

APPROVED

Harbor Safety Committee of the Humboldt Bay Area 0900 hours Thursday July 15, 2010 Woodley Island Marina Conference Room

The Harbor Safety Committee meeting was convened at 0906 hours.

Members Present:

Mr. David Hull (Port Authority)
Ms. Suzie Howser (Port Authority)
Capt. Tim Petrusha (Bar Pilot)
Capt. John Powell (Bar Pilot)
Capt. Tim Klassen (Recreational Boater)
Dr. Vanessa Metz (Coastal Commission)
Deputy Roy Reynolds (Local Law Enforcement)
Mr. Gerald Wheaton (NOAA) by telephone
MST2 Tom Haug (USCG MSD)

Others Present:

Mr. Al Storm (OSPR Liaison)
Mr. Dave Nakamura (HSU Center Activities)
Mr. David Ammerman (USACE)
Capt. Leroy Zerlang (Brusco Tug and Barge)
Mr. Jeff Raimey (City of Eureka)
CDR Heather Kostecky (USCG Sector SF)
Mr. Dan Larkin (HCSO-OES)
BMC Steve Shelton (USCG Group Humboldt Bay)
BM1 Tom Stillwell (USCG Group Humboldt Bay)

1. **Introductions were made.**
2. **No members were sworn in.**
3. **Public comment.** Mr. Hull reported that the Harbor District received notice regarding a Geophysical Survey Permit submitted by USGS. Area of survey will be between Pt. Arena and Pt. Delgada July 20 to August 16, 2010.
4. **Consideration of approval of minutes for the meeting of May 20, 2010.** Capt. Powell motioned to approve minutes of May 20, 2010; Deputy Reynolds seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
5. **Status of Buoy 46022.** Items 5 and 6 combined into one discussion. See Item 6.
6. **Status of Buoy Tenders.** Mr. Hull referred everyone to the letter he wrote on behalf of the Harbor Safety Committee to Capt. Martino USCG Group Humboldt Bay regarding the need for Buoy 46022. BM1 Stillwell (USCG Aids to Navigation) reported that the USCGC *GEORGE COBB* (San Pedro) and the USCGC *MAPLE* (Sitka) are the only two buoy tenders available on the west coast. Buoy 22 should be ready to ship by the end of this month and hopefully be in place by mid to end of August. Depending on which tender is tasked with the deployment, the buoy will be shipped to either Astoria or San Pedro. NOAA technicians are the only ones allowed to touch the buoy and since it is a federal buoy, USCG needs to make sure that it is deployed properly. Therefore the use of other vessels to deploy the buoy may not be feasible. Mr. Hull stated that the buoy has now been out of service for approximately 7 months and he asked whether NOAA is able to build a spare as a back up. Mr. Wheaton and BM1 Stillwell will coordinate their efforts and hopefully get an answer regarding Buoy 46022 and when it will be back on station.

Capt. Klassen reported that Buoy 13 is now offline. Buoy 46213 is a Scripps Institution of Oceanography Waverider buoy located approximately 13 miles southwest of Cape Mendocino. Now that this buoy is offline, there is no data available from the Cape. Ms. Howser will contact Scripps regarding the status of Buoy 13.
7. **Status of local oil spill response equipment.** MST2 Haug reported that NRC and MSRC have rotated personnel to the Gulf however, our resources were intact and we are still above the ACP requirements. USCG is considering relaxing their equipment requirements for facilities; however the states and individual facilities may choose not to lessen their requirements.

Mr. Storm reported that all oil spill equipment being removed from the State is reviewed by OSPR to ensure that state requirements are being met.

8. Consideration of Best Maritime Practices for Small Craft. The revised Best Practices for Paddlers on Humboldt Bay was distributed for consideration. Mr. Nakamura (HSU Center Activities) gave an overview of the revisions. Capt. Klassen asked that lighting requirements be moved towards the beginning and place under "Be Safe on the Water" since it is a regulation. Discussion was held regarding identifying your equipment and it was suggested this be moved towards the beginning. BMC Shelton (USCG) reported that Operation PaddleSmart stickers are now available and being distributed to all retail outlets and businesses such as Humboats. Additional stickers are available and will be left with Ms. Howser. Dr. Metz asked for correction on the typos noted. The document will be given to Mr. Nakamura for correction and finalization. Capt. Klassen motioned to approve the Best Practices for Paddlers on Humboldt Bay with the changes discussed; Capt. Powell seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

9. Status/Updates

a. **Federal Channel Maintenance.** San Francisco District held a change of command on July 13, 2010 in Sausalito. Lt. Col. Laurence M. Farrell relinquished his command to Lt. Col. Torrey A. DiCiro in a ceremony symbolized by the passing of the District flag.

b. **Oil Spills/Accidents.** The F/V Yankee Girl (50 feet in length) sank however no product was on board the vessel.

c. **Abandoned Vehicles/Vessels/Debris.** No report.

d. **Boater Safety.** No report.

e. **Navigational Aids.** BM1 Stillwell (USCG Aids to Navigation) reported that Buoy 3 in the Samoa channel may be wrapped around the broken pile. They now have two buoys to mark the location. At low tide two buoys will be visible and at high tide only one is visible. Other aids scheduled for repair are Light 2, Light 16 and Hookton 9.

f. **Ship Traffic.** No report.

g. **Navigational Chart Changes.** Mr. Wheaton reported no changes; however the new chart is now available.

h. **TWIC.** MST2 Haug reported the TWIC office will be closing soon. The closest office will now be in the San Francisco bay area. They are still looking into the idea of a mobile unit.

i. **Potential Bay Projects.** Mr. Ammerman (USACE) reported that CA Redwood Company has applied for a permit to repair the 700' chip conveyor, dolphin piles and other supporting structure at the former North Coast Chip Export facility. Most of the work will be above the water.

Mr. Hull reported that he will need to leave the meeting early as he is schedule to meet with Congressman Thompson regarding the Marine Highway, Short Sea Shipping, MARAD and USDOT.

Mr. Nakamura (HSU Center Activities) reported that they should be receiving the California Coastal Commission permit today for the floating dock at the Humboldt Bay Aquatic Center. Mercer Frasier Company will be doing the work which is scheduled to begin in August.

Mr. Raimey (City of Eureka) reported that the Fisherman's Terminal project should be complete in February 2011.

6. Reports/Presentations

a. **USCG.** No report.

b. **USACE.** Mr. Ammerman (USACE) reported that the new Corps of Engineers' debris boat *JOHN A.B. DILLARD, JR* had stopped in on its way to Sausalito.

c. **CalEMA.** Mr. Larkin (HCSO-OES) reported that the USCG will be holding a Mass Casualty exercise next April. The scenario will involve an 80 passenger airliner accident in the ocean off the North Jetty. The 80 persons will go through the entire process to exercise the mass casualty response of local facilities and agencies. Tentative schedule is for April 12th with April 26th as the alternate. The next planning meeting will be August 17th at USCG Group Humboldt Bay.

d. **CPB.** No report.

e. **OSPR.** Mr. Storm reported that OSPR continues to rotate personnel to the gulf and the state continues to monitor available oil spill response equipment. Upcoming vacancies on the Harbor Safety Committee include Commercial Fishing in September, Dry Cargo in December and Pleasure Boat in January. The notice for Commercial Fishing representatives was sent out and has been posted on the Harbor Safety Website. The Harbor Safety Summit will be coming up in October and will be held in San Pedro.

f. **HC Sheriff.** Deputy Reynolds reported that there have been three drownings on the Trinity River. To date, only one body has been recovered. The river level is beginning to drop and the current is slowing. For a period of time only 1 out of 5 sheriff boats were in working condition. All vessels are now operational and the Sheriff 44 is scheduled to be hauled next week for regular maintenance.

g. **NOAA.** Mr. Wheaton reported that mooring lines for the buoys appear to be cut when retrieved. Notices need to be posted for the fishermen asking that they stay away from buoys.

h. **Coastal Commission.** Ms. Metz reported no changes or updates.

i. **Member Reports.** Capt. Klassen reported on the MLPA. Certain areas may be off limits to all activity including dredging. Special Closures in certain areas will require a 1000 foot clearance to where navigation will not be allowed even during inclement weather.

j. **Other.** Mr. Larkin (HCSO-OES) reported on Tsunami preparedness. The County of Humboldt was able to assist the City of Eureka with the acquisition of tsunami warning signs. Nearly 200 signs will be posted within the City of Eureka in the next couple of months. Five sirens will be installed by the end of the summer bring the County total to 10 sirens.

The next Harbor Safety meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 23, 2010.

Meeting adjourned at 1014 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzie V. Howser, Port of Humboldt Bay