



**HARBOUR COMMISSION  
MINUTES  
DRAFT**

**Thursday, April 24, 2025  
Meeting Room B-8  
2000 Main Street  
Huntington Beach, CA 92648**

KIMBERLEY MILLIGAN, Chair  
CHRIS NIELSEN, Vice Chair  
WILLIAM LARKIN, Board Member  
CRAIG SCHAUPPNER, Board Member  
VAN VU, Board Member  
MEL WILLIAMS, Board Member  
DIANE WOOD, Board Member

**COUNCIL LIAISONS**  
PAT BURNS, Councilmember Liaison  
GRACEY VAN DER MARK, Councilwoman Liaison

**STAFF**  
ERIC MCCOY, Fire Chief  
ERIC DIETERMAN, Marine Safety Division Chief  
KEVIN JUSTEN, Senior Management Analyst

**CALLED TO ORDER**

Milligan called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Schauppner led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

Commissioners Present: Milligan, Nielsen, Schauppner, Vu, Williams, Wood

Commissioner Absent: Larkin

Staff Present: Herbel, Justen, McCoy, McDonald, Merid

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There was one public comment from Amory Hanson, who wanted to reiterate his support for *Municipal Code Chapters 13.32, 13.36, 13.40, 13.44* as is.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Approval of Meeting Minutes – March 27, 2025

**MOTION:** A motion was made by Nielsen, seconded by Vu to approve the March 27, 2025, meeting minutes.

The motion carried by the following vote, 6-0:

AYES: Milligan, Nielsen, Schauppner, Vu, Williams, Wood

NOES: None

**ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS**

1. *Municipal Code Chapter 2.65 Harbour Commission – Roles and Responsibilities*

McCoy referenced the handout of *Municipal Code Chapter 2.65 Harbour Commission – Roles and Responsibilities*, which was provided to Commissioners. He said that it is good to annually review this as a reminder of what the Code specifies as the role to be performed by Commissioners.

2. *Procedure and Template for Submitting Inquiries and Complaints – MyHB App*

McCoy referenced the handout and said that complaints and requests should be submitted via the *MyHB App*. This allows for better tracking of requests. He also said Justen would be emailing Commissioners the link and phone number for this system.

3. *Waste Diversion Initiatives, Including Trash Collecting Water Wheel, Presentation by City Engineer Tom Herbel and Environmental Services Manager Jim Merid*

Herbel and Merid provided a *PowerPoint* presentation on waste diversion initiatives, including the use of trash collecting water wheels. They noted that due to several challenges the City will not be pursuing the purchase of a water wheel. However, City of Huntington Beach staff will continue to participate in regional stormwater waste diversion and clean water initiatives, including those sponsored by the Orange County Public Works Department. Commissioners asked that the presentation be provided to them and Justen said that he would email it to them. Commissioner Schauppner requested data on the amount of trash collected in the Harbour and Justen said that he would forward this information once he receives it from Public Works Department staff. Commissioners also asked about a tour of the Police Department's real time crime center and Justen said that he would set this up.

4. *Harbour Commission Review of Municipal Code Chapters 13.32, 13.36, 13.40, 13.44*

McCoy stated that the committee established to review the changes recommended by the Harbour Commission was awaiting the appointment of a representative from the City Manager's Office. Shannon Levin has been assigned to this committee and a meeting will now be scheduled to review the changes recommended by the Harbour Commission. Justen said that the City Manager asked that each recommendation be categorized as *legislative, administrative, or clean-up*.

5. *Request to Establish a Fund for Huntington Harbour from Revenue Collected by the State Lands Commission*

McCoy reported that he met with the City Manager and the two City Council Liaisons to the Harbour Commission and they reviewed the detailed report on this issue prepared by Shannon Levin in the City Manager's Office and the Liaisons decided not to carry this issue forward to the Intergovernmental Relations Committee for consideration. The Liaisons had several concerns, including the timeframe and feasibility of the proposal. There was also concern that the State could assign additional responsibilities, such as dredging, to the City if they provided the revenue. Schauppner requested a copy of the report prepared by Shannon Levin and McCoy directed Justen to provide it to the Commissioners.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

1. *Vessels and Watercraft Ad Hoc Committee*

Schauppner asked about the status of the federal civil rights lawsuit against the City of Newport Beach by a surf instructor who uses city beaches. Justen said that there has been no movement but as soon as staff knows they will update the Commission. He mentioned that the concern is that any finding for the vendor could impact how the City of Huntington Beach regulates vendors using city beaches. Justen said that Wysocki came up with a system for permitting vendors conducting rental business on city beaches but consideration is on hold until the Newport Beach lawsuit is resolved.

2. *Water Quality Ad Hoc Committee*

Wood reported that the event distributing oyster shells on strings to anyone who would like to hang them from their docks was very successful with a large number distributed. She also referenced the flyer for Earth Day, which was prepared by Williams, and highlighted the events scheduled for the event.

3. *Policy Ad Hoc Committee*

Schauppner said that there would be a report after the committee evaluating Harbour Commission recommended changes to the Municipal Code meets.

## **STAFF COMMENTS**

Justen asked Commissioners to be sure to confirm meeting attendance after they receive the agenda so he can ensure a quorum will be present and meet posting requirements in the Ralph M. Brown Act.

## **MEMBER COMMENTS**

Wood mentioned the upcoming Earth Day event and encouraged Commissioners to attend. Williams provided a handout highlighting new and emerging technologies that integrate AI, robotics, biomimicry and advanced filtration to create more efficient clean water solutions. Milligan asked about the recent die off marine animals and McDonald provided a detailed report and handout. He stated that it includes a massive and harmful algal bloom which produces domoic acid, a neurotoxin, which affects marine life along the Southern California coast. The impacted wildlife has included whales, sea lions, dolphins and seabirds. McDonald explained how it is impacting Huntington Beach, provided historical context, agencies involved and what is being done to protect public health and wildlife. Vu said that the Kawanis Club had a successful Easter egg hunt and thanked the Fire Department for its support of the event, which included sight impaired participants. Commissioner Milligan said that she was disappointed that

the City of Huntington Beach did not receive approval for any venues for the upcoming Olympics. She reminded everyone that the Huntington Harbour Yacht Club Opening Day will be on Saturday, May 3, 2025.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** A motion was made by Nielsen, seconded by Schauppner, at 6:24 p.m. to adjourn to the May 22, 2025, meeting.

The motion carried by the following vote, 6-0:

AYES: Milligan, Nielsen, Schauppner, Vu, Williams, Wood

NOES: None

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Harbour Commission will be on May 22, 2025, at a time and location to be announced.