

Approved with Minor Edits

Harbor Safety Committee of the Humboldt Bay Area

0900 hours May 19, 2022 – Hybrid In-Person Meeting @ Woodley Island Marina Conference Room & Via ZOOM Video Conference Call

Attendees

Leroy Zerlang (Z&Z/Coos Bay Tug)
Larry Oetker (HBHD)
Julie Moug (Fairhaven Terminal)
Jeffrey Ferguson (NOAA)
Jeff Dayton (OSPR)
Reuben Macaspac (OSPR)
Ross McDonald (Sause Bros)
Donald Wilkes (City of Eureka)
Tim Petrick (Crescent City Harbor)
Jonathan Bishop (CCC)
Harrison Ibach (Fishermen)
Todd Garrett (Crescent City Harbor)

Peter Jackson (Cal Redwood Co)
Peter Mull (USACOE)
Daniel Rehse (CADFW)
Amber Shehan (HBHD)
Mindy Hiley (HBHD)
Kent Hulbert (HASA)
Travis Rogers (HCSO)
Reuben Macaspac (OSPR)
Jeffrey Ferguson (NOAA)
Scott Thomas (USCG)
Andrew Kistner (USCG)

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

1. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Introductions were made.

3. Swearing in of members – None.

4. Public Comment – None.

5. Status/Updates

- a. **Nuisance Vessels / Unseaworthy Vessels / Sunken Vessels / Abandoned Vehicles / Vessels / Debris Abatement** – Scott Thomas for Chief Shilts (USCG) gave updates on vessels Calypso and Charmaine.
- b. **Oil Spills / Accidents / Incidents** - USCG Station HB reported on March 30, 5-gal diesel fuel discharged while refueling. April 26 – SAR mission for Capsized vessel and 2 persons aboard reported missing, vessel recovered April 27 by CDFW. Both persons believed to have perished, but only 1 body has been recovered. Other minor sheening incidents reported, 1 reported by private citizen discovered to be organic matter. 2 incidences of mystery sheen. May 14 incident in Noyo harbor where vessel was overpowered, vessel capsized and 4 people went in water, everyone was rescued safely. Donald Wilkes had nothing to report. Larry Oetker reported on 2 large fishing vessels in Fields Landing Boat Yard destroyed and scrapped with funds from the SAFE grant. 15 total 55 gal barrels of oil removed.
- c. **Boater Safety Training / Recreational Boating** – Kent Hulbert reported that salmon and halibut season is underway.
- d. **Navigational Aids Location and Status / Navigation Chart Changes** – None.
- e. **Ship Traffic** – Leroy Zerlang reported on Seven Seas Mariner 750 ft cruise ship on May 3 with 277 passengers, docked at Schneider Dock. 2 more cruise ships expected in September and 2 more in 2023. Flora Pioneer came in for Green Diamond partial load, 5-6 more ships expected this year. In July, for first time, expecting an 82,000-ton ship, 1/3 bigger than common chip ships, 7 bays to load. Receiving many calls regarding ships for offshore wind, 10 ships expected in 2025. Increased calls for break bulk cargo ships due to backlog in shipping containers, possibly 2 ships a month brought in through Schneider Group and goods will then be trucked out of the bay. 2 cable ships expected in August through Wilhelm Shipping Agency. Larry Oetker stated there will need to be a Notice to Mariners for the cable ships. USCG inquired about Hazmat status for cargo ships, Leroy to resolve.

f. **Work Group Updates** – None.

6. **Potential Bay Projects** – Leroy Zerlang reported on superficial work at the Chevron Dock and reported Green Diamond, Chevron, and Fairhaven terminal doing soundings by Bay Marine. Pete Jackson reported on Dolphin 3, new engineer has been hired. Larry Oetker would like coordinated dredging in 2023 to reduce cost. He reported there will be engineering assessments performed at Field's Landing within 6 months to assess the travel lift capacity in preparation for the offshore wind construction ships. The 260ft new terminal at RMT1 project is moving forward with funding from various sources and approval from CCC. 2 separate lease areas have been approved. Permits expected by 2024 and construction by 2025. He expects increased vessel traffic during the construction period before the new terminal is completed. The new terminal is being planned for potentially more than 6000 psi per sq. inch and is being designed for the future. Fixed aids to navigation may have to be moved to allow for larger ships over 300 ft wide to navigate the channel. He also gave update that permits for Nordic Aquafarms are expected to be approved before the end of the year.

7. Reports/Presentations -

- a. **USACOE** – Peter Mull reported that dredging contract was awarded to Manson Construction, they will be on site June 13. Jetty construction is moving towards completion later this summer. No update on funding for dredging of inner channel. Leroy Zerlang asked that #10 needs shoaling maintenance done first to accommodate large ships. Larry Oetker asked that the entrance channel needs to be pushed to accommodate under-keel clearance for the larger ships coming in for offshore wind.
- b. **OSPR** – Jeff Dayton states ACP is in USCG review. Reuben Macaspac will re-appoint Larry Oetker at meeting in July. He advised that there has been a leadership change, Capt. Tom Cullen Jr. is no longer with OSPR and Julia Yamamoto is acting administrator until the Governor appoints a new administrator. He will contact Adam Canter with the Wiyot tribe for the tribal nomination. Larry Oetker mentioned that there are several vacancies for alternates. Leroy Zerlang states Capt. Powell will stay on as primary for bar pilots for 1 more year.
- c. **USCG** – Scott Thomas reports that the nuisance vessel abatement program producing positive feedback and results, fewer mystery sheens. There was discussion about the lack of USCG presence in Crescent City. Tim Petrick reported a few complaints from fishermen about lack of USCG.
- d. **NOAA** – Jeff Ferguson gave a reminder that the process to end raster chart production continues. Chart 18605 for Trinidad Harbor will be cancelled June 1, 2022. All raster charts are schedule to be cancelled by January 1, 2025. Use ENC charts for real time navigation.
- e. **Pilots** – Larry Oetker reported on Bar Pilot sub-committee and are recruiting for new bar pilots for a training program.
- f. **Tug Operations** – Leroy Zerlang reported that Coos Bay Tug will have a third 4800 hp boat in June to accommodate Green Diamond's 82,000-ton ship.
- g. **Tank Barge** – Ross McDonald spoke about arrival of ship tonight for Sause Bros.
- h. **Dry Cargo** – Julie Moug had nothing further. Peter Jackson expects next vessel in July/Aug.
- i. **Local Law Enforcement** – Deputy Rogers states HCSO will be enforcing No-Wake Buoys. Spoke of SAR mission Apr 26/27. Daniel Rehse spoke of halibut/fishing season.
- g. **Tribal/Environmental** – None.
- h. **Coastal Commission** – Jonathan Bishop wants to discuss the area of responsibility as defined by the Safety Plan. He would like to engage the committee to clarify the Northern and Southern boundaries with latitude/longitude coordinates for the SB 414 report and for the upkeep of the Harbor Safety Plan. Leroy Zerlang commented that the area should include most of Trinidad to just south of Shelter Cove. Larry Oetker commented on overlapping boundaries between agencies.
- i. **Commercial Fishing** – Harrison Ibach reported crab season shut down, earliest date ever. Some local fleet down south salmon fishing. He also reported issues with pilings at the dock at South Bend Products and that without the City of Eureka temporary pilings the dock would be unusable due to wooden pilings that are loose, not attached and could damage a vessel or cause injury. He relayed concerns from fleet about offshore wind; they do not want to lose any shore-side infrastructure.
- j. **Port Authority** – Larry Oetker had nothing further to report.

k. **Marina Updates** – Larry Oetker reported on recent minus tides and need for dredging at WIM and around the bay. Tim Petrick with Crescent City reported working on grant applications for the sea wall that is failing and dredging permits. He reported Fashion Blacksmith Inc. is suing Crescent City. Leroy Zerlang will reach out to Trinidad Harbor about lack of attendance to Harbor Safety Committee meetings.

8. Other -

- a. Notice from Port of SF, discontinued staffing of customs in Eureka office due to Officer Prince retiring. Leroy Zerlang reported on cruise ship interaction with Customs and asked for letter writing support to Customs and Border patrol about the need for an officer in the area especially with upcoming ship traffic due to offshore wind and suggested to get the airports involved as well. Larry Oetker reported to put it on the HBHD Board meeting agenda.
- b. Harbor Safety Plan – First draft expected to present to committee in July for editing and approval per Larry Oetker.
- c. Secretariat Grant – per Amber Shehan in process for FY 2022-2023.

9. Minutes approved, Larry Oetker moved to approve 3 sets of minutes from November 18, 2021, January 20, 2022, and March 17, 2022. Julie Moug seconded motion. Voice vote was called, minutes were approved unanimously.

The next Harbor Safety meeting is scheduled for [THURSDAY, July 21, 2022 @ 09:00 hours. Meeting will be hybrid.](#)

Meeting adjourned at 10:32 hours.

Respectfully Submitted,
Amber Shehan, Port of Humboldt Bay