

## **APPROVED**

### **Harbor Safety Committee of the Humboldt Bay Area 0900 hours September 24, 2015 Woodley Island Marina Conference Room**

#### **Members Present:**

Ms. Suzie Howser, Chair (Port Authority)  
Mr. Casey Allen (Recreational Boating)  
Ms. Bridget Hand (Recreational Boating)  
Mr. Stephen Kullmann (Tribal/Environmental)  
Mr. Jonathan Bishop (Coastal Commission)  
Capt. Leroy Zerlang (Tug Operations)  
Ms. Julie Salminen (Dry Cargo) via telephone  
Mr. Ross McDonald (Tanker Operations) via telephone  
Mr. Jeffrey Ferguson (NOAA OCS)  
Capt. Patrick Nelson (USCG Sector SF)  
Mr. Billy Gartman (USCG MSD HB)  
LCDR Jeff Garvey (USCG Sector HB)

#### **Others Present:**

Mr. Reuben Macaspac (OSPR Liaison)  
Mr. Jeff Dayton (OSPR)  
Mr. Charlie Helms (Crescent City Harbor)  
Mr. Grant Roden (Trinidad Rancheria)  
Ms. Susan Rotwein (F/V Miss Phyllis)  
Mr. Tom Moore (USCG Sector HB)  
Mr. Guy Hughey (USCG MSD HB)

**Chair, Suzie Howser called the meeting to order at 0905 hours.**

1. **Introductions were made.**
2. **Swearing in of new members.** No new members.
3. **Public Comment.** No public comment.
4. **Consideration of approval of minutes for the meeting of March 19, 2015.** Capt. Zerlang made a motion to approve the minutes of March 19, 2015. Mr. Allen seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
5. **Consideration of approval of minutes for the meeting of May 21, 2015.** After discussion was held, Capt Zerlang made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected. Ms. Hand (for Mr. Allen) seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
6. **Consideration of updates and changes to the Harbor Safety Plan for the Humboldt Bay Area.** Discussion was held regarding the only changes to the plan were for the membership and the casualty section. Capt. Zerlang made a motion to approve the changes via insertion of updated pages. Mr. Kullmann seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
7. **Consideration of approval of the Harbor Safety Plan for the Humboldt Bay Area.** Mr. Kullmann made a motion to approve the Harbor Safety Plan. Capt. Zerlang seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
8. **Status/Updates**
  - a. **Oil Spills/Accidents.** Mr. Dayton reported a handful of accidents. A vehicle on Hwy 199 was leaking jet fuel and pesticides. A 40 foot vessel sunk in Noyo. The vessel is currently out of the water and on a trailer. A couple of mystery sheens have been reported in Humboldt Bay.

Mr. Gartman reported a towing vessel had an engine room fire while transiting the coast. The towing vessel just obtained a USCG exam and all personnel responded to the incident as trained. The vessel

did not have a tow at the time. A secondary fire was reported in the stack of the vessel next to the Captain's Head area and was quickly extinguished. No injuries were reported.

- b. **Abandoned Vehicles/Vessels/Debris.** Mr. Dayton reported a bus was abandoned on the Eel River.

Ms. Howser reported the Land Rover abandoned on the Samoa beach was now over at the Pulp Mill site behind the locked gate waiting for Humboldt County abatement to remove.

- c. **Boater Safety.** Ms. Hand reported that the Paddlefest event was another great success. Workshops were held in regards to tides/currents, dressing/layering and navigation. 70 people signed up for lessons on Sunday.

The paddle safety brochure is in draft form. Discussion was held in regards to content, language and format. The GIS coordinator at HSU may be able to assist with the watertrails map.

- d. **Navigational Aids.** LCDR. Garvey reported that the USCG installed a mooring ball in the area known as "the trees". The mooring is for USCG use only and has been added to the local notice to mariners.

Buoys and markers are currently scheduled for replacement or repairs in 2017.

- e. **Ship Traffic.** Capt. Zerlang reported California Redwood Company currently has 2 ships scheduled to arrive before the end of the year; the CRIMSON POLARIS and the GLORIOUS LOTUS.

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

9. **Potential Bay Projects.** Capt. Zerlang reported construction is taking place at the Chevron Terminal.

## 10. Reports/Presentations

- a. **USCG.** Mr. Gartman reported a personal safety issue to the group. A USCG personnel's wife was violently assaulted at a local gas station when she did not give a panhandler money. Capt. Zerlang reported that an incident occurred in the vicinity of the Chevron Terminal. As construction workers were gathering to begin their work day, a transient was spotted in the bushes with a rifle. Law enforcement was called as workers dispersed. The Harbor Safety Committee continues to monitor the situation as numerous transient encampments line the east side of the harbor.

Mr. Gartman reported that USCG continues to conduct commercial fishing vessel exams. The FCC ruling in regards to having a DSC VHF radio was unknown to many fishermen.

Capt. Nelson gave a brief bio. Capt. Nelson is the Deputy Sector Commander for San Francisco and is the alternate COTP/FOSC. The USCG proposed ruling Subchapter M regarding safety regulations governing towing vessels is due to be finalized soon. USCG anticipates a two-year phase in process once finalized.

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

- c. **OES.** No report.

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

- e. **OSPR.** Mr. Macaspac reported that the West Coast Harbor Safety Committee Summit will be held October 21 and 22 in San Diego, CA. All Harbor Safety Committee chairs along with representatives from the Pacific States British Columbia Task Force will be in attendance.

Mr. Dayton reported there will be a sensitive site boom deployment on Tuesday September 29<sup>th</sup> in the Eureka Slough behind Target. The purpose of this deployment is to test the strategy as well as evaluate the OSRO. Another deployment/evaluation is scheduled to take place on October 27<sup>th</sup> by the Chevron Terminal to test a new strategy.

- f. **HC Sheriff.** No report.
- g. **NOAA.** Mr. Ferguson reported that a new Coast Pilot #7 will be out in December. Any changes will need to be reported to Mr. Ferguson prior to November 1<sup>st</sup>.
- h. **Coastal Commission.** Mr. Bishop reported that he and Mr. Ferguson attend all the Harbor Safety Committee meetings. There have been numerous reports of user conflicts.

The LA/LB HSC is sending a letter in regards to CDIP (Waverider buoys).

Tank vessel escort regulations regarding Articulating Tug Barge is being discussed.

Port Hueneme is still researching a PORTS system.

In May the Refugio Oil Spill occurred in Santa Barbara. A pipeline ruptured upland and the crude traveled via drainage culverts to the ocean. Agencies have been working with the RP to secure emergency permits for repairs.

i. **Member Reports.**

Mr. McDonald reported a Safety Position was open in the Portland area.

Mr. Kullmann has notified CalTrans of transient encampments under the Samoa Bridge.

Ms. Salminen reported that over 10 tons of trash was collected during the Coastal Cleanup Day.

11. **Other.**

Mr. Roden reported that the sport fishing season has come to a close and the moorings will be replaced soon. New tracks were put in at the boat launch. This year's lack of Salmon, the Halibut closure, rockfish limits and warm water have made for a disappointing recreational season. The kayak fishing tournament was held September 12<sup>th</sup> with great success.

Mr. Helms reported that Crescent City is getting ready for winter with camels and fender piles.

**The next Harbor Safety meeting is scheduled for [THURSDAY, November 19, 2015](#)**

Meeting adjourned at approximately 1058 hours.  
Respectfully submitted,  
Suzie V. Howser, Port of Humboldt Bay