicated Docks & Harbors was responsible.

Port Engineer Sill reported that the Little Rock Dump project was nearing completion. Fence posts were installed, final gravel placement was underway, the electrical system was in place, light poles remained outstanding, and completion was expected by the end

of the month. Ten 20-foot Connex containers were expected to be placed there, with Harbormaster Creswell working on the management plan.
Port Engineer Sill reported that major materials for the fireworks show had arrived in Juneau.

Port Engineer Sill reported that new term contractors had been selected. Chatham Electric and Alaska Electric were selected as electrical term contractors. Dawson Construction and Island Contractors were selected for harbor maintenance and repair work.

Port Engineer Sill reported that staff met with Chatham Electric regarding lighting at the Douglas Launch Ramp and expected an estimate within approximately the next week.
Port Engineer Sill reported that Dowell was under contract for State of Alaska matching grant proposals for Echo Cove and Statter Harbor anodes and horseshoe repair. The NOFO had not yet been released but was expected soon.

Port Engineer Sill reported that Morris Engineering was working on the camera project near Franklin Dock and Taku Smokeries, with plans expected soon. He also reported that 65% plans for the restroom at [VERIFY: plaza/facility name] were expected soon from B&D, NorthWind Architects, and supporting electrical and mechanical consultants.

Port Engineer Sill reported that PND was working toward the 90% submittal for the Aurora Harbor drive-down float, with permitting underway and final design completion tied to the final agreement with MARAD. He expected the 90% submittal by the end of July.

Port Engineer Sill reported that Dowell had a proposal to review the SeaWalk area near the Fishermen's Memorial. Continuing settlement had affected prior repair work, and staff were seeking design guidance for a larger replacement or repair project. Docks & Harbors had requested [VERIFY: Marine Passenger Fee/1%] funding for the project.

Board discussion included the SeaWalk settlement history, the distinction between pile-supported and dirt-supported portions of the SeaWalk, and the crane planned for the Aurora Harbor drive-down float. Port Engineer Sill stated staff were proceeding with a three-ton crane and would explain how the crane rating would be applied based on maximum load at the furthest extension.

5. Port Director

Port Director Uchytil invited Board members to attend the Coast Guard Open House scheduled for Tuesday. He stated the event would be informal, with no presentations, and attendees would be able to walk around and ask questions.

Port Director Uchytil reported that the 1% sales tax initiative is expected to be on the ballot in October 2027. He stated that, as the new Board year begins in July, Docks & Harbors will work with the Assembly to identify projects to advance for possible 1% sales tax funding. He noted that Docks & Harbors projects will be competing with other community priorities, including water and wastewater, Parks and Recreation, and potential Army Corps match requirements related to [VERIFY: GLOF/flood mitigation project]. He emphasized the need to develop strong project proposals.

In response to a question, Port Director Uchytil stated that he did not believe 1% sales tax funding could be used as general funds. He described the process as project-based and intended for voters to consider whether to fund specific community projects.

Port Director Uchytil also returned to the bylaws discussion and identified language stating that removal of an officer may be recommended by an affirmative vote of at least six Board members at a meeting called for that purpose, with final removal decided by the Assembly.

Port Director Uchytil reported that staff would follow up with the Army Corps regarding the breakwater project. He stated that Docks & Harbors remains a good partner and that giving up on the project is not an option. He noted there was nothing new to report on the project at that time.

K. COMMITTEE ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

1. Next Board Meeting: July 30, 2026 (Annual Board Meeting)

The next Board meeting is scheduled for July 30, 2026.

The next Operations Committee meeting, if held, would be scheduled for July 22, 2026. Chair Orr stated he would not be in town on July 22, 2026.

Mr. Ridgway stated he would be out of state on July 30, 2026, but would try to call in.

Port Director Uchytil recommended that Board members coordinate in advance regarding motions and meeting roles for the annual meeting.

L. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Orr moved to adjourn at 5:44 with no objection.