



**City of Pass Christian Harbor Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes
February 26, 2026**

Board Members Present: Marshall Smith, Alex McIngvale, Buddy Clark, William Scarbrough,

Board Members Absent: Darlene Kimball,

Staff Members Present:

James Butcher, Harbor Master

Mathew Forrest, Assistant Harbor Master

Jessie Herron, Harbor Clerk

Melodie Hayes, City Planner

Audience Present:

1. Call To Order

Call introduction meeting to order at 11:01 a.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Pledge of Allegiance led by Buddy Clark

3. Approval of Agenda

Board member Smith made motion to approve the agenda for February 26, 2026. Board member Clark seconded the motion.

All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Minutes Approval

Board Member Smith made a motion to approve minutes from January 21st, 2026, meeting; Board Member Scarbrough seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

5. Discussions

- a. James (Harbor Master) reported that he reached out privately to Kenny Torgeson, Mayor of the City of Pass Christian, to discuss the harbor green space. He stated that any additional funds are currently being used to complete existing harbor projects.
- b. James updated everyone on the wood fillers.
- c. James stated he spoke with Bob Escher regarding the damaged cylinder piling in the west harbor entrance way. It is reported that one side is compromised and the other is fine. They are currently working together to find a solution.
- e. James stated that west side construction of the wall by the charter boats is finishing up today/tomorrow. James also stated that they are turning the old excursion pier into a day pier.
- f. Alex inquired about the standard time for unlocking the bathrooms. James responded that they are typically open between 5:00 AM and 6:00 AM. Alex requested consideration for a key due to early arrival times. Additional concerns were raised about the need for clearer signage when bathrooms are closed due to weather. James stated that signage is normally posted during weather events but was unsure what occurred during the most recent event.
- g. Pannel Discussion- The panel discussed the option to unload oysters by the harbor office and if they should bring their discission to the board. James states that this will violate city ordinance to unload a dealer next to the officer and James will find out if we have any ability to bring in a new dealer. Alex wants the harbor advisory committee to give an agreed opinion at the board of alderman meeting.
- h. William Scarbrough asked about the discussion on Jerry Forte's lease and bringing in a new dealer into that space. James stated that they will measure the area and see if Jerry is currently renting that space per his lease agreement and if there is room for another dealer at this time. The conversation then proceeds to discuss the lack of oysters being purchased and concerns with the size of the oysters and breeding.
- i. Marshall asked how long Gautier's lease is. James gives an estimate of roughly 20-25 years but estimated to end around 2035. James will verify.
- j. Jessie presented a date option for the next meeting. March 26th, 2026, at 11:00AM is what was agreed to.

6. Adjournment

Board member Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Board member McIngvale seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 11:27 A.M.

Passed and approved on the 26st Day of February 2026.

Jessie Herron

Harbor Clerk

City of Pass Christian

