

**PORT & HARBORS ADVISORY BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES  
DATE: February 10, 2026**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The Port & Harbors Advisory Board regular meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M., at City Council Chambers, in Ketchikan, Alaska.

**ROLL CALL:**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Mr. Lee Bethel	(Chairman)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mr. Eric Lunde	(Vice-Chairman)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mr. Jai Mahtani	Council Member
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mr. Steve Wilsie	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mr. James Rhodes	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mr. Russell Cockrum	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mr. Eric Youngblood	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mr. Tom Carruth	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ms. Linda Faber	

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

**Excused**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mr. Lee Bethel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mr. Eric Lunde	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mr. Jai Mahtani	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mr. Steve Wilsie	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mr. James Rhodes	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mr. Russell Cockrum	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mr. Eric Youngblood	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mr. Tom Carruth	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mr. Linda Faber	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Harbor Staff Present:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mr. Wayne Phillips
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mr. James Wilson
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mr. Craig Bisson
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ms. May Caguiat
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mr. Gavin Buendia

**CHANGES TO AGENDA:**

None

**MINUTES:** MOTION was made by Board member Jay Rhodes to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of the Port and Harbors Advisory Board from January 13, 2026. MOTION SECONDED by Board member Linda faber. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

None

**PERSONS TO BE HEARD:**

None

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Harbor Rate Increase**

Port & Harbors Director Wayne Phillips presented to the PHAB board a harbor rate increase request. He stated that harbor department is currently operating under tight budget constraints, limiting flexibility for new expenditures and capital improvements. Director Phillips read Resolution No. 26-3003 Rates and Fees for Harbor Facilities.

A lengthy discussion ensued with Director Phillips answered questions from the PHAB.

**MOTION** was made by Board member Cockrum to increase harbor rate by eight percent. MOTION SECONDED by Board member Faber. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY; Council member Mahtani abstained and Board members Youngblood and Lunde absent.

**Raw Fish Tax**

Port & Harbors Director Phillips justified a request to allocate \$60,000.00 from the Raw Fish Tax to improve and maintain harbor safety. He stated that he would be at the Borough Assembly meeting with Harbor Operations Coordinator Wilson on March 2, 2026 to present the \$60,000.00 proposal.

PHAB Board members expressed concern that the City of Ketchikan Port & Harbors are not receiving proportional benefit and commercial fishermen fund the tax. They also discussed the potential inequities in tax distribution and the need for financial review or audit.

**MOTION** was made by Board member Cockrum to:

- Request review of Raw Fish Tax distribution
- Explore returning portion of the State of Alaska collected funds for harbor maintenance and reserve building
- Investigate potential shortfalls or discrepancies
- Support use of funds for grant match reserves and deferred maintenance

**MOTION SECONDED** by Board member Faber. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY;**  
**Board members Youngblood and Lunde absent.**

#### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

Port and Harbors Director Phillips reviewed/discussed the Director's report.

#### **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:**

Raw Fish Tax Update  
Alaska Municipal League Meeting Report

#### **BOARD MEMBER COMMENT**

Board member Faber thanked everyone and stated it was a good discussion.

Board member Wilsie thanked everyone.

Board member Rhodes thanked everyone and James for filling in.

Board member Carruth glad to have the Raw Fish tax discussion continued.

Council member Mahtani thanked everyone and said it was great discussion.

Vice Chairman Lunde thanked everyone.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**MOTION TO ADJOURN** was made by Board Member Rhodes at 8:01 p.m. **MOTION SECONDED** by Board Member Faber. **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

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Chair/Vice Chair Signature

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Date