

## **APPROVED**

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

The Harbor Safety Committee meeting was convened at 0902 hours.

#### **Members Present:**

Ms. Suzie Howser, Chair (Port Authority)  
Deputy Roy Reynolds (Local Law Enforcement)  
Capt. John Powell (Bar Pilot)  
Capt. Tim Petrusha (Bar Pilot)  
Capt. Gilbert Groszmann (Tug Operator)  
Capt. Leroy Zerlang (Tug Operator)  
Mr. Stephen Kullmann (Tribal/Environmental)  
Mr. Casey Allen (Recreational Boater)  
Mr. Wade Kriletich (Recreational Boater)  
Mr. Jonathan Bishop (Coastal Commission) via phone  
Mr. Dick Lauer (Tanker Operations) via phone  
Mr. Gerry Wheaton (NOAA-OCS)  
Lt. Michelle Foster (USCG Sector HB) via phone  
CWO2 Billy Gartman (USCG MSD HB)

#### **Others Present:**

Mr. Al Storm (OSPR Liaison)  
Mr. Jeff Dayton (OSPR)  
Mr. Philip Wright (HB Aquatic Center)  
Chief Kent Hulbert (HB Fire)  
CWO Curt Barthel (USCG Sector HB)  
Ms. Julie Salminen (Fairhaven Terminal)  
Mr. Dustin Morris (USCG)  
Mr. Ben Perry-Thistle (USCG)

**Chair, Suzie Howser called the meeting to order at 0902 hours.**

**1. Introductions were made.**

**2. Swearing in of new members.** Mr. Storm reported that the vacancy notice has been extended for the Commercial Fishing position. Tanker Operations currently held by Mr. Richard Lauer as member and Captain Jeff Hill as Alternate, and Dry Cargo currently held by Mr. Richard Trygar as member will be up in March.

**3. Public Comment.** Ms. Bernice Kissler with Humboldt Council of the Blind asked the committee to give their support to a proposal for a Sensory Garden along the Eureka boardwalk. Mr. Wheaton asked if new planters were being considered along the shoreline. Ms. Kissler informed the committee that their proposal is to replant the existing planters on the boardwalk with plants that have sensory features and provide additional information plaques in large print and brail.

**4. Consideration of approval of minutes for the meeting of September 19, 2013.** Captain Petrusha motioned to approve the minutes for the meeting of September 19, 2013. Deputy Reynolds seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**5. Consideration and approval of sending a letter to Congressman Huffman regarding dredging.** Ms. Howser apologized to the committee that she was unable to draft a letter prior to this meeting and that the item would be tabled until the next committee meeting.

**6. Consideration and approval of sending a letter to National Data Buoy Center regarding buoy repair and maintenance.** Ms. Howser reported that Buoy 46022 has now stopped working. With the onset of winter and the Dungeness crab season due to begin December 1<sup>st</sup>, buoy information is critical to the safety of all mariners along our coast. After further discussion, Deputy Reynolds made a motion to send a certified letter to Mr. Portmann at the National Data Buoy Center and courtesy copy the letter to Congressman Huffman, USACE, USCG and others asking that Buoy 46022 be repaired. Captain Groszmann seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

7. **Consideration and approval of sending a letter to California Department of Boating and Waterways regarding the Coastal Data Information Program.** Discussion was held in regards to the contract problems with the California Department of Parks and Recreation, California Department of Boating and Waterways and Scripps Institution of Oceanography. Waverider buoys are due to go offline at the beginning of the year if the contract is not approved. Mr. Lauer motioned to send a letter to the California Department of Parks and Recreation and the Department of Boating and Waterways, along with courtesy copies to the USACE and others urging their support and renewal of the contract with Scripps Institution of Oceanography for the continued operation of the Coastal Data Information Program. Deputy Reynolds seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

8. **Consideration of setting the Harbor Safety Committee Meeting Schedule for 2014.** Captain Petrusha motioned to approved the 2014 meeting schedule:

Thursday, January 16, 2014

Thursday, March 20, 2014

Thursday, May 15, 2014

Thursday, July 17, 2014

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Thursday, November 20, 2014

Deputy Reynolds seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

9. **Overview of Harbor Safety Summit held in Napa, CA.** Mr. Storm gave the committee an overview of the West Coast Harbor Safety Committee Summit held in Napa, CA October 29 and 30. Over 50 people were in attendance including all of the California Harbor Safety Committee Chairs, Puget Sound, Lower Columbia, and Alaska representatives. A representative from the newly forming Grays Harbor committee was also in attendance along with the OSPR Administrator, Pacific States/British Columbia Oils Spill Task Force representatives, USCG, NOAA, and government and others. Discussion at the Summit was informative and engaging. Topics included best achievable technologies for protection and response, development of the bunkering video, grant funds for tsunami debris clean up, avoiding whale strikes, LNG bunkering, the North American Emissions Control Area, and a very informative video illustrating ship movements up and down the Columbia River. Another topic of discussion was crude by rail. Bakken shale oil is currently being moved by rail cars to the coast. Mr. Storm congratulated the committee on their great work.

## 10. Status/Updates

- a. **Oil Spills/Accidents.** CWO2 Gartman reported that a pleasure craft sunk in Fort Bragg and 2 people were rescued. Approximately 500 gallons of fuel was aboard. There were two mystery sheens reported in the Humboldt Bay area. One vessel broke loose from its mooring in Trinidad. Two vessel sinkings in Noyo and 1 large pleasure craft with 1250 gallons of fuel. The casualty data will be provided on a quarterly basis in a spreadsheet format.

Mr. Dayton reported a vehicle was in the surf in Shelter Cove. The vehicle was removed.

- b. **Abandoned Vehicles/Vessels/Debris.** Mr. Dayton reported on the Cal Recycle Project in the SF Bay Area. Coastal Conservancy is interested in cleaning up ocean debris. They are talking with the Ocean Protection Council.

Mr. Kullmann reported that the Wiyot Tribe and the Harbor District are working together on a debris removal grant to remove old concrete floats around Humboldt Bay.

- c. **Boater Safety.** Ms. Howser reported that she assisted Ms. Bev Noll with the water portion of the Commercial Fishermen's Drill Conductor Course held in October. The course was very informative and Ms. Howser recommends the course to all Mariners.

Captain Petrusha reported that he and Captain Powell trained with Humboldt Bay Fire rescue swimmers using the Port Authority vessel.

- d. **Navigational Aids.** CWO Barthel reported that the USCG had taken a look at Buoy 46022 to see if there was any visible sign of damage. USCG did not see any damage.

Captain Powell reported that the PORTS® current meter in south bay is scheduled to be repaired later today.

- e. **Ship Traffic.** Captain Powell reported that the log ship CMB ADRIEN was at the Schneider Dock in October. The next vessel, MAPLE AMETHYST, is due at the Schneider Dock in December. With the possibility of another ship arriving in late December. A star ship may arrive in January to take tan oak chips to Canada. The first chemical barge is due to arrive at Redwood Marine Terminal Berth 2 in January.

- f. **Navigational Chart Changes.** Mr. Wheaton reported that due to funding restrictions, paper charts will no longer be printed. NOAA has made PDFs available for free on their website on a trial basis and is soliciting comments. The PDFs do not meet carriage requirements.

<http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/pdfcharts/>

Mr. Lauer noted that commercial vessels are required to have the paper charts on board and recreational vessels are not.

11. **Potential Bay Projects.** No report.

## 12. Reports/Presentations

- a. **USCG.** No report.

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

- c. **OES.** Ms. Howser reported that she had attended the October 23rd CalOES seminar at Humboldt State University. This seminar was to provide an in-depth look of the Cascadia Subduction Zone (CSZ) Earthquake and Tsunami Response Plan as part of the preparations for the 2014 Golden Guardian exercise. Mr. Dayton was also in attendance.

- d. **CPB.** No report.

- e. **OSPR.** Mr. Storm reported that the OSPR administrator was unable to attend today's meeting as he is attending a meeting at Sector SF. He apologizes and hopes to attend a meeting in the near future.

Mr. Dayton reported that the ACP will be meeting this afternoon. The Yurok Tribe has applied for an Oil Spill Response Trailer under the grant program.

Oil Spill response equipment was deployed in the Sierra Pacific Mill area (by Mad River Slough) as part of the ACP booming strategy. The strategy was effective and no changes are needed.

There will be a state wide ACP meeting in Martinez, CA. ACP revisions will be taking place this year including new air images that will replace old maps, economic sites that may be impacted by a spill and

the incorporation of the ACP into NOAA's ERMA (Environmental Response Management Application). Mr. Dayton encourages all members to look over the ACP and make any suggestions.

Restoration settlement funds from the Stuyvesant and Kure spills were used for restoration of McDaniel's Slough. This project is now complete.

CWO Gartman asked that members consider participation in a working group regarding the economic impacts portion of the ACP. He asked for volunteers who would like to assist to contact him at 707-269-2563.

A USCG Strike representative will give a briefing at the ACP meeting on the Samoa Pulp Mill project.

- f. **HC Sheriff.** No report.
- g. **NOAA.** No report.
- h. **Coastal Commission.** Mr. Bishop reported that he had attended the Harbor Safety Committee Summit in Napa, CA. He will be reviewing the best achievable technologies and encourages others to submit recommendations also.
- i. **Member Reports.** Captain Petrusha reported that he had attended the Harbor Safety Committee Summit and congratulated the committee on the work they have done. The Humboldt Bay Harbor Safety Committee was highlighted as a leader in the work that has been accomplished in regards to navigational safety for all mariners.

Mr. Kullmann reported that the Indian Island clean-up has been completed. There will be some piling removal that will take place. Mr. Wheaton asked if the piling will be removed at the mud line. Mr. Kullmann replied that it is the intent to move pilings at the mud line. He will keep Mr. Wheaton informed as to chart changes when they are removed. HSU, Sea Grant, HBHD and the Wiyot Tribe are working together as part of the MLPA Estuary Monitoring program.

Mr. Allen reported that he had posted the "No Wake" zone on the Humboldt Area Saltwater Anglers (HASA) website and has dedicated a page in their newsletter to Harbor Safety. He asked about extending the no wake zone to go beyond the navigation channel. Ms. Howser reported that the "No Wake" zone is a City of Eureka Ordinance and would need to be changed by the City.

Mr. Kriletich reported that the Aquatic Center participated in the Coastal Cleanup Day and participated with the Humboldt Bay Fire training.

(Meeting was interrupted by an emergency call for a person in the water. Many members left the meeting to respond.)

- 13. **Other.** No reports.

**The next Harbor Safety meeting is scheduled for [THURSDAY, JANUARY 16, 2014](#).**

Meeting adjourned at approximately 1100 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzie V. Howser, Port of Humboldt Bay