

APPROVED

Harbor Safety Committee of the Humboldt Bay Area 0900 hours March 17, 2022 – Via ZOOM Conference Call

Attendees

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| Julie Moug (Fairhaven Term) | Peter Jackson (Cal Redwood Co) |
| Leroy Zerlang (Z&Z/Coos Bay Tug) | Peter Mull, USACOE |
| Larry Oetker (HBHD) | Daniel Rehse (CADFW) |
| Harrison Ibach (HCFMA) | Donald Wilkes (City of Eureka) |
| Jonathan Bishop (Coastal Commission) | Tim Petrusha (Humboldt Bar Pilots Assoc) |
| Jeffrey Ferguson (NOAA) | Adam Shilts, USCG |
| Jeff Dayton (OSPR) | Lt. JG LaMartina, USCG |
| Reuben Macaspac (OSPR) | Lt. Capt. Alex Miller, USCG Chief of SF Sector |
| Dep. Travis Rogers (HCSO) | Andrew Kistner, USCG |
| Kyle Hiatt (CDFW/OSPR) | Ross McDonald (Sause Bros) |
| Cory Mooers (HBHD) | Ted Mar (OSPR) |
| Mindy Hiley (HBHD) | Amber Shehan (HBHD) |
| Tyler Jewel (NWS) | Reef Twibell (Commercial fisherman) |
| Scott Thomas, USCG | |

Leroy Zerlang called the meeting to order at 0903 hours.

1. **Introductions were made.**
2. **Swearing in of members** – Reuben Macaspac swore in HCSO Deputy Travis Rogers to the Boating Safety Committee.
3. **Public Comment** – Reef Twibell commented regarding concerns of observation of inland rules, use of radio, and use of North Jetty. He has been in contact with USCG.
4. **Status/Updates**
 - a. **Nuisance vessels, unseaworthy vessels, sunken vessels, abandoned Vehicles/Vessels/Debris Abatement** – Larry Oetker discussed ongoing/renewable funds available from the Boating & Waterways vessel abatement program and the additional possibility of new separate grant funding for the fire boat and emergency equipment that should be explored. Scrappers have expressed interest due to current high scrap pricing in the larger abandoned commercial vessels at FLBY. Zerlang and Zerlang removed problem vessel “Cleone” after sinking in the City of Eureka Marina; Mercer Fraser destroyed the vessel and the owners of the vessel accept liability. Z&Z also removed 2 other sunken vessels from the Eureka Public Marina. Captain Petrusha reported a sinking vessel at King Salmon, Scott Thomas aware of “Lollygagger” and is under notice of federal interest. Officers Thomas and Kistner are working with the City of Eureka and WIM to identify abandoned vessels and explore solutions to remove them.
 - b. **Oil Spills / Accidents / Incidents** – Adam Shilts reported some sheening from the “Cleone”. Unable to abate due to tidal and wind conditions. Quick response avoided issues.
 - c. **Boater Safety Training** – Bridget Nichols was unable to attend but emailed that they are looking for a lifeguard with the season beginning.
 - d. **Navigational Aids – Location and Status** – Leroy Zerlang reported that the USCG is aware of Structure #9 the lollipop placed in Rock and Roll Alley has a severe list. USCG is in contact with West Coast Contractors to straighten.
 - e. **Ship Traffic** – Captain Petrusha gave update that the cable ships are expected to return in April/May. There were 5 cruise ships expected for the season but now updated to 3 due to low occupancy. A 700ft ship will arrive in May and the other 2 in September. Pete Jackson gave update that a partial load chip ship will arrive April 6-8. They are expecting 9 total ships this year, including a 4 million cf ship that Leroy is aware of.

- f. **Work Group Updates** – Leroy Zerlang and Julie Moug will meet to complete updates to the HS plan, last updated 4 years ago. Britni Anderson no longer with group, Mindy Hiley advised Amber Shehan with HBHD will be trained for the position.
5. **Potential Bay Projects** – Leroy Zerlang advised of potential repair to the Chevron Dock and California Redwood. Larry Oetker advised the piling removal project for City of Eureka was approved but unsure of funding status.
6. **Reports/Presentations**
- a. **USACOE** – Peter Mull reported that there had been a mild winter. Dredging open bids only received one bid from Hansen Bay Port. Timing TBD but within time frame. USACOE is awaiting news of a plus-up of the current assigned budget to hopefully be able to dredge again later in November 2022. Larry Oetker commented that the second dredging performed later was very helpful in keeping the channel open last year. Peter Mull advised of a proposal to officially extend the work window to November 30 and asks for public and agency support. There is a contractor on site in the North Jetty preparing for a \$3.6 million project for concrete cap work and cornerstone replacements. Mobilization in mid-April and expected to finish by July/Aug 2022.
 - b. **OSPR** – Reuben Macaspac swore in Deputy Rogers today. Larry Oetker’s membership expires in 3 days and Larry will renew. He advised that Port Huemene submitted SB 414 for OSPR approval. He would like to see safety plan completed for HBHSC. Jeff Dayton thanked City of Eureka, Z&Z, and Mercer Fraser for quick response to “Cleone” incident. He gave update that the seawater intake subtidal lease revision is in draft. He asked to return to in-person meetings. Larry and Leroy informed that next meeting will be hybrid in-person and Zoom. Larry thanked Jeff on behalf of the commercial fisherman and oyster community for updating their plans and protecting their resources.
 - c. **USCG** – Lt. Miller and Lt. LaMartina gave a presentation on PAC-PARS. Dist 11 has posted a Notice of Inquiry for comments focused on navigation of the Humboldt Bay specifically around the wind farm lease area. You can email queries however public comments must be submitted via register no later than 05-26-2022 here: <https://www.regulations.gov/document/USCG-2021-0345-0054>
 - d. **NOAA** – Jeff Ferguson states no new updates, just a reminder that the process to end raster chart production continues. There are currently no charts listed for cancellation in your immediate area. New tools are available on the website to view ENC data with symbology to make it look like a raster/paper chart.
 - e. **Pilots** – Captain Petrusha gave an update that 2 apprentices are waiting on direction from the HBHD Pilot Advisory Committee to make them official candidates. Larry Oetker stated will respond by 03-21-2022.
 - f. **Tug Operations** – Leroy Zerlang announced that Coos Bay Tug will have a 3rd tugboat in Humboldt Bay in June. He also forwarded information on lithium batteries from the USCG to Suzie and the fisherman’s training group.
 - g. **Tank Barge** – Ross McDonald had nothing further.
 - h. **Dry Cargo** – Julie Moug had nothing further.
 - i. **Local Law Enforcement** – Deputy Rogers has no updates but is looking forward to working with the HSC. Daniel Rehse gave update to expect increase in boat traffic and the new “No-Wake” Buoys will go up April 1st.
 - j. **Tribal/Environmental** – N/A, Leroy to reach out for current member to attend meetings.
 - k. **Coastal Commission** – Jonathan Bishop updated that the offshore wind project leasing is going to public hearing April 6-8.
 - l. **Commercial Fishing** – Harrison Ibach had nothing further, season slow.
 - m. **Port Authority** – Larry Oetker reviewed the cable project and showed on the maps the relation to the offshore wind project. The conduit has been laid and is ready for the cable to be pulled with the cable ships return in April. A 12-month study sample has begun in coordination with the Wiyot tribe for longfin smelt larvae in preparation for the Nordic Aquafarms project. He reported that the fire boat has been serviced and is in operation. He met with charter boats regarding passenger safety. He also announced that the 7-year project for Spartina Eradication on Tuluwat Island begins soon, and that dredging at Woodley Island Marina will be taking place in 2023.

- n. **Marina Updates** – Donald Wilkes announced that City of Eureka firework display will be happening for Fourth of July this year and have been approved by the SF USCG. The city received a \$5000 grant from CFW for oil absorption pads for the trailer. He will follow up on the replacement pilings at the Fisherman's Wharf possible end of summer timeline. The City of Trinidad (PH#707-825-2775) gave an update that the storm water retention tanks will be installed for the season in the dirt public parking lot in April and May.
- 7. a. **Proposed New Wind Energy Terminal** - Larry Oetker gave an update on the offshore wind project, announcing the Board of Commissioners approval to receive a \$10,450,000 grant from the CEC to repurpose RMTII Terminal to support offshore wind energy development. He presented information and timelines regarding the project. He reviewed that the 2 water intake structures at Redwood Dock and RMTII will be updated. No changes to the outfall pipe, will continue to be under capacity at 15 million cu ft of 40 million cu ft potential.
- 8. **Approval of Meeting Minutes** - No meeting minutes prepared to approve from last meeting in January.

The next Harbor Safety meeting is scheduled for [THURSDAY, May 19, 2022 @ 09:00 hours.](#)

Meeting adjourned at 10:04 hours.

Respectfully Submitted,
Amber Shehan, Port of Humboldt Bay