

**MINUTES – Harbor Safety Committee of the Humboldt Bay Area  
9:00 a.m., Thursday March 19, 2009 Harbor District Conference Room**

The Harbor Safety Committee meeting was convened at 9:05 a.m.

Voting members present:

Ms. Suzie Howser (HBHRCD)

Capt. Bill Earls (Tug Operators)

Mr. Rich Trygar (Dry Cargo)

Ms. Robin Blanchfield (Coastal Commission)

Capt. Tim Klassen (Commercial Fishermen)

Ms. Helene Rouvier (Environmental)

Capt. Tim Petrusha (Pilots)

Capt. Gil Groszmann (Tug Operators)

Mr. Hawk Martin (Recreational Boaters)

Mr. Richard Lauer (Tank Operators)

1. Introductions were conducted.
2. There were no members sworn in, but Ms. Robin Blanchfield attended as Ms. Faurot-Daniels replacement. She was already sworn in previously as a state employee appointed by the administrator.
3. There were no public comments.
4. Review of minutes of January 22, 2009. Ms. Blanchfield suggested separating the Coastal Commission report in item 6 into two paragraphs. The second paragraph should include the information as a HBHRCD report. Ms. Helene Rouvier motioned to accept the minutes as amended, and Mr. Rich Trygar seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
5. The HSC considered conducting joint ACP/HSC meetings in other cities in the area of responsibility. This was a continuation of a discussion from the January ACP meeting. It was noted that the HSC's AOR (Shelter Cove to Trinidad) does not coincide with the ACP committee's AOR (Pt. Arena to the Oregon border). Ms. Blanchfield asked if the HSC's AOR is defined by code or is it up to the HSC. The code states that the AOR is determined by the OSPR Administrator in conjunction with the individual HSCs. Mr. Wheaton asked if anyone new whether or not the other areas had any interest in participating in meetings. Both Mr. Jeff Dayton and Mr. Al Storm stated that Crescent City wanted to become more involved in the ACP process. Mr. Tom Haug noted that the HSC process primarily addresses suggested that OSPR could offset travel costs. Ms. Blanchfield also suggested that they could send letters of Safety Plan. Mr. Storm thought Mr. Hull should include note that the HSC has an expectation of attendance, and most meetings will be held in Eureka. Ms. Blanchfield also suggested noting the differences between the two committees in case anyone is confused about the differences between the local (county) plans, which include inland areas, and the ACP and HSP which address marine and estuarine issues. This can be tabled until the May meeting.
6. Consideration of low visibility boating safety regulations  
Both the Sheriff's Department representatives and Mr. Parkhurst from the USCG were not in attendance, but the HSC should make an ad hoc committee that would address these issues and then report out to the HSC. The ad hoc committee will include Tim Klassen, Hawk Martin, HC Sheriff's representatives, Mr. Gil Groszmann, and the commercial fishing representatives. Ms. Howser noted that rowers should be aware that the dredge Yaquina is back, and has knocked over an 8 man scull that came too close to their wash. She's not heard any radio activity from any of the HBRA boats. Mr. Martin will compile a list of phone numbers and emails and will contact the rowers and Mr. Steve Monk from HSU to discuss safety issues. Mr. Bob Chedsey suggested the creation of a certification process to help self-police safe coxswains from unsafe ones. Mr. Bill Earls noted that each of the coxswains can easily use a cell phone to call the USCG to add information to their security calls before they put a boat in the water. Mr. Jonathan Placido asked that Mr. Simone call the Group's 24 hour number at 839-6113. Mr. Placido will contact Mr. Simone to further discuss this option and the possibility of presenting a safety class for the HBRA. Mr. Haug also suggested that Mr. Simone post time that the rowers are on the water. Ms. Howser offered to post rowers' schedules in several locations around the marina. Mr. Simone agreed that would help. He noted that HSU women will have a regatta in two weeks. Mr. Simone will coordinate with HSU to get their rowers' schedules and contact

numbers. Perhaps contact numbers should be placed on the bottom of the posted schedules. Mr. Nosbaum asked Mr. Simone to have his rowers and coxswains carry air horns to signal presence if they don't have radios. Mr. Storm asked to have this as either a standing agenda item or committee report for the next few meetings.

1. Permit for HSU Aquatic Center's floating dock

The design appears to include changes discussed at a previous HSC meeting. Mr. Martin asked if HSU is using the same type of floats used on the Bonnie Gool dock. Mr. Nakamura stated that they hadn't decided yet what to use. The Harbor District would like HSC input. Mr. Wheaton thought this plan accommodated both the Albacore's and tug's turning radii. Mr. Nakamura noted that the maximum was based upon what fit on the property lines. The dock would be 280' or 240' if HSU needed to accommodate cost overruns. Mr. Trygar motioned to support the HBHRCD permit 09-03. Ms. Helene Rouvier seconded. All members voted affirmatively. Mr. Nakamura expects the dock to be in by fall. The women's team will move into the Aquatic Center, which has electricity. Mr. Nakamura will contact the Harbor District with the new operation schedule and dock opening date.

2. Coast Pilot/Chart updates

A navigations managers meeting is coming up and he wants to bring back comments on any changes customers want made to nautical charts, coast pilots, raster charts, and electronic charts. Mr. Martin would like to see more information on the Mad River Slough. Recreational boaters use the slough often. Mr. Wheaton asked for comments on pocket charts. Mr. Placido suggested using decimals if that is how GPS reads. AIS is going to decimal. The insets are often in seconds when the larger chart is in decimals. Mr. Wheaton noted that NOS is moving away from meters and using fathoms instead. Would anyone want to see speed-direction information on currents? Mr. Earls thought that would be helpful if seasonal notations were included. Mr. Martin suggested noting the seasonal gyre off Cape Mendocino in the coast pilot. Mr. Wheaton asked if members were interested in having any ACP or HSP data set overlays on the charts. Mr. Dayton would support the Statewide ACP coordinator's decisions. San Francisco is discussing requests for real time ENC charts for tides and currents. Mr. Placido suggested placing a chart into the front of every Coast Pilot. Mr. Wheaton stated that there is discussion of splitting Coast Pilot 7. MLPAs will be incorporated into the Coast pilot, though California hasn't yet. Email Mr. Wheaton with any other suggestions.

3. Harbor Safety Plan revisions

Please give Ms. Howser any suggestions/changes/additions by May 10. Ms. Howser will bring a list of changes to the May meeting for approval. Ms. Blanchfield asked if Best Maritime Practices and Inclement Weather sections should be removed as the HSC doesn't have information to place in those sections. Ms. Howser explained that those were left in the plan as placeholders should we have something to place there this year. Mr. Storm also explained that it was a to do item. Ms. Blanchfield will send language.

10. Status Reports

- a. Federal Channel Maintenance – the Yaquina will be here soon, and will do the Fields Landing turning basin channel first and the bar and entrance after that. They have 30 days available. The Essayons will be here at the beginning of April.
- b. Oil Spills – The Julie Lu sank. The Stormbringer had a death at sea about 16 miles offshore.
- c. Abandoned vehicles – addressed during ACP
- d. Boater Safety – the Sea Scouts are reorganizing and Mr. placid hopes to get them into training soon. Mr. Placido can hold a training for 7 people and he will give Ms. Howser a contact name. Mr. Martin has given one kayak safety course and has scheduled one for the 18<sup>th</sup>. He also has a good program for kids which includes chart reading, tides, and currents. Mr. Tim Petruska attended the train the trainer course at PMI. The Harbor District would like to send the pilots to USCG training in Seward, Alaska. This will allow them to give safety courses to vessel operators.
- e. Mr. Placido noted no changes to the WAMS process. He's not aware of any requests by the dredges to move any aids. He also asked members to fill out a survey and return it to him by May 6<sup>th</sup>. He has results of surveys conducted in 1992 and 2004. The 2004 survey results were addressed. The new administration has budgeted to eliminate Loran-C. Let him know if you have any comments you'd like him to address. The Harbor District wants to replace and add no wake signs at a cost of \$2,600.00 for 6.

- f. Ship Traffic – A ship with material for PG&E called, and PG&E expects 2 to 4 more to arrive between early and mid-summer. The former Evergreen Mill has been sold, but it will not re-open anytime soon. Both John Powell and Tim Petruscha have been keeping their skills current by riding ships in San Francisco.
- g. Navigational Chart Changes – The data from last year’s hydrographic surveys have been accepted and are available to the public. Mr. Powell and Mr. Petruscha will review changes to the Coast Pilot to verify that the names correlate correctly to the AIS and then send it back to Mr. Wheaton. CA Ships to Reef usually create reefs for diving, but are exploring developing a reef for sport fishing to economically enhance this area. This is years away. The NRT 6 will come back to do the north side of the North Jetty, and Mr. Wheaton will provide the date later.
- h. Port Security – the meeting was cancelled last month. The Harbor District received a 2.4 million dollar grant from proposition 1B funds, but are awaiting approval and the ability of the state to secure a bond. They can’t secure a bond right now.
- i. TWIC – some TWIC information has been destroyed. They will be able to identify whose information has been destroyed once the TWIC office gets electronic readers. MSRC personnel understood it was the password information that was lost.
- j. Potential Bay Projects – the City of Eureka is considering developing a boat launch ramp behind the Bayshore Mall. They will present this to the HSC when ready. CEQA continues on Redwood Dock. The Harbor District is supporting the Ships to Reef project/concept. The Harbor District applied for the OSPR grant for equipment. They intend to do four in a row for Woodley Marina and Shelter Cove.

11. Reports

USCG – none

Army Corp of Engineers – none

Office of Homeland Security – none

Customs Border Patrol – none

Office of Emergency Services – March 25 will conduct a reverse 911. May 13 Mr. Dan Larkin will hold a planning meeting. Mr. Wheaton would like a statement describing what to do when boaters hear the warning.

OSPR – Mr. Steve Edinger will attend the May 21<sup>st</sup> meeting. The Marine Safety Branch Chief will also attend.

Furloughs are ongoing for all state employees with 16 hours per month unpaid, but employees aren’t held to just the first and third Fridays. The state is negatively balance by 25 million. OSPR travel claims may not be paid at some point. The OSPATH 5 cents/bbl oil over water funds are down due to a decrease in revenue and the economy, and because other agencies have drawn on the funds without OSPR’s consent or knowledge.

Sheriff – none

NOAA – none

Coastal Commission – Robin Blanchfield introduced herself to the committee.

12. Member Reports

Ms. Helene Rouvier - reported that the contaminated waste drums have been removed from Wiyot land on Indian Island. Godwit Days will occur soon, and they will give kayak tours of their site.

Ms. Suzie Howser – the decrease in recreational traffic may make it difficult for the Harbor District to do some of their projects that benefit the public.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda F. Broadman

## List of Attendees

Ms. Suzie Howser	HBHRCD
Mr. Rich Trygar	SSA Pacific
Mr. Gerry Wheaton	NOAA NOS
Ms. Robin Blanchfield	Coastal Commission
Mr. Gil Groszmann	Knutson Towboat Co.
Mr. Hawk Martin	Humboats
Mr. Jerome Simone	Humboldt Bay Rowing Association
Ms. Diane Ross	Humboldt County Sheriff's Office - OES
Mr. Bob Chedsey	CA State Lands Commission
Ms. Helene Rouvier	Wiyot Tribe
Mr. Jonathan Placido	USCG Group Humboldt Bay
Mr. Jeff Dayton	DFG/OSPR
Mr. Al Storm	DFG/OSPR
Mr. Ted Mar	DFG/OSPR
Mr. Tim Klassen	Reel Steel Sportfishing
Mr. Josh Zulliger	DFG/OSPR Enforcement
Ms. Renee McKinnon	USCG Sector San Francisco (IMD)
Mr. Tom Haug	USCG MSD Humboldt
Mr. Mike Nosbaum	USCG MSD Humboldt
Mr. Bill Earls	NRC
Mr. Richard Lauer	Sause Brothers
Mr. Tim Petrusa	HBHRCD Pilot
Mr. Garth Baugh	MSRC
Mr. Bob Marsee	Chevron