

APPROVED

**Harbor Safety Committee of the Humboldt Bay Area
0900 hours March 21, 2013 Woodley Island Marina Conference Room**

The Harbor Safety Committee meeting was convened at 0907 hours.

Members Present:

Ms. Suzie Howser, Chair (Port Authority)
Capt. John Powell (Bar Pilot)
Deputy Roy Reynolds (Local Law Enforcement)
Deputy Braden Brawner (Local Law Enforcement)
Mr. Gerry Wheaton (NOAA-OCS)
CWO Curtis Barthel (USCG HB)
BM1 Jerad Calobreves (USCG HB)
Mr. Jonathan Bishop (Coastal Commission) via telephone

Others Present:

Mr. Al Storm (OSPR Liaison)
Mr. Jeff Dayton (OSPR)
Mr. Dan Larkin (HC OES)
Ms. Julie Salminen (Pacific Affiliates)
Bill Gillespie (HB Fire)
Mr. Michael Nosbaum (Witt O'Briens)
Mr. Mark Neuburger (OSPR)
Ms. Cindy Murphy (OSPR)

Mr. Steve Sawyer (OSPR)
Ms. Sandi Potstada (OSPR)
MST2 Rustin Battermann (USCG MSD HB)
MST1 Bryan Alexander (USCG MSD HB)

Chair, Suzie Howser announced a quorum was not present, however the meeting would continue without voting on items.

1. Introductions were made.

2. Swearing in of new members. Mr. Storm congratulated and swore in Deputy Roy Reynolds as Member for Local Law Enforcement and Deputy Braden Brawner as Alternate for Local Law Enforcement. Mr. Storm also reported that on the OSPR Harbor Safety Website there will be a new membership application form that may be filled out on line and submitted electronically.

3. Public Comment. None

4. Consideration of approval of minutes for the meeting of January 17, 2013. This item will be placed on the next agenda for consideration.

5. Status/Updates

a. Oil Spills/Accidents. Mr. Dayton reported there were no significant spills to report.

USCG reported there have been alga blooms. Woodley Island Marina was issued a Notice of Federal Interest regarding a sheen on F-Dock. There was also a mystery sheen in Crescent City.

b. Abandoned Vehicles/Vessels/Debris. Mr. Dayton reported that a vehicle was stuck along the Eel River.

c. Boater Safety. Ms. Howser reported that USCG Auxiliary will begin Boater Safety Classes in April.

d. Navigational Aids. CWO Barthel reported that the *ASPEN* will be moving Buoys 2, 5 and 9 for dredging operations. There have been changes nationwide to Aids to navigation. A couple of Aids no longer needed in our area include Saunders Reef-Punta Gorda, HB Light and St Georges. The Cape Mendocino light should be gone soon.

- e. **Ship Traffic.** No ships since the last meeting. A German cruise ship scheduled for February was unable to enter Humboldt Bay due to weather conditions. A log ship is due at the end of March.
- f. **Navigational Chart Changes.** Mr. Wheaton reported the Electronic Navigation Charts are currently updated every two weeks and is available for free download. The Coast Pilot is updated each week and is also available for free download.

NOAA is currently testing new concept of overlaying nautical chart with the Coast Pilot. It was asked if the concept would allow for multi-integration with other systems such as ERMA. For now, everything is in development stages and the BETA test is not available for viewing.

NOAA and USCG are talking about changing the carriage requirements for the Coast Pilot and paper charts.

- 6. **Potential Bay Projects.** Capt. Powell reported the Harbor District is considering purchase of the pulp mill for aquaculture and other operations.

7. Reports/Presentations

- a. **USCG.** CWO Barthel reported that USCG Group Humboldt Bay will be changing their name to USCG Sector Humboldt Bay. Sector Humboldt Bay will still be part of Sector San Francisco.

Commercial crab season has been quiet.

There have been false maydays in the San Francisco Bay area. USCG has been gathering costs associated with response to these calls.

There will be a Change of Command at Sector San Francisco for the Deputy Commander.

- b. **USACE.** No report.
- c. **OES.** Mr. Larkin reported on the OSPR Overview that was held the day before and how well the Overview was attended. Content was excellent and he thanked OSPR for the conducting the Overview.

Next Wednesday is the tsunami communications test for Del Norte, Humboldt and Mendocino Counties. All sirens and emergency alerts will be activated. California and Oregon Civil Air Patrol will be broadcasting a 15 second message using their loudhailers as they fly the coast. This is the 6th year of conducting the communications test. Discussion was held in regards to past communications with the public and the need for more specific information in regards to evacuate or not to evacuate. Always plan for worst case scenario.

Meeting updates: April 03, 2013 Hazardous Mitigation meeting
April 04, 2013 Operational Area meeting
April 05, 2013 Dam Break (Mathews Dam-Ruth Lake) meeting – worst case scenario would be during rain event, high tide
April 11, 2013 Blue Lake Volunteer Workshop
April 13, 2013 NOAA/NWS Tsunami Ready Manila evacuation drill

- d. **CPB.** No report.
- e. **OSPR.** Mr. Dayton reported the OSPR Overview went well.

There have been alga blooms late February into early March.

North Bay strategies are tentatively scheduled for Tuesday March 26 in the morning. Woodley Island strategies will be the focus of the drill. Booming will take place from Eureka to Woodley Island and Woodley Island to Indian Island. MSRC and NRC will participate in the drill. There should only be a traffic issue for approximately one hour. Thursday March 28 is the backup date should weather conditions prohibit conducting the drill on March 26.

The ACP meeting in May will be held in Fort Bragg. Mr. Dayton will provide more information as the meeting is finalized.

Mr. Storm reported approximately 50 people attended the OSPR Overview in Eureka. The OSPR team did a great job in showcasing how OSPR interacts with local agencies. Mr. Dayton's presentation was outstanding. The *COSCO BUSAN* incident was used as the Overview format.

As reported earlier, the Harbor Safety Membership application is now online in an easy to fill and submit format. For the Humboldt Harbor Safety application, once filled in, hit submit and the form will go directly to Mr. Storm.

Upcoming vacancy announcements include Bar Pilots and Tug operations. Commercial Fishing representative will up for vacancy in November.

Newly appointed OSPR Administrator Mr. Tom Cullen is waiting to be confirmed by the Senate.

AB881 relating to Oil Spills would increase the per barrel fee from \$0.065 to "not to exceed \$0.08 per barrel", removes the sunset clause of January 01, 2015, and dedicates \$0.003 per barrel to the Oil Spill Response Trust Fund used for covering the annual costs of the Oiled Wildlife Care Network.

- f. **HC Sheriff.** Deputy Reynolds introduced Deputy Braden Brawner. Deputy Brawner gave a brief summary of his maritime experience.

Deputy Reynolds reported a drowning had taken place in the Shelter Cove area. Shelter Cove Volunteer Fire District handled the call with the assistance of the USCG.

Water Safety Coalition is reminding swimmers about cold and fast water in all area rivers.

A 100 foot commercial crab fishing vessel was accused of running into a 100 foot former fishing vessel in the Fields Landing channel. A verbal altercation took place but no damage was reported. HC Sheriff Deputies were asked to take a report.

The body recovered off the North Spit appears to be a victim of suicide.

A medical evacuation took place along the Eel River.

- g. **NOAA.** Mr. Wheaton reported Dr. Holly Bramford has been named deputy assistant administrator (DAA) for the National Ocean Service.
- h. **Coastal Commission.** Mr. Bishop gave a brief overview of Harbor Safety Committee activities in California highlighting just a couple of issues. SF-HSC is keeping an eye on the OVERSEAS REYMAR bridge allison, the Tug work group is putting together a matrix for emergency offshore towing, and salvage and rescue operations. LA/LB- HSC is updating their Harbor Safety Plan including the section for Environmental Impacts. The Plan is available on the web. PH-HSC – Technical upgrades. SD-HSC – US Navy Fuel Pier at Point Loma and special events and safety issues in navigation channels.

Coastal Commissioner is proposing to amend the Hidalgo Platform permit to allow for additional drilling. The OSPR workshop held in San Ramon was excellent. Ellen Faurot-Daniels at the Coastal Commission is a good contact. The north coast job opening has been put on hold.

i. **Member Reports.** No reports.

8. **Other.** No reports.

The next Harbor Safety meeting is scheduled for [THURSDAY, MAY 16, 2013](#).

Meeting adjourned at approximately 1057 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzie V. Howser, Port of Humboldt Bay