

DRAFT

Harbor Safety Committee of the Humboldt Bay Area

0900 hours March 21, 2024 – Hybrid In-Person Meeting @ Woodley Island Marina Conference Room & Via ZOOM Video Conference Call

Attendees	
Capt. Leroy Zerlang (Zerlang & Zerlang / Coos Bay Tug)	Andrew Manning (Bar Pilot Apprentice) – via Zoom
Chris Mikkelsen (Humboldt Bay Harbor District)	Peter Mull (US Army Corps of Engineers) – via Zoom
Amber Shehan (Humboldt Bay Harbor District)	CO Rob Canepa (USCG Station Hum Bay) – via Zoom
Capt. Tim Petrusha (Humboldt Bar Pilots) – via Zoom	MST2 Danielle Garcia (USCG MSD Hum Bay)
Capt. John Powell (Humboldt Bar Pilots) – via Zoom	CPO Mark Hammerling (USCG MSD Hum Bay)
Reuben Macaspac (CDFW OSPR) – via Zoom	Donald Wilkes (City of Eureka)
Ross McDonald (Sause Brothers)	David Bell (CDFW OSPR Enviro. Response Branch Supervisor Nor Cal)
Nick Preston (Sause Brothers) – via Zoom	BMC Carter McGuire (USCG Aids to Navigation)
Jeff Dayton (CDFW OSPR)	Matt Kallenberg (Sause Brothers, Port Captain - Richmond)
Deputy Travis Rogers (HCSO)	
Jen Kalt (Humboldt Waterkeeper) – via Zoom	
Colin Campbell (Green Diamond)	
Commander Krysia Pohl (USCG Sector SF) - via Zoom	
Lt. Commander Alex Miller (USCG Waterways Chief SF)	
Jeff Ferguson (NOAA) – via Zoom	

Chair Leroy Zerlang called the meeting to order at 0900 hours.

1. **Committee and Meeting Attendee Introductions were made. Pledge of Allegiance. Roll Call.**
2. **Public Comment:** None.
3. **Consent Calendar:**
 - a. **Approve Meeting Minutes from January 18, 2024:**

Edit of name Cochise by Ross McDonald. Motion to approve by Travis Rogers. Seconded by Colin Campbell. Voice vote called, approved unanimously.
AYES: Zerlang, Rogers, McDonald, Campbell, Hulbert, Mikkelsen, Ibach
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: Powell, Kalt (Zoom)
ABSENT: Bishop
4. **Comments by Chairperson:** None.
5. **USCG Reports:**
 - a. **Nuisance Vessels / Unseaworthy Vessels / Sunken Vessels / Abandoned Vehicles / Vessels / Debris Abatement / Oil Spills / Accidents / Incidents:** Danielle Garcia gave report on incidents from January to March 2024.
6. **US Army Corps of Engineers Report:** Peter Mull gave report. Regional Hopper Contract awarded to Manson Construction, most likely using the BayPort Dredge hopefully removing uncertainty of receiving dredge through Panama Canal that is affected by drought conditions. Bar & Entrance in Hopper Contract for 600,000 CY with option for 300,000 CY additional possible. ETA June for 30 days. The hopper dredge Essayons is planned for 8 days on Bar and Entrance and Yaquina for Inner Reach 7-8 days late in April, early May for additional work. Leroy Zerlang mentioned the current 35-foot Bar restriction. Peter said that priority areas will be worked on by the Essayons. Leroy asked for routine surveys and a full-time survey boat for Humboldt Bay. Chris Mikkelsen reported on meeting new staff and leadership at USACE and spoke of the need for Near Shore Placement.
7. **Port/ Harbor/ Marina Reports:**

- a. **Trinidad Harbor:** None.
 - b. **City of Eureka Marina:** D. Wilkes gave report on a sunken vessel. Gave report on Save 22 Grant, removed 4 derelict vessels from City of Marina Public Marina, preparing to remove another 49ft derelict vessel from the Marina. Will apply for Save 24 to remove 6 more vessels. March 20th, there was an abandoned Bayliner and Catalina 23 under Samoa Bridge. Will be removed and destroyed. Kent Hulbert asked about a new fuel station, Chris Mikkelsen said he is aware of a project and asked Donald to bring details to the next meeting. Kent Hulbert brought up enforcement of vehicles at the City Marina, Donald said EPD enforces.
 - c. **Port of Humboldt Bay:** Chris Mikkelsen gave report, the Humboldt Bay Symposium April 11-13 at Sequoia Center. Chris recognized cooperation and the significance of commitment between agencies on the Bay. He gave an update on expiration of Exclusive Right to Negotiate with Crowley for the new Heavy Lift Marine Terminal and gave thanks and encouragement for local involvement and engagement. The dredging contract with the Dutra Group for Woodley Island Marina will be completed this year without re-mobilization costs. Answered questions regarding Fishermen's Storage from Harrison Ibach. Permitting for new multi-use terminal includes plans for newly expanded work dock, storage, and improvements to facilities including the possibility of cold storage. Possibility of new grant for fire boat funding. Possibility of funding for a staff surveyor in Humboldt Bay.
8. **OSPR Reports:** Reuben Macaspac gave an update on membership. Jonathan Bishop will be re-appointed to 4 committees at once including Humboldt Bay. An alternative member is needed for the Port Authority.
9. **Member Reports**
- a. **NOAA:** Jeff Ferguson gave report, last edition of Chart 18603 Crescent City expires 7/31/2024. All raster charts will be discontinued by the end of 2024. Tools and electronic charts are available online.
 - b. **Local Law Enforcement:** Travis Rogers gave a report that the Sheriff's Office received their new, improved boat. Cleanup of large homeless encampment in South Bay at Fields Landing with the Harbor District.
 - c. **State Lands/Coastal Commission:** None.
 - d. **Bar Pilots:** John Powell gave report on the Grove Island chip ship at Green Diamond Dock loaded to 35 feet, March 12-16. Light at entrance is out. Andrew Manning continues training and has handled the last 5 ships in the Bay, is doing an excellent job. Mr. Manning looks forward to further training. Tim Petrusa reported Paul Casken continues training and is now approved for further testing.
 - e. **Tank Barge:** Ross McDonald had no updates. Introduced Matt Kallenberg, Port Captain, from Port of Richmond.
 - f. **Dry Cargo:** Colin Campbell reported regarding ship Grove Island 12th-16th loaded to 35 feet. Next 2 months, barge scheduled in April and May headed to Columbia River, late may, wood chip vessel headed to Japan.
 - g. **Tug Operators:** Leroy Zerlang gave report about proposal of 2 new MARAD "Go Ships" moored in Humboldt Bay. 800 feet long, 30-foot draft clean vessels crewed by civilians. There are not likely any cruise ships in 2024 due to slow industry. Julius Brusco will be repowered as early as June. He stated more phone calls received for selling boats than he has ever received before. On April 5th, a weather buoy will be re-deployed near the BOEM site.
 - h. **Tribal/Environmental:** Jen Kalt mentioned the upcoming Humboldt Bay Symposium. Gave report on behalf of Adam Canter, a CDP has been applied for repairs to the Tuluwat dock. Local USCG Captain License training in June, informational meeting April 30.
 - i. **Commercial Fishing:** Harrison Ibach gave report, crab season has been fair, and is winding down. No salmon season again for 2024. He is involved with discussions with offshore wind developers and the Seven Seas Working Group. Lots of boats for sale.
 - j. **Recreational Boater Safety:** Kent Hulbert gave report, no salmon season, incident with dam removal killing fish. Halibut season is coming, and Bluefin season is underway in Half Moon Bay. Lots of boats for sale.
10. **Old Business:**
- a. **Harbor Safety Plan Update:** Amber Shehan gave brief update that emails will be send to coordinate chapter custodians.
11. **New business:**

- a. **Humboldt Entrance Front Range Light:** Discussion between Mr. McGuire and Mr. Zerlang regarding the need for light to be repaired, is significant to local Mariner's and Commercial operators. Per Mr. McGuire, the LED light is damaged from water intrusion, new light to be shipped March 28th, spare light ordered as well.
- b. **RWE Surveys for Offshore Wind:** Mr. Ibach states RWE will be doing surveys in June regarding offshore wind for 30-40 days.
- c. **Surfboards on Beach:** Mr. Zerlang asked for surfers to mark gear for retrieval, and Deputy Rogers asks surfers to call in if they lose gear, so it is known not to look for lost surfer. Jen Kalt to reach out to Surfrider Foundation.
- d. **Buoy #9:** Captain Zerlang stated Buoy #9 is valuable to the commercial fishing fleet and deep draft barges. BMC Carter McGuire gave an update that project money is available. Suggested Buoy 9 become electronic marker because sinkers have failed multiple times in the past, suggested smaller marker in its place, wants to maximize funds available for repairs. Mr. Ibach states Buoy #9 is crucially important for the safety of the commercial fishing fleet due to its location and lack of technology utilized by local fishing fleet. Buoy #2 is less important compared to Buoy #9 is the opinion of the fleet. Commander Miller asked for written documentation of navigation safety concerns. Captain Petrusa reiterated the importance of Buoy#9 because it keeps mariners out of a dangerous area and keeps them in the channel instead of cutting across. It is important for shipping due to nighttime transit; it is very helpful to calculate swing around the corner and avoid shoaling near Buoy #10. Mr. Hulbert stated that Buoy #9 is a visual cue/barrier to keep people out of dangerous areas and reiterated lack of electronics on some vessels. Mr. McGuire agreed Buoy #9 should be re-instated. Captain Zerlang thanked the Aids to Navigation team. Captain Zerlang stated the shoaling near Buoy #10 is phenomenal.
- e. **Marine Outfall Pipe:** Chris Mikkelsen gave report on the Outfall Pipe and erosion from recent storms, the need for Near Shore Placement.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:34 hours.

The next Harbor Safety meeting is scheduled for May 16, 2024.

Amber Shehan, Secretariat
Port of Humboldt Bay