

Kalamazoo Lake Harbor Authority

Douglas & Saugatuck, Michigan

Kalamazoo Lake Harbor Authority

Regular Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 9, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

Saugatuck Township Hall, 3461 Blue Star HWY, Saugatuck, MI

Meeting held in person and zoom

Call to Order: Chair Waskin called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM

Roll Call:

Present: Waskin, North, Freeman, Peterson, Raphael, Engel

Absent: Donovan, Ignasiak

Also Present: DeFranco, Cummins, Nocerini

1. Approval of Agenda:

- a. September 9, 2025, Meeting Agenda

A **Motion** by Peterson to approve the September 9, 2025 meeting agenda as presented.

Support by Engel.

Discussion: None

Voice Vote: 6-0

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

2. Approval of Minutes

- a. July 8, 2025, Minutes

A **Motion** by Peterson to approve the July 8, 2025 minutes as amended. Support by North.

Discussion: Peterson requested that on page 2, item 7.a “boat side” be change to “boat size.”

Voice Vote: 6-0

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

3. Approval of Invoices: No Invoices

4. Public Communications:

- a. Kalamazoo River Greenway Committee submitted information on establishing a water trail.

5. New Business

- a. Update from Greg Weykamp, Edgewater Resources

Weykamp reported that there are seven segments along the Kalamazoo River that are part of the superfund site. Saugatuck/Douglas is part of segment 7 that spans from Lake Michigan to the Allegan County Dam. In September 2024, EGLE gave approval to begin planning the clean up of segment 7. No planning documents have been located at this time.

Weykamp reported that in the 2025 Budget for USACE was a funding request for dredging the federal navigation channel in Saugatuck.

Kalamazoo Lake Harbor Authority

Douglas & Saugatuck, Michigan

Weykamp noted that there is an on-going sturgeon restoration program for the Kalamazoo River, with the DNR releasing 100 juvenile sturgeon per year.

Weykamp reviewed how PFAS will be treated in a dredging process.

Weykamp confirmed that DNR Law Enforcement is the agency with jurisdiction over establishing “No Wake Zones,” not municipalities.

Peterson mentioned the Kalamazoo River Natural Resource Assessment Trustees. Weykamp will look into the status of that program.

b. Transition of the KLHA Meeting Management

DeFranco expressed pride in the Township hosting and providing staff support to the Kalamazoo Lake Harbor Authority for the last two years, and requested that the responsibility of staff support be handed over to one of the other constituent municipalities. City of Saugatuck agreed to host the next meeting and have “KLHA Staff Support Transition” be an agenda item to continue discussion. Board members leaning towards a one-year rotation between the three municipalities for sharing staff support responsibilities.

6. Unfinished Business

a. Next Meeting Date

Board to schedule next meeting at 6pm on October 28th, 2025.

7. Reports:

a. Committee Reports

- i. Douglas Harbor Authority- Greg Freeman, Chair for the Douglas Harbor Authority provided an update on several ongoing projects. Plans for the Douglas Marina Pavilion are progressing, with the project expected to come before City Council for approval soon and construction anticipated to begin in spring 2026. At the Union Street Boat Launch, the proposed new dock is currently under review by EGLE following a recent site visit, and approval is expected in the near future. The redesigned dock will be longer and safer for users, while the 34-foot boat length limit will remain in place to protect the infrastructure and ensure safe operations. Safety measures have been enhanced with the addition of new life ring covers and throw ropes at launch areas and Veteran’s Park. In the coming months, a new fishing deck will also be installed at Veteran’s Park, funded through community donations as a tribute to local veterans. At Schultz Park, the Department of Public Works completed significant dock improvements to address damage largely caused by improper boat launching. The installation of 15 bumper posts and protective tile was handled in-house, saving the City thousands of dollars and earning praise from boaters for being an effective solution. Finally, the City reported continued success with its aquatic treatment

Kalamazoo Lake Harbor Authority

Douglas & Saugatuck, Michigan

program, which has produced excellent results in improving water quality and conditions throughout the season.

b. **Manager Reports**

- i. Nocerini- Deferred to the Douglas Harbor Authority Report. Expressed appreciation for Weykamp and the progress the Authority is making.
- ii. Cummins- Noted progress being made on milfoil treatment.
- iii. DeFranco- Provided update on the improvement project planned for River Bluff Park. Noted a Township Resident requested the area around the Heron Bay docks be designated a “No Wake” zone.

8. **Public Comments** (Limit of three (3) minutes)

Ken Butler- Saugatuck Township resident and Township Parks Commissioner noted that he is planning to approach the State about improving the Hacklander boat launch owned by the DNR.

9. **Authority Member Comments:**

Peterson- Expressed willingness of Saugatuck City to take on responsibility in support of the Harbor Authority

Raphael- Seconded Peterson’s remarks and expressed willingness to help.

North- Requested that a presentation from the Kalamazoo Greenway Committee be added to a future meeting agenda

Engel- Expressed appreciation for support by Municipal staff.

10. **Adjournment:**

A **Motion** by Freeman to adjourn the meeting at 7:11 pm. Support by Peterson.

Discussion: None

Voice Vote: 6-0

Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Next Meeting: 6:00pm, Tuesday, October 28th

Kalamazoo Lake Harbor Authority

Douglas & Saugatuck, Michigan

Motions

1. A **Motion** by Peterson to approve the September 9, 2025 meeting agenda as presented.
Support by Engel.
Discussion: None
Voice Vote: 6-0
Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
2. A **Motion** by Peterson to approve the July 8, 2025 minutes as amended. Support by North.
Discussion: Peterson requested that on page 2, item 7.a “boat side” be change to “boat size.”
Voice Vote: 6-0
Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
3. A **Motion** by Freeman to adjourn the meeting at 7:11 pm. Support by Peterson.
Discussion: None
Voice Vote: 6-0
Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully,

Daniel DeFranco
Saugatuck Township Manager