

DRAFT**Harbor Safety Committee of the Humboldt Bay Area**

0900 hours July 21, 2022 – Hybrid In-Person Meeting @ Woodley Island Marina Conference Room & Via ZOOM Video Conference Call

Attendees	
Leroy Zerlang (Zerlang & Zerlang / Coos Bay Tug)	Amanda Admire (Cal Poly Humboldt- PORTS) – via ZOOM
Larry Oetker (Humboldt Bay Harbor District)	Grant Rohden (Trinidad Rancheria)
Chris Mikkelsen (Humboldt Bay Harbor District)	Natalie Arroyo (Redwood Community Action Agency)
Cory Mooers (Humboldt Bay Harbor District)	Rob Holmlund (Humboldt Bay Harbor District)
Amber Shehan (Humboldt Bay Harbor District)	Tim Petrick (Crescent City Harbor) – via ZOOM
Reuben Macaspac (CDFW OSPR) – via ZOOM	Daniel Rehse (CDFW) – via ZOOM
Jeff Dayton (CDFW OSPR)	Adam Canter (Wiyot Tribe) – via ZOOM
Ted Mar (CDFW OSPR) – via ZOOM	
Jeffrey Ferguson (NOAA) – via ZOOM	
Jonathan Bishop (California Coastal Commission) – via ZOOM	
Donald Wilkes (City of Eureka) – via ZOOM	
Capt. John Powell (Humboldt Bay Bar Pilots) – via ZOOM	
Ross McDonald (Sause Brothers) – via ZOOM	
Peter Mull (USACOE) – via ZOOM	
LCDR Alexandra Miller (USCG) – via ZOOM	
CWO Adam Shilts (USCG)	
MST 1 Scott Thomas (USCG)	
Ofc. Danielle Garcia (USCG)	

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

1. **Pledge of Allegiance.**
2. **Meeting Introductions were made.**
3. **Swearing in of members:** Reuben Macaspac from OSPR swore in Larry Oetker and Chris Mikkelsen from the Humboldt Bay Harbor District as Primary and Alternate Members for Port Authority.
4. **Public Comment:** Natalie Arroyo spoke as a representative from the Redwood Community Action Agency. She is seeking public comments over the next 2-3 weeks from residents of the Samoa peninsula and the local fishing community regarding the proposed Offshore Wind Energy project and potential community benefits. She can be reached at phone # 707-269-2059 or via email: narroyo@caa.org
5. **Status/Updates**
 - a. **Nuisance Vessels / Unseaworthy Vessels / Sunken Vessels / Abandoned Vehicles / Vessels / Debris Abatement:** Cory Mooers from Woodley Island Marina reported phone calls about the No Wake Buoys near Tuluwat Island that do not have lights at night. Leroy Zerlang commented they are in non-navigable area and are not required to have lights. Don Wilkes from City of Eureka reported that they are waiting on grant funding to destroy 5-6 derelict vessels in their marina. Larry Oetker from the Harbor District reported on upcoming revised lease requirements that include mandatory liability insurance for vessels at Woodley Island Marina as part of an approach to prevent derelict vessels. Mr. Oetker suggested that the City of Eureka and Trinidad Rancheria compare insurance requirements and policies with the Harbor District.
 - b. **Oil Spills / Accidents / Incidents:** CWO Adam Shilts from USCG received a report of a tar ball on shore at Pebble Beach in Crescent City on May 22nd. Per OSPR, no tar ball was located. On May 31st, a sheen at Noyo Harbor was reported outside of USCG jurisdiction for pollution and transferred call to the EPA. No sheen was located by the EPA. On June 7th, a white Subaru went into the Bay outside the Wharfinger building in the exact same spot a previous vehicle went into the Bay. No sheening was reported, quick response from EPD. On June 10th, MSD spotted a sheen in the bay, determined to be biological. June 16th, a small boat flipped with 3 persons on board, all 3 persons rescued, but 3-gallon fuel tank missing and not recovered.

June 20th, incident under investigation for tank barge Monterey Bay that grounded near the South tip of Jetty outbound, no pollution involved. Noted by Officer Shilts that this information is not an official press release, and the incident is still under investigation. July 1st, sheen reported near Trinidad Pier, MSD on scene, no sheen located. Deployment exercises completed with Trinidad Rancheria and the Yurok tribe for Oil Spill response. Larry Oetker and Chris Mikkelsen reported on pending grant from OSPR to refill supplies for Oil Spill response trailers.

- c. **Boater Safety Training / Recreational Boating:** None.
 - d. **Navigational Aids Location and Status / Navigation Chart Changes:** Amber Shehan from HBHD reported phone calls regarding unknown buoys past North end of Tuluwat Island. Leroy Zerlang informed they are No-Wake Buoys. LCDR Miller reminded that USCG needs to be informed about buoys even if in non-navigable channel. Leroy Zerlang stated they were reported. Adam Shilts to follow up.
 - e. **Ship Traffic:** Capt. John Powell reported that on June 4th, the Thomason had injured crew member that had to be brought in for medical attention for ankle injury. Tug Kestrel came in for Sause Bros. Cable ship Segero coming in on July 25th. Leroy Zerlang reported expecting the Ocean Pegasus and California Redwood expecting at least 4-5 more ships this year. Second cable ship expected in addition to 2 more cruise ships in September.
6. **Work Group Updates:** Jonathan Bishop reported for the Tug Work Group that the SB 414 Report has a preliminary draft circulating for edits within the work group. They plan to submit final draft for approval to the HSC at next regular meeting in September. He would like to coordinate the SB 414 Report with the planned updates to the Harbor Safety Plan.
7. **Potential Bay Projects:** Leroy Zerlang reports Hog Island at Fairhaven and Green Diamond are preparing for dock repairs. Larry Oetker reported in water work by Cal Trans not planned for several months.
8. **Reports/Presentations -**
- a. **USACOE:** Peter Mull reported that dredging by Manson Construction on the Bar and Entrance channel was completed about a week ago, surveys and evaluations wrapping up, operations went smoothly, South Jetty work on concrete cap almost completed. Leroy Zerlang states area around marker 10 looks good and channel open and stated that future dredging will need to be pushed to markers 13-14. Larry Oetker stated that the authorized depth needs reviewed by the USACOE with upcoming potential vessel traffic from Offshore Wind Energy/potential new terminal on Samoa peninsula. Harbor District and USACOE have meetings planned to discuss.
 - b. **OSPR:** Reuben Macaspac reported on Larry Oetker re-nomination as Primary member for Port Authority and Chris Mikkelsen for alternate. Reuben reported that Capt. Powell, Capt. Petrusha, and Mr. Ibach's nominations have expired, and they will be emailed to re-apply. No response from Adam Canter for Wiyot tribe regarding nomination to Tribal/Environmental. Jeff Dayton reported continuation of work on Smith River spill. He states the OSPR office will re-open to the public in September.
 - c. **USCG:** CWO Adam Shilts reminded everyone that the Bar and Entrance channel to Humboldt Bay is a federally regulated navigation area for tank vessels with extra safety requirements. He distributed copies of CFR 165.1195 and offered his assistance to answer any questions.
 - d. **NOAA:** Jeff Ferguson gave reminder that the process to end raster chart production continues. Chart #18605 for Trinidad Harbor was 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:** Capt. Powell reported on training program for Bar Pilots. Lee Miller from Fortuna has been riding along with the Bar Pilots. Larry Oetker states a committee will be set up to select and interview a couple of new apprentices from the few that have applied.
 - f. **Tug Operations:** Leroy Zerlang reported that Coos Bay has 2 tugs, and will be bringing an additional tug in. Billeter Marine has 1 tug and small boats available.
 - g. **Tank Barge:** Ross McDonald reported that the Monterey Bay is being repaired in Coos Bay.
 - h. **Dry Cargo:** None.
 - i. **Local Law Enforcement:** None.
 - j. **Tribal/Environmental:** None.
 - k. **Coastal Commission:** Jonathan Bishop had nothing further.
 - l. **Commercial Fishing:** None.
 - m. **Port Authority:** Leroy Zerlang reported crab pots at fisherman's terminal sabotaged. Harrison Ibach had sent message asking for update regarding pilings at City of Eureka, Donald Wilkes to check status, work should begin in next few months.
 - n. **Marina Updates:** Larry Oetker gave an update that the Harbor District hosted a meeting with members of PORTs, including representatives from Chevron and Amanda Admire with Cal Poly Humboldt to review their annual monitoring system report. They are looking at a process to update aging equipment. He also mentioned Cal Poly's involvement with monitoring the erosion of bluffs and shorelines along Humboldt Bay due to sea level rise including near the PGE nuclear power plant. At this time there is no danger to the nuclear rods stored there. Rob Holmlund with HBHD recently completed a point-by-point shoreline assessment. Nordic Aquafarms project for RMT1 goes to

the Humboldt County Planning commission next week. Chris Mikkelsen gave an update that there is new interest in mariculture for seaweed and shellfish cultivation below the seaweed. He asked for Fire Boat volunteers for the Port Authority. Leroy Zerlang reported a found canoe. Chris Mikkelsen reported Mark Staniland helped pull a mariner out of the water near the Marina. Grant Rohden from Trinidad gave updates regarding training exercise with multiple agencies for oil spill response. Stormwater retention project in Trinidad complete. Donald Wilkes from City of Eureka reports full capacity, they are planning dredging. Mentioned the opening of old waterways in cow fields as the Hikshari' Trail is expanded.

9. Other:

- a. Offshore Wind Energy Update: Rob Holmlund and Larry Oetker gave an update on the potential Offshore Wind Energy. Permitting and 35% of design should be completed by April 2024. Meetings with multiple regulatory agencies planned. Potential 160-acre site at RMT1 location for new Heavy Lift multipurpose marine terminal. Geotechnical reports complete. Potential recreational boating impacts due to Eelgrass mitigation sites at Fields Landing Boat Yard.
- b. Harbor Safety Plan: Rob Holmlund and Amber Shehan presented timeline and strategy to update the Humboldt Bay Harbor Safety Plan to prepare for the future of regulating vessel traffic in Humboldt Bay due to the proposed new terminal and offshore wind energy site. Will submit update for 21-22 late by August 2022 with minor revisions. Planned complex update to the Harbor Safety Plan to be developed and submitted for committee approval in June 2023 for 22-23. Scott Thomas commented the USCG will need information on what type and volume of vessel increases are expected from new construction to ensure they have resources available. Jonathan Bishop reminded of key aspects of Harbor Safety plan and OSPR guidelines.
- c. Leroy Zerlang posed question regarding ownership tide board near the USCG station beyond use, is dangerous, and needs replaced for dredging purposes. Jeffrey Ferguson from NOAA to follow up.

10. Approve Meeting Minutes from May 19, 2022

Minutes approved with minor edits from Jeff Dayton. Larry Oetker moved to approved, Capt. Powell seconded, Voice vote was called. Minutes were approved with minor edits unanimously.

AYES: Zerlang, Oetker, Powell, Bishop, McDonald. **NOES:** None.

ABSENT: Moug, Hulbert, Rogers, Ibach

The next Harbor Safety meeting is scheduled for [THURSDAY, September 15, 2022 @ 09:00 hours. Meeting will be hybrid.](#)

Meeting adjourned at 10:42 hours.

Respectfully Submitted,
Amber Shehan, Port of Humboldt Bay