

APPROVED

**Harbor Safety Committee of the Humboldt Bay Area
0900 hours Thursday May 17, 2012 Woodley Island Marina Conference Room**

The Harbor Safety Committee meeting was convened at 0912 hours.

Members Present:

Ms. Suzie Howser, Chair (Port Authority)
Capt. Tim Petrusha (Bar Pilot)
Capt. John Powell (Bar Pilot)
Deputy Roy Reynolds (Local Law Enforcement)
Mr. John "Hawk" Martin (Recreational Boater)
Capt. Gilbert Groszmann (Tug Operator)
Mr. Gerry Wheaton (NOAA-OCS) via telephone

Others Present:

Mr. Al Storm (OSPR Liaison)
Mr. Jeff Dayton (OSPR)
Mr. Dan Larkin (HC OES)
Ms. Julie Salminen (Pacific Affiliates)
Rustin Battermann (USCG)
Bryan Alexander (USCG)
Curtis Barthel (USCG)
Chris Atkinson (USCG)
Jack Crider (Port Authority)

1. Introductions were made.

2. Swearing in of new members. Mr. Storm announced that there will not be any members to swear in until 2013.

Ms. Howser announced a quorum was not present. Action would not be taken on agenda items however the meeting would proceed.

3. Public Comment. None

4. Consideration of approval of minutes for the meeting of March 15, 2011. Ms. Howser asked that members take a few moments to review the draft minutes from the March meeting and suggest any additions, deletions or corrections.

5. Consideration of approval of revisions to Best Practices and Possible Mariner Actions for Small Craft regarding tsunamis. Ms. Howser asked that members take a few moments to review the draft document. This will be placed on the July agenda for approval.

6. Status/Updates

a. Oil Spills/Accidents. Mr. Dayton reported that it has been quiet along the north coast however a 43 foot wood fishing vessel *BARBARA FAYE* ran aground at Point Reyes National Seashore. Fifteen years prior the owner of the vessel had run aground with another boat by the same name in almost the same spot. The vessel had approximately 300 gallons of fuel on board and all fuel and oil have been removed by Parker Diving Service. The vessel will most likely be a total loss.

Mr. Alexander reported that there had been a few mystery sheens but nothing significant. There was approximately one gallon of hydraulic oil spilled in Noyo and after investigation, a vessel owner confessed to spilling the product.

b. Abandoned Vehicles/Vessels/Debris. No report.

c. Boater Safety. Mr. Martin reported that he conducted an Ocean Awareness course for kayak fishermen in the Cape Mendocino area, 12 people attended the course.

- d. The US Coast Guard Auxiliary will conduct a boater safety course on June 2nd. They are considering lowering the fee to \$20.00 per person to encourage more enrollment.

Ms. Bev Noll conducted an Alaska Marine Safety Education Association (AMSEA) course April 19-20 and since attendance was overwhelming she is considering another course in June possibly during the commercial fish closure.

Discussion was held regarding the recent death of a kayaker in San Francisco bay who was crossing the wake of a large ship.

- e. **Navigational Aids.** Mr. Barthel reported that Buoy 46022 will be restored by the ASPEN when they come up to re-set the Humboldt Bay buoys after dredging.

Scripps Waverider buoy 46244 off the North Spit had gone adrift and was recovered by a 47 foot motor life boat and towed to Woodley Island Marina. Once the mooring arrives, USCG will re-deploy the Waverider the last week of May.

- f. **Ship Traffic.** Capt. Powell reported that the last ship in port was the SILVER LAKE, however THE WORLD is due to arrive in June. A log ship is also scheduled for June at the Schneider Dock.

- g. **Navigational Chart Changes.** No changes.

- 7. **Potential Bay Projects.** Capt. Petrusha reported that the new Port Security vessel should arrive late today or Friday. The Port Security vessel was built by Munson and is being delivered on a trailer.

The new fire boat is a couple of weeks behind schedule due to parts for the fire pumps. The vessel should arrive in Humboldt Bay late July.

Parts for the PORTS® system are beginning to arrive. Discussion was held in regards to PORTS® systems located in California and funding.

8. Reports/Presentations

- a. **USCG.** Mr. Alexander reported that the Chief Warrant Officer for the Marine Safety Detachment in Humboldt Bay will be retiring mid July.

An exercise was held yesterday at the Chevron Terminal.

- b. **USACE.** Ms. Howser reported that the US Army Corps of Engineers dredge ESSAYONS is in Humboldt Bay working the Bar and Entrance Channels.

- c. **OES.** Mr. Larkin reported that 11 tsunami warning sirens are in place within Humboldt County. The final siren at Moonstone has been installed but is not yet functional. The Tsunami warning test held March 28th revealed a couple of problems. Two sirens did not sound during the test; Manila and Orick. The new tsunami evacuation maps have been completed and are on the website. The companion brochure is near completion and should be available by Mid August in time for the Humboldt County Fair. Japan tsunami debris is beginning to show up along the coast. Mariners need to be aware of debris and report sightings to DisasterDebris@noaa.gov the website is located at <http://marinedebris.noaa.gov/info/japanfaqs.html> CalEMA is working with other agencies to come up with a plan for marine debris.

d. **CPB.** No report.

e. **OSPR.** Mr. Dayton reported that the ACP issues on the website have been corrected for all areas north of Monterey.

The otter discussed at previous meetings has been identified as a 7-9 year old male from the southern region. The otter apparently died from ingestion of a harmful algae bloom which caused the animal to drown.

Three oiled birds were recovered off Gold Beach Bluffs and Centerville Beach. One bird died and one has been released. The oil was weathered and appeared to be a naturally released Monterey Crude.

On September 19th there will be an OSPR overview of local government agencies interface with OSPR. Ms. Cindy Murphy will be coordinating.

The bulkhead at the mouth of the Eel River is more visible.

Mr. Storm reported that the Prevention First State Lands meeting will be held October 23-24 in Long beach. One of the speakers will be from NOAA regarding tsunami marine debris.

The Harbor Safety Summit will again be a joint west coast conference with the Pacific States British Columbia Oil Spill Task Force to be held in Long Beach on October 25th.

f. **HC Sheriff.** Deputy Reynolds reported that a man was ejected out of his flat bottom jet boat at the mouth of the Eel River. Luckily the man made it to shore and Sheriff Deputies were able to recover his boat.

A woman attempted to swim in the Van Duzen River and swept downstream and ended up on the wrong side of the river but was in good condition.

Two children were swimming in the river at Swimmer's Delight when they were swept downstream. The father jumped in and all three wound up on the wrong side of the river but in good condition.

A body was recovered on the south side of the Inner Reach by Coast Seafoods. The transient appeared to have been in the water for 7-10 days. Cause of death is unknown at this time.

A local website blog has been discussing illegal sport fishing charters out of Humboldt Bay. The blog encourages people to report suspected illegal charters to the Department of Fish and Game.

Deputy Daastol has been assigned to patrol temporarily.

g. **NOAA.** Mr. Wheaton reported that NOAA is continuing to have funding issues. This item will be placed on the next agenda for the committee to consider.

h. **Coastal Commission.** Mr. Bishop sent Ms. Howser an email explaining that he was attending the Clean Pacific conference and Dr. Metz was out of town and they were unable to conference call into the meeting.

i. **Member Reports.** Mr. Atkinson reported that there will be a VOSS deployment June 20-21 utilizing the R/V Coral Sea.

9. Other –

The next Harbor Safety meeting is scheduled for [THURSDAY, JULY 19, 2012.](#)

Meeting adjourned at 1010 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzie V. Howser, Port of Humboldt Bay