

APPROVED

**Harbor Safety Committee of the Humboldt Bay Area
0900 hours May 16, 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)
Capt. Tim Petrusha (Bar Pilot)
Capt. Gilbert Groszmann (Tug Operator)
Mr. Aaron Newman (Commercial Fishing)
Mr. Gerry Wheaton (NOAA-OCS) via phone
Mr. Jonathan Bishop (Coastal Commission) via phone
Capt. Salvatore Palmeri (USCG HB)
CWO Curtis Barthel (USCG HB)

Others Present:

Mr. Al Storm (OSPR Liaison)
Mr. John Prince (US Customs)
Mr. Jeff Raimsey (City of Eureka)
Mr. Dan Larkin (HC OES)
MST2 Rustin Battermann (USCG MSD HB)
SN Danica Clesceri (USCG HB)
Mr. Philip Wright (HB Aquatic Center)
Mr. Wade Kriletich (HB Aquatic Center)

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

1. **Introductions were made.**
2. **Swearing in of new members.** No new members to swear in.
3. **Public Comment.** None
4. **Presentation by OSPR Liaison Al Storm regarding Harbor Safety Membership Applications.** Mr. Storm gave a presentation regarding the online version of the Harbor Safety Membership Application. The application is easy to complete on-line and can be sent directly to OSPR.
5. **Consideration of approval of minutes for the meeting of January 17, 2013.** This item will be placed on the next agenda for consideration.
6. **Consideration of approval of minutes for the meeting of March 21, 2013.** This item will be placed on the next agenda for consideration.
7. **Status/Updates**
 - a. **Oil Spills/Accidents.** MST2 Battermann reported there were six mystery sheens reported in Humboldt Bay and one in Fort Bragg.

There were six marine casualties between the last Harbor Safety Meeting and this one, all involving commercial fishing vessels.

The Harbor District was able to recover the sailing vessel that went aground in the North Bay without incident.

The Dodge truck stranded at Trinidad was recovered without incident.
 - b. **Abandoned Vehicles/Vessels/Debris.** Mr. Raimsey reported that two runabouts and one piling were removed from the water by the City of Eureka.

- c. **Boater Safety.** No report.
- d. **Navigational Aids.** Capt. Petrusha reported that the dredge ESSAYONS was in port and conducted dredging operations on the bar and entrance channels. The dredge was unable to dredge in the area of buoys 9 and 10 due to their size and number of days allowed for dredging. The US Army Corps of Engineers does not have the funding available to bring the YAQUINA to Humboldt Bay and they estimate that it will take approximately \$500k.

CWO Barthel reported that the USCGC ASPEN will be back to move buoys 2, 5 into their original positions. The Cape Mendocino light is gone.

Discussion was held in regards to the removal of Waverider 46212 off the South Jetty. Ms. Howser explained that Scripps was unable to keep the buoy in place due to lack of funding.

- e. **Ship Traffic.** Capt. Petrusha reported that the Fire Boat was out of the water for regular maintenance and would be launched later in the day.

USCGC ASPEN was unable to move buoy 9 due to rough weather and shoaling conditions.

- f. **Navigational Chart Changes.** Mr. Wheaton reported NOAA is continuing to test the new concept of overlaying nautical chart with the Coast Pilot using a tablet.

8. Potential Bay Projects.

9. Reports/Presentations

- a. **USCG.** Capt. Palmeri reported that USCG Group Humboldt Bay will be changing their name to USCG Sector Humboldt Bay. All contact information remains the same as do the duties. Sector Humboldt Bay is not part of Sector San Francisco. Some confusion exists because the Captain of the Port (COTP) is out of San Francisco and the Marine Safety Detachment is part of Sector San Francisco.

MST2 Battermann reported that Chevron boom deployment is scheduled for the 22nd, the VOSS deployment was cancelled, and the small oil spill response trailer currently stored at Redwood Dock would be leaving the area.

Capt. Palmeri reported a Change of Command took place at Sector San Francisco. Capt. Gregory Stump assumed command from Capt. Cynthia Stowe. USCGC BARRACUDA will have a change of command in June.

- b. **USACE.** No report.

- c. **OES.** Mr. Larkin reported on May 28th a Workshop will be held in regards to Tsunami response. The Group will be working on what steps to take for smaller events.

There will be an operational area meeting on May 30th beginning at 1330 at the HC jail.

On July 11th training will be held in regards to FEMA 154 buildings susceptible to earthquake damage and how to assess damage after an earthquake.

Mendocino Tsunami Sirens have been installed.

The County of Humboldt is moving forward with its Hazardous Mitigation Plan. The County and other local agencies must have a Hazardous Mitigation Plan in order to access Federal money.

The draft FEMA Region 9 and 10, Cape Mendocino to British Columbia Cascadia Subduction Zone Plan is currently a 600 page plan.

d. **CPB.** Mr. Prince reported that confusion also existed with the Eureka Port office for US Customs. In the past when the Eureka agent was not available you would contact the San Francisco office therefore people assumed the Port of Eureka was part of the San Francisco office. However this is not the case. Eureka is a stand-alone Port of Entry.

e. **OSPR.** Mr. Storm reported the West Coast Harbor Safety meeting is tentatively scheduled for this fall.

Newly appointed OSPR Administrator Mr. Tom Cullen has not yet been confirmed by the Senate.

AB881 relating to Oil Spills cost increase must be justified as with the money for the Oiled Wildlife Care Network.

The secretariat contract is almost complete.

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

g. **NOAA.** Mr. Wheaton reported Penny Pritzker has been nominated as the new Secretary of Commerce.

h. **Coastal Commission.** Mr. Bishop gave a brief overview of Harbor Safety Committee activities in California. SF-HSC is monitoring the sinking of a tug off Big Sur and safety issues in regards to the America's Cup. Navigation changes for offshore traffic separation. Vessels will need to use TSS beginning June 1st. LA/LB- HSC adopted changes to their Harbor Safety Plan. PH-HSC – adopted changes to their Harbor Safety Plan. SD-HSC – working on Harbor Safety Plan updates.

AB881 – Coastal Commission supports this bill.

i. **Member Reports.** Mr. Newman reports Commercial Salmon season is underway as is the sport Salmon season.

Captain Groszmann reported a Chip Barge is due in today, the Fuel Barge is due on Saturday or Sunday and the Tugs KOOS KING and HUMBOLDT are both currently stationed in Humboldt Bay.

Mr. Larkin reported that since the OSPR overview was such a success, he would like to see another one scheduled in the future.

10. **Other.** Mr. Larkin reported that since the OSPR Overview was such a success, he would like to see another one scheduled in the future.

Mr. Raimey reported that maintenance took place at the City launch ramps prior to the sport season opener.

The next Harbor Safety meeting is scheduled for [THURSDAY, JULY 18, 2013.](#)

Meeting adjourned at approximately 1032 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzie V. Howser, Port of Humboldt Bay