
Sitka Port and Harbors Commission

Meeting Agenda

Wednesday May 13th, 2026,
6:00 PM Harrigan Centennial Hall

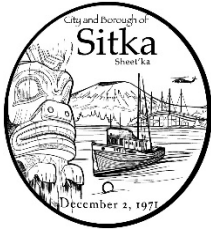
Commission Members:

Shauna Thornton (Chair), Tamy Stevenson (Vice Chair),
Joshua Badder, Andrew Callistini, Jorgen Eliason,
Tyler Green, Justin Peeler,
Assembly Liaison: JJ Carlson

- I. **CALL TO ORDER**
- II. **ROLL CALL**
- III. **AGENDA CHANGES (Reorganize or remove items)**
- IV. **PERSONS TO BE HEARD**
Public participation on any item off the agenda – time limit not to exceed 3 minutes for any individual.
- V. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - A. Meeting minutes of April 8th, 2026
- VI. **REPORTS**

Chair:
Harbor Master:
City Staff:
Assembly Liaison:
Other(s)
- VII. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None
- VIII. **NEW BUSINESS**
 - B. Discussion/Recommendation regarding available Federal Harbor Infrastructure Funds
 - C. Set a date for a work session to discuss revenue streams for the Harbor Department
- IX. **PERSONS TO BE HEARD**
Public participation on any items ON or OFF the agenda – time limit not to exceed 3 minutes for any individual.
- X. **ADJOURNMENT**



Sitka Port and Harbors Commission Minutes

April 8, 2026, 6:00PM
Harrigan Centennial Hall

Port and Harbors Commission Members:

Chair-Shauna Thornton, Vice Chair-Tamy Stevenson
Joshua Badder, Andrew Callistini, Jorgen Eliason, Tyler Green,
Justin Peeler, JJ Carlson (Assembly Liaison)

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Shauna Thornton called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Shauna Thornton, Tamy Stevenson, Andrew Callistini, Justin Peeler, Joshua Badder (via zoom), Tyler Green (via zoom).

Unexcused: Jorgen Eliason

Assembly Liaison: JJ Carlson

Staff Present: Harbormaster Brandon Calhoun, Port and Harbors Office Assistant René Tuttle

III. AGENDA CHANGES

None.

IV. PERSONS TO BE HEARD *(Public participation on any item OFF the agenda – time limit not to exceed 3 minutes for any individual)*

None.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Meeting minutes of March 11, 2026

A motion was made by Member Stevenson to approve the March 11th, 2026, meeting minutes as written. Motion passed. Peeler abstained.

VI. REPORTS

Chair – None.

Harbor Master – Calhoun updated that the Crescent Harbor load dock project is complete, and the fishermen's work float is scheduled for completion within a couple of weeks. Preparations are currently in place for the upcoming Eliason electrical and float repair projects.

City Staff – None.

Assembly Liaison – JJ Carlson reported that after a recommended 4% moorage rate hike failed, Assembly Member Steven Eisenbeisz proposed a 0% increase. However, the 0% proposal also failed. Consequently, a 4% placeholder remains in the budget unless the Commission forwards a different recommendation.

Other(s) – None.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

B. Discussion/Decision on moorage rate recommendation

A motion was made by Member Stevenson to recommend a 3% increase in moorage rates to the Assembly with the caveat that this body will actively pursue alternative revenue streams before the next budget meeting.

**Yes: 4 Thornton, Stevenson, Badder, Peeler
No: 2 Callistini, Green**

C. Discussion on snow removal in the harbor system

The Commission discussed the challenges of snow removal on the docks during a particularly heavy snowfall year.

D. Discussion on expanding the jurisdictional waters of the Harbor Master

The Commission discussed expanding the jurisdictional water of the Harbor Master to include Silver Bay, Eastern Channel out to Katlian to enable the harbormaster to assign anchorages to visiting cruise ships.

IX. PERSONS TO BE HEARD (*Public participation on any item ON or OFF the agenda – time limit not to exceed 3 minutes for any individual*)

None.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Member Stevenson made a motion to adjourn. Meeting was adjourned at 7:40 PM.

Attest: Brandon Calhoun
Harbormaster

Good Morning,

Thank you for contacting Senator Sullivan regarding the Office of Seafood! By way of introduction, my name is Siena and I assist Connie Vo (cc'd) on the fisheries portfolio.

One of the Office's primary responsibilities will be coordinating across USDA agencies on existing programs and integrating the seafood industry. Since the Office is just being stood up, I do not have any more specifics to share at the moment on available resources. However, to my knowledge, the USDA does not typically provide funding for infrastructure construction directly—they offer technical assistance on construction or remodeling and provide loans or grants to companies to develop products, expand marketing opportunities, and bolster workforce. You can find more information on existing USDA Rural Development and Agriculture Marketing Service programs that assist with infrastructure development at [this link](#).

The Office also has a designated email for questions at seafood@usda.gov. From our understanding, this email is being monitored by the Office's Seafood Liaison Michael Illenberg. I encourage you to contact the office directly regarding potential opportunities for port facilities repair or replacement, as our ports are essential to the success of the seafood industry. We will also be sure to keep this in mind as we are engaging with USDA on the Office.

I also want to flag a couple of programs outside of USDA that can assist with port facility construction. For example, Dept. of Transportation [BUILD grants](#) can assist with port construction can if a dock supports both commercial fishing and tourism (like cruise tenders or charter fleets), and MARAD [Port Infrastructure Development Program grants](#) can if tied to loading and unloading of commercially harvested fish and fish products or wharf improvements to support commercial activity.

I hope this is helpful! We are very excited about this new Office and want to ensure that everyone back home has the tools and resources they need to be successful. Our ports are a major part of that. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Best,

Siena Joy
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