

**Harbor Safety Committee of the Humboldt Bay Area
0900 hours July 15, 2021 – Via ZOOM Conference Call**

Attendees

Leroy Zerlang (Z&Z/Coos Bay Tug)	Reuben Macaspac (OSPR)
Larry Oetker (HBHD)	Peter Mull (USACOE)
John Powell (HB Bar Pilots)	Britni Anderson (HBHD)
Marcus Walker (HCSO)	Donald Wilkes (City of Eureka)
Jonathan Bishop (Coastal Commission)	Pete Jackson (CA Redwood Co.)
Jeffrey Ferguson (NOAA)	Adam Shilts (USCG)
Jeff Dayton (OSPR)	Robert Canepa (USCG)
Ross McDonald (Sause Bros)	Jacqueline Tagaropoulos (USCG)

Leroy Zerlang called the meeting to order at 0903 hours.

1. **Introductions were made.**
2. **Swearing in of members** – None
3. **Public Comment** – None
4. **Status/Updates**
 - a. **Nuisance vessels, unseaworthy vessels, sunken vessels, abandoned Vehicles/Vessels/Debris Abatement** – Larry Oetker announced that the Harbor District received grant funds for disposal of commercial fishing vessels, and they are actively working on obtaining grant funds for disposal of recreational vessels. Leroy Zerlang reports that the City of Eureka is in the processes of removing and destroying six vessels. He also discussed the group effort of removing debris from the Samoa Peninsula.
 - b. **Oil Spills / Accidents / Incidents** – Adam Shilts reported a 16ft aluminum boat that sank in Trinidad on July 1st. There were no injuries, but the small fuel tank onboard was not recovered. Deputy Marcus Walker reported a boat that crashed into the Redwood Marine Terminal dock a few weeks ago. There was no spill from the incident.
 - c. **Boater Safety Training** – N/A
 - d. **Navigational Aids – Location and Status** – Jacqueline Tagaropoulos discussed buoy number 9 being replaced with a non-floating tripod.
 - e. **Ship Traffic** – John Powell and Leroy Zerlang gave local ship updates. Pete Jackson gave updates on ship traffic for the next year. Larry Oetker discussed the survey that was announced to be taking place in the area. He also gave an offshore cable installation update.
 - f. **Work Group Updates** – Leroy Zerlang reported that Captain Cody Hills is actively working on the Tugboat Reports.
5. **Potential Bay Projects** – Leroy Zerlang reported USCG is working on railway removal at the Humboldt Bay Station for August/September. Larry Oetker announced that the Harbor District approved a permit with Hog Island Oyster Company, and to expect new oyster beds near the channel near the Mad River Slough. He also reported that dredging is still planned to happen at Woodley Island Marina this year.
6. **Reports/Presentations**
 - a. **USACOE** – Peter Mull reported on the entrance dredging that was completed. He announced that the channel was dredged down to 48ft. He also announced that jetty repairs are underway again at the North and South Jetties. They hope to have the project complete by September of 2022. John Powell and Larry Oetker discussed future jetty improvements and vessel navigation during the upcoming

offshore wind development. Peter Mull announced the USACOE Change of Command happening this afternoon.

- b. **OSPR** – Reuben Macaspac announced that Eddie Koch suggested Adam Canter be his alternate. Reuben is waiting on the necessary paperwork needed and hopes to swear him in at the next meeting.
 - c. **USCG** – Adam Shilts reported that they are moving forward with the towing vessel certification. He also talked about the incoming reports of unlicensed Charter Vessels. Leroy Zerlang announced that Captain Marie Byrd has retired. He also announced that this will be the last HSC Meeting for Chief Bosun Mate, Jacqueline Tagaropoulos, as she is relocating to Petaluma. Leroy presented her with a letter of recognition.
 - d. **NOAA** – Jeff Ferguson reminded of the chart cancellations, Lake Tahoe being the first to go, and that everyone should be transitioning to ENC.
 - e. **Pilots** – Nothing further.
 - f. **Tug Operations** – Leroy Zerlang announced that Coos Bay Tug and Zerlang and Zerlang Marine's tugboat fleet is now fully compliant with Sub Chapter M.
 - g. **Tank Barge** – Ross McDonald gave a brief tank barge update. Larry Oetker discussed possible funds available for lost revenue that the Governor's office announced.
 - h. **Dry Cargo** – Pete Jackson reported that the ship, ATHENA, will be arriving next week.
 - i. **Local Law Enforcement** – Marcus Walker reported that the 4th of July went well, and that the Sheriff's Department will be patrolling the Critter Crawl on the 25th of this month.
 - j. **Tribal/Environmental** – N/A
 - k. **Coastal Commission** – Jonathan Bishop reported that he is working on the Tugboat Analysis and is awaiting further information.
 - l. **Commercial Fishing** – Leroy Zerlang gave an update on commercial salmon and halibut season and reported that the fishermen are gearing up for albacore tuna season.
 - m. **Port Authority** – Larry Oetker gave a Multipurpose Terminal update and announced that the Board approved submitting a grant application for funds for the project. He also discussed the new Samoa Peninsula Enhanced Infrastructure Finance District.
 - n. **Marina Updates** – Leroy Zerlang discussed the increase in crime at both marinas. Larry Oetker reported that they are currently installing new cameras at Woodley Island and are considering increased security on the island.
7. a. **No Wake Zones** – Leroy Zerlang lead a discussion on the No Wake Zones in the area, and reported that its becoming an increasing problem with people falling onboard the MADAKET, and damages to the docks on Indian Island. Leroy Zerlang and Larry Oetker discussed possible enforcement of the issue.
8. **Approval of Meeting Minutes** – May 20, 2021
Larry Oetker moved to approve minutes. John Powell Seconded.
Voice vote was called, minutes were approved unanimously.
9. **Future Meetings** – Leroy Zerlang and Larry Oetker lead a discussion about switching to in-person/hybrid meetings.
John Powell motioned to switch to hybrid meetings beginning in September. Pete Jackson Seconded.
Voice vote was called, motion was approved unanimously.

The next Harbor Safety meeting is scheduled for [THURSDAY, September 16, 2021](#)

Meeting adjourned at 1014 hours.

Respectfully Submitted,
Britni Anderson, Port of Humboldt Bay