

APPROVED

Harbor Safety Committee of the Humboldt Bay Area 0900 hours March 20, 2014 Woodley Island Marina Conference Room

The Harbor Safety Committee meeting was convened at 0904 hours.

Members Present:

Ms. Suzie Howser, Chair (Port Authority)
Deputy Braden Brawner (Local Law Enforcement)
Capt. John Powell (Bar Pilot)
Capt. Leroy Zerlang (Tug Operator)
Mr. Stephen Kullmann (Tribal/Environmental)
Mr. Ross McDonald (Tanker Operations)
Mr. Gerry Wheaton (NOAA-OCS)

Others Present:

Mr. Al Storm (OSPR Liaison)
Mr. Jeff Dayton (OSPR)
Mr. Dan Larkin (HC OES)
Mr. Jeff Raimsey (City of Eureka)
CWO Curt Barthel (USCG Sector HB)
Mr. Bryan Alexander (USCG)
Mr. Charlie Helms (Crescent City Harbor)
Mr. Joe Rollings (Trinidad Pier)
Mr. Paul Martin (USCG)
Ms. Leslie Sanders (Trinidad Rancheria)
Mr. Jonas Savage (Trinidad Rancheria)
Mr. Jason Soto (Trinidad Rancheria)
Ms. Danica Clesceri (USCG)
Mr. JP Giles (USCG)
Mr. Kent Hulbert (Humboldt Bay Fire)
Mr. Dustin Morris (USCG)
Ms. Tracy Phillips (USCG)
Ms. Nicolette Vaughan (USCG)
Mr. Ben Perry-Thistle (USCG)
Mr. Josh Zulliger (OSPR)
Mr. Brian Garcia (NOAA-NWS)

Chair, Suzie Howser called the meeting to order at 0907 hours.

1. **Introductions were made.**

2. **Swearing in of new members.** Mr. Storm swore in Mr. Ross McDonald as Member representing Tank Vessels and Deputy Braden Brawner as Member representing Local Law Enforcement. Congratulations to both Members.

3. **Public Comment.** There was none.

4. **Consideration of approval of minutes for the meeting of January 16, 2014.** Capt. Powell made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Kullmann seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

5. **Status/Updates**

a. **Oil Spills/Accidents.** There were none.

b. **Abandoned Vehicles/Vessels/Debris.** Mr. Zulliger reported that he is pursuing the removal of the F/V HEIDI. The owner of the vessel has told Mr. Zulliger that he will have the vessel removed from the water by April 15.

Mr. Powell reported that the two old floats previously aground at Elk River spit had moved out of the bay are now aground on the North Spit.

c. **Boater Safety.** Ms. Howser reported that Ms. Bev Noll is conducted another AMSEA Commercial Fishermen's Drill Conductor course last week. Attendance for this course was low which may be in part to the cost of the course which was previously funded by a grant but is now \$195 per person.

No USCG Auxiliary Courses have been scheduled as of yet. Mr. Barthel will check with the Auxiliary regarding the class schedule.

d. **Navigational Aids.** Mr. Barthel reported that all Aids are working properly.

Buoy 46022 was successfully recovered and is currently in Mississippi for repairs. National Data Buoy Center hopes to have the buoy back in service later this year.

Capt. Powell inquired about the ASPEN's schedule. Due to weather conditions the PORTS attached to buoys 2 and 9 have not been removed.

e. **Ship Traffic.** Captain Powell reported that the vessel HOKKAIDO BULKER was in port for 6 days to take a load of logs. The USS INDEPENDENCE made three trips into Humboldt Bay. Both vessels utilized the Schneider Dock.

f. **Navigational Chart Changes.** Mr. Wheaton reported that there were no chart changes. NOAA is providing free access to digital nautical charts PDFs do not meet carriage requirements.

6. **Potential Bay Projects.** Mr. Raimey reported the City of Eureka is completing the Dock rehabilitation at Englund Marine. There will also be a floating dock for smaller vessels.

Capt. Powell reported that the Harbor District and Wiyot Tribe have been working on the Marine Debris grant.

Mr. Kullmann reported that the Wiyot Tribe will be meeting with prospective contractors tomorrow to discuss a project to remove old metal, some pilings and other debris from the mud at Indian Island.

Capt. Powell reported that the barge activity planned for Redwood Dock Berth 2 is on hold. The Harbor District is now considering trucking the liquors from the Pulp Mill to Kapstone in Washington.

Ms. Howser reported that last night Pacific Gas and Electric Company turned over the ownership of the Fisherman's Channel in King Salmon to the Harbor District along with a check for \$2 million to by a dredge. Owning a dredge will reduce costs for dredging activities in Humboldt Bay. The dredge will not be used in the navigational channels.

Mr. Dayton reported that the McDaniel Slough restoration is a success as Coho have been using the estuary.

Mr. Martin reported that there will be a Port Security meeting immediately following the Harbor Safety Committee meeting.

7. **Reports/Presentations**

a. **USCG.** No report.

b. **USACE.** No report.

c. **OES.** Mr. Larkin reported the next Operational Area meeting will be held April 3rd beginning at 1330.

Next week is Tsunami Preparedness week. Wednesday March 26th at 11:00 am the Emergency Alert System will be activated from the Oregon Border to Marin. All tsunami warning sirens in Del Norte (6), Humboldt (12) and Mendocino (4) Counties will be activated and an airplane with a loud hailer will be used.

Mr. Larkin asked how many people actually dropped, covered and held on March 9. He asked how many people have ever felt an earthquake for 35 seconds. Discussion was held in regards to notification timing. Mr. Larkin stressed to the group that the earthquake its self is your notification. Had this been a damaging earthquake, there may be power outages, communications may be down, etc. You should take protective measures.

Further discussion was held in regards to the location of sirens and how they are activated. Mr. Garcia stated that the West Coast Alaska Tsunami Warning Center in Palmer Alaska usually activates the system. However, the local weather service office has the capability to activate the sirens from their office.

Mr. Larkin reported that Cal OES and the CA Air National Guard have been working to pre-identify Points of Distribution (POD) in our area.

Also, the safe zone for mariners is currently listed as 100 fathoms. Efforts are being made to adjust this along the coast of California. Mr. Larkin will keep the committee up to date.

Mr. Helms was introduced and gave the committee a brief background as he is the new Chief Executive Officer for the Crescent City Harbor District. He reported that the dedication ceremony for the Crescent City Harbor will take place this Saturday at 1pm.

d. **CPB.** No report.

e. **OSPR.** Mr. Dayton reported that a tsunami drill was conducted in focusing on the Oiled Wildlife Care Network (OWCN).

A sensitive site evaluation (deployment) was conducted at Elk River. Weather conditions were very windy and deployment of boom was challenging. But the result was that the strategy worked and no adjustments were needed. In the future they will test the McDaniel Slough.

The ACP revisions are due by the end of April. Mr. Dayton encourages everyone to take a look at the ACP and provide feedback. Ms. Howser will email the information to the group along with Mr. Dayton and Mr. Perry-Thistle's contact information.

Mr. Storm reported that NRC and MSRC have severed their mutual aid contract. Shippers may still contract with both companies independently. MSRC contracted with Z&Z Marine for support during the last drill.

Bakken Oil is starting to reach California by rail but the majority is going to Washington State. There is legislation to expand OSPR inland.

California Maritime Academy will host an e-Navigation conference in April. This conference, set for April 3-4, will be a regional version of the international e-Navigation Underway Conference held in Denmark. The conference registration fee is \$500 and will be hosted and managed by Cal Maritime in close cooperation with the International Association of Marine Aids to Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities (IALA) and the Danish Maritime Authority, which jointly organize the international version of the conference. Tom Cullen will speak at this conference. Mr. Perry-Thistle reported there will be an Overview in SF April 2nd.

f. **HC Sheriff.** Deputy Brawner reported that the Sheriff boat 44409 has been removed from the water. If anyone is interested in acquiring the vessel please contact him.

Deputy Brawner is currently working on equipment grants for new PFDs, dry suits. Two deputies are attending swift water rescue training.

g. **NOAA.** Mr. Garcia announced Happy Spring to everyone. ☺

h. **Coastal Commission.** No report

i. **Member Reports.** Mr. Kullmann reported that the World Renewal Ceremony will take place next weekend. Beginning Monday March 24th there will be increased activity at Indian Island including overnight activity. A notice was sent to the media to announce that the Ceremony is not a public (party) event. On Friday March 28th dancers and their families will be transported to Indian Island via boats. CalTrans will cone the shoulder along Highway 255 to prevent people from parking along the Freeway and attempting to gain access to the Ceremony. Saturday March 30th a Ceremony will take place on the South Jetty. Redwood dugout canoes that are on loan from other Tribes will be used. Discussion is currently taking place in regards to the route. The final Ceremony will take place on Sunday at Table Bluff.

Mr. McDonald reported that Mr. Lauer is retiring.

Captain Zerlang reported that there is more interest in the Fairhaven Terminal and California Redwood is ready for business.

Mr. Raimey reported that the City has applied for funding for rehabilitation of the Samoa boat launching facility including 2 new docks resurfacing.

Ms. Sanders reported that the Tribe has been working with the USCG and was encouraged to attend today's meeting.

A new interpretative center is being considered at the pier to educate boaters on new requirements

8. **Other.** Mr. Larkin reported that FEMA has approved the Hazardous Mitigation Plan for the County.

Mr. Storm reported that he is retiring at June 30 of this year.

The next Harbor Safety meeting is scheduled for [THURSDAY, MAY 15, 2014](#)

Meeting adjourned at approximately 1040 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzie V. Howser, Port of Humboldt Bay