

APPROVED

**Harbor Safety Committee of the Humboldt Bay Area
0900 hours Thursday November 18, 2010 Woodley Island Marina Conference Room**

The Harbor Safety Committee meeting was convened at 0905 hours.

Members Present:

Mr. David Hull (Port Authority)
Ms. Suzie Howser (Port Authority)
Capt. Tim Petrusha (Bar Pilot)
Capt. John Powell (Bar Pilot)
Capt. Gilbert Groszmann (Tug Operator)
Dr. Vanessa Metz (Coastal Commission) by telephone
Mr. Stephen Kullmann (Tribe/Environmental)
Lt. Rob Starr (USCG Group HB)
Mr. Hawk Martin (Recreational Boater)

Others Present:

Mr. Al Storm (OSPR Liaison)
Mr. Jeff Dayton (OSPR)
Mr. Ted Mar (OSPR)
Lt. Brian Arnold (OSPR)
Steve Shelton (USCG Group HB)
MST1 Mike Nosbaum (USCG Group HB)
Mr. Jeff Raimey (City of Eureka)
Mr. Scott Owen (USF&WS)
Ms. Carol Ciliberti (NWS)

1. Introductions were made.

2. No members were sworn in. Mr. Storm reported that he was prepared to swear in Mr. Newman as member representing Commercial Fishing however, Ms. Howser reported that Mr. Newman was presently crab fishing in the San Francisco area and was unable to attend.

Mr. Storm gave an update on upcoming vacancies on the Harbor Safety Committee; Dry Cargo currently held by Rich Trygar, Tank Barge currently held by Rich Lauer and Pleasure Boater currently held by Tim Klassen. Alternates for the aforementioned members will also expire. Applications for membership are available on line at <http://www.humboldtharborsafety.com/home/> or on http://www.dfg.ca.gov/ospr/harbor_safety.asp Prospective applicants may also contact Ms. Howser or Mr. Storm to receive an application. Application deadline is December 31, 2010.

3. Public Comment.

4. Consideration of approval of minutes for the meeting of September 23, 2010. Captain Groszmann motioned to approve the minutes of September 23, 2010; Captain Powell seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Consideration of Meeting Schedule for 2011. Ms. Howser reported that Harbor Safety Meetings are generally held the third Thursday of every other month. The 2011 Schedule was set as follows:

January 20, 2011
March 17, 2011
May 19, 2011
July 21, 2011
September 15, 2011
November 17, 2011

6. Status of Humboldt Bay Aquatic Center Floating Dock. Mr. Hull reported that he had spoken with Mr. Dave Nakamura regarding the status of the floating dock. All pilings had been driven and the floats should arrive the end of December or early January. A floating piling discovered by the Bar pilots was not from the project site, however the Aquatic Center contractors were able to remove the piling.

7. Status/Updates

- a. **Federal Channel Maintenance.** Mr. Hull reported that he and Ms. Howser had received an email from Mr. Gerry Wheaton regarding lack of O&M funding in the 2011 Federal budget. Mr. Hull contacted the Harbor District's lobbyist in Washington D.C. who reported the budget process for FY 2011 resembles the budget process in 2007. Currently O&M funding for PORTS is not included but may change. O&M funding for maintenance dredging has not yet been addressed by Congress. We will need to keep an eye on the process.
- b. **Oil Spills/Accidents.** MST1 Nosbaum reported that there were two small spills in the Fort Bragg area, two in the Crescent City area and a mystery sheen at the Woodley Island Marina. There was also a small styrene spill in the Klamath River; however, the quantity was below the reportable amount.
- c. **Abandoned Vehicles/Vessels/Debris.** Mr. Dayton reported that the investigation continues regarding the stolen Isuzu found on the Eel River that was reported at the last meeting.

MST1 Nosbaum reported that the ex *F/V YANKEE GIRL* has been removed from the water and destroyed. CalRecycle has been assisting with dumpsters for vessel removal in the SF Bay Area. Contact will be made with CalRecycle about coming to Humboldt Bay.

Mr. Hull reported that the Harbor District had submitted a grant application for vessel abatement but was denied by the California Department of Boating and Waterways. Ms. Howser will resubmit the grant for the next budget year.

Mr. Raimey reported that the City of Eureka is working with Leroy Zerlang to remove the ex *F/V STEPHANIE* from the water before winter.

Mr. Hull reported a piling and mooring block were removed from the water. Lt. Starr asked about our procedures for reporting debris in Humboldt Bay. Ms Howser reported that if no one is available to recover the debris, we notify USCG Station Humboldt Bay.

- d. **Boater Safety.** Ms. Howser reported that no one attended the last USCG Auxiliary Boating Safety Course. Boating Safety courses will begin again in April 2011. Discussion was held regarding lack of participation and public notices regarding boating safety courses. The Harbor Safety Committee and USCG will conduct more public outreach for the spring courses.

USCG conducted an ICS 300 course with very few attendees. If there is more interest, USCG may consider conducting another course. It was noted that there is a person locally who is qualified to teach all ICS courses.

- e. **Navigational Aids.** Captain Powell reported that he had spoken with CalTrans in regards to the red flashing lights on the west end of the Samoa Bridge. The lights have been adjusted and Captain Powell will check on them next time he is on the water.

Captain Groszmann reported that fishermen are saying the bar channel has been breaking all the way across and there is concern about shoaling.

- f. **Ship Traffic.** Captain Powell reported that the *ECO VANGUARD* is tentatively scheduled for December.

Mr. Hull reported there has been lots of discussion regarding logs, wood chips and lumber exports.

The Humboldt Bay Harbor District, Port of Redwood City, the West Coast Corridor Coalition and MARAD will use a \$275,000 grant to conduct a west coast marine highway marketing analysis.

Mr. Martin inquired about the Marine Highway. Mr. Hull gave the committee a briefing on the \$275,000 grant to conduct a West Coast Marketing Analysis from MARAD. A committee has been formed and meetings are taking place. The committee hopes to have a recommendation for a consultant in February.

The Governor's office sent letters to the cruise lines inviting them to cruise California. All cruise lines have set their schedules for the 2011 season and are currently working on their 2012 itineraries. The *WORLD* is still scheduled for 2012.

- g. **Navigational Chart Changes.** Captain Powell reported old piling structures are now visible along the Elk River spit. Waves have been cresting the Elk River spit and the erosion caused by the wave action has uncovered the structures. USCG flew over the site and took photographs to assist with identification. Mr. Powell is researching the structure's origin.
- h. **TWIC.** MST1 Nosbaum reported that the local TWIC office is still operational.
- i. **Potential Bay Projects.**

Captain Powell reported that Pacific Gas and Electric Company have backed out of the Wave Connect project off Humboldt Bay.

Mr. Hull reported that California Redwood Corporation continues on their permitting process to repair the Chip Export Dock north of Fairhaven Terminal.

The upland dredge disposal site is still in the permitting process.

The contractor for the Shelter Cove Breakwater project has finished mobilization and the project should begin any day.

Mr. Kullmann reported the Blue Ribbon Task Force (BRTF) approved the unified array presented by the Regional Stakeholders Group (RSG) regarding Marine Life Protection Areas. This is the first time the BRTF has accepted a local array. The unified array now goes to the California Department of Fish and Game Commission for their approval.

Mr. Raimey reported the Fishermen's Terminal Building should be complete by February. Carvalho and Humboldt Seafood Unloaders are currently using the terminal area.

Reports/Presentations

- a. **USCG.** Mr. Shelton reported that
- b. **USACE.** No report.
- c. **OES.** No report.
- d. **CPB.** No Report.
- e. **OSPR.** Mr. Storm reported that OSPR Administrator Steve Edinger will retire effective December 01, 2010. Currently, no acting or interim administrator has been designated. The Harbor Safety Summit

was held October 21, 2010 in San Pedro. All the chairs of the Harbor Safety Committees attended with the exception of Humboldt Bay. Mr. Hull was able to attend the summit via telephone. Mr. Storm was in attendance at the summit and represented Humboldt Bay.

Mr. Dayton reported that there are approximately five OSPR representatives working on the Gulf spill. Those persons will stand down within the next month.

Mr. Mar reported that OSPR is researching whether the \$0.05 per barrel fee can be changed without the 2/3 vote by the legislature.

f. **HC Sheriff.** No report.

g. **NOAA.** Ms. Ciliberti reported that the local Weather Service office is ready for the first snow of the winter season.

h. **Coastal Commission.** No report.

i. **Member Reports.**

Mr. Owen reported on the *Spartina* project in the Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge. Many different methods have been used for eradication with the most effective method being the use of mechanical handheld brush cutters. Mr. Owen also provided an update on the restoration of Salmon Creek, the new solar panels at the refuge, and repair of White Slough tide gate.

Captain Groszmann was asked about the status of the tug *KOOS KING*. No update was available.

Mr. Martin reported that *Sperry Top-Sider®* would be filming a commercial locally and Mr. Martin will act as a consultant on the project.

Lt. Starr reported that USCG Station Humboldt Bay held an open house on Saturday October 23rd. Over 1,000 people attended the event and participants included California Department of Fish and Game and Humboldt County Sheriffs. USCG is considering an annual event.

Captain Groszmann reported that he was contacted by Sause Bros. regarding a 270 foot ship off Cape Blanco who supposedly had a net in his wheel. Captain Groszmann stated that according to Sause no tugs were available to assist. The situation resolved itself.

Ms. Howser inquired about the sunken vessel in Crescent City. MST1 Nosbaum reported that the 16 foot recreational vessel was submerged inside the Harbor but outside the channel.

j. **Other.**

The next Harbor Safety meeting is scheduled for [THURSDAY, JANUARY 20, 2011](#).

Meeting adjourned at 1023 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzie V. Howser, Port of Humboldt Bay