

Lower Columbia Region Harbor Safety Committee Managing Board Meeting Minutes

0900 - 1000

Wednesday, 11 January 2012

Venue: USCG MSU Portland, 6767 North Basin Ave, Portland

Managing Board Members Present					
Name of Member and Alternate	Agency/ Industry/ Organization	Sector	Name of Member and Alternate	Agency/ Industry/ Organization	Sector
Jim Townley	Columbia River Steamship Operators	Associations	Eric Burnette	Port of Portland	Ports
Margerie Sedam	Merchants Exchange	Associations	Lars Uglum	Port of Vancouver USA	Ports
Kirk Bonnin	Olympic Tug & Barge	Barge Operators	Phil Brotherton	Transmarine Navigation Corp.	Shipping Agents
Jon Gornick	US Army Corps of Engineers	Federal Agencies	Mike Zollitsch	Oregon Dept of Environ. Quality	State Agencies
Len Tumbarello Mike Zamperini Steve Kee	US Coast Guard	Federal Agencies	Diane Butorac	Washington State Dept of Ecology	State Agencies
Dan Jordan	Columbia River Bar Pilots	Pilots	Hans Meere	Export Grain Terminal (EGT)	Terminal Operators
Carl Boelter	Clean Rivers Cooperative	Port & Vessel Services	Pete Pawlicki	K-Sea Transportation	Vessel Operators
Roman Geigle George Birch	NWFF Environmental	Port & Vessel Services	Dennis Corwin	Portland Spirit	Vessel Operators
Guests in Attendance					
Name	Organization	Name	Organization		
CAPT Helmagi	Columbia River Pilots				

A quorum was present for the meeting.

Call to Order

Chair: Eric Burnette

Vice-Chair: Diane Butorac

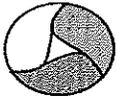
Introduced Managing Board Members and Guests

Review of Minutes

Minutes will be posted on the website as soon as they are completed as "Draft" minutes. The Managing Board Meeting November 9, 2011 minutes will be posted and reviewed at the March 2012 meeting.

Old Business

- Susan Johnson was confirmed as Secretary.



- Reviewed roster and updated Managing Board members and alternates. Phil Brotherton will talk at the next meeting of agents to see if anyone else from that sector wants to be on the Managing Board.
- Confirmed 2012 Meeting Dates and Locations

March 14, 2012	Port of Vancouver
May 9, 2012	Millennium Bulk Logistics, Longview
July 11, 2012	USCG, Astoria
September 12, 2012	USCG, Swan Island
November 14, 2012	Portland Spirit
- Discussed 2013 HSC National Conference. No decision made, USCG needs to discuss the issue further so the decision to host the conference or not will be made at March 2012 meeting. Diane Butorac will call the USCG point of contact, Rajiv, and see if any other HSCs have expressed interest in hosting the 2013 conference and notify him that we will be making the decision in March.
- Approved the January 2012 Harbor Safety Plan, a consolidated version with all the current chapters. This document will be in a pdf format and will be available on the website and sent to the Managing Board for further distribution.
- Approved language for Make Way requirements for the WDFW Sportfishing Pamphlet. Diane Butorac will provide WDFW with the information before the deadline for inclusion in the next version.

Committees Reports

Starting in March, committees will report out during the General Membership meetings and only issues or items requiring Managing Board actions will be discussed at the Managing Board meetings.

Finance (Hans Meere)

The Port of Portland is providing funding for the website for 2012.

Make-Way (Steve Kee)

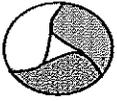
Look at how we can provide more outreach and education on Make Way.

New Business

- Discussed revisions to update the Charter. Changes were proposed to include the website and posting of information there, changes to the Secretary Treasurer responsibilities and attendance requirements. Diane Butorac will send out the proposed revisions and ask for comments. Plan to bring the final draft to the Managing Board in March for approval.
- Eric Burnette provided an update on his request for discussion topics from Merchants Exchange of Portland; CRSOA; PNWA; Columbia River Pilots; Columbia River Bar Pilots; Ports of Kalama, Longview, Portland and Vancouver; and USCG.

Next Meeting: March 14, 2012; Location: Port of Vancouver

Adjourned 1004



Lower Columbia Region Harbor Safety Committee General Membership Meeting Minutes

1000 - 1200

Wednesday, 11 January 2012

Venue: USCG MSU Portland, 6767 North Basin Ave, Portland

Managing Board Members Present					
Name of Member and Alternate	Agency/ Industry/ Organization	Sector	Name of Member and Alternate	Agency/ Industry/ Organization	Sector
Jim Townley	Columbia River Steamship Operators	Associations	Eric Burnette	Port of Portland	Ports
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Kirk Bonnin	Olympic Tug & Barge	Barge Operators	Phil Brotherton	Transmarine Navigation Corp.	Shipping Agents
Jon Gornick	US Army Corps of Engineers	Federal Agencies	Mike Zollitsch	Oregon Dept of Environ. Quality	State Agencies
Len Tumbarello Mike Zamperini Steve Kee	US Coast Guard	Federal Agencies	Diane Butorac	Washington State Dept of Ecology	State Agencies
Dan Jordan	Columbia River Bar Pilots	Pilots	Hans Meere	Export Grain Terminal (EGT)	Terminal Operators
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Roman Geigle George Birch	NWFF Environmental	Port & Vessel Services	Dennis Corwin	Portland Spirit	Vessel Operators
Guests in Attendance					
Name	Organization	Name	Organization		
Halmagyi	Columbia River Pilots				

A quorum was present for the meeting.

Call to Order

Chair: Eric Burnette

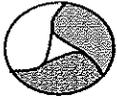
Vice-Chair: Diane Butorac

Introduced Managing Board Members and Guests

Review of Minutes

Minutes will be posted on the website as soon as they are completed as "Draft" minutes. The Managing Board Meeting November 9, 2011 minutes will be posted and reviewed at the March 2012 meeting.

Old Business



- Stern Buoy Update / Eric Burnette

Committees Reports

Announced that starting in March, committees will report out during the General Membership meetings and only issues or items requiring Managing Board actions will be discussed at the Managing Board meetings.

Anchorage
Charter
Finance
Make-Way
Navigation
Outreach
USCG Liaison

New Business

- CAPT Rick Williams (USN Ret.) SAIC Marine Technology described need for better charting of the firing range danger Zone off Camp Rilea (near Warrenton). Discussed SDZ (surface danger zone) and DZ (danger zone). Also discussed plans for offshore energy devices at the boundaries of this range. Noted that Pacific Energy ventures / Justin Klure is pursuing this and is in the feasibility study phase now. Noted that Asst Secy of the Army will be visiting Oregon in Feb 12, in part to review this project. Capt Williams noted that eventually there would be the need for some sort of an HSC on the OR/WA coast. The chair suggested that LCRHSC might adopt that role, for this project only, in the short term until some other option surfaced. No decision taken.
- Chair presented PowerPoint from CA state on fuel switching and related issues.
- General membership discussion of fuel switching and loss of propulsion.

Next Meeting: March 14, 2012; Location: Port of Vancouver

Adjourned



Lower Columbia Region Harbor Safety Committee Managing Board Meeting Minutes

0900 - 1000

Wednesday, 14 March 2012

**Venue: Commission Room, Port of Vancouver
3103 Lower River Road, Vancouver, WA**

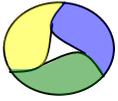
Managing Board Members Present					
Name of Member and Alternate	Agency/ Industry/ Organization	Sector	Name of Member and Alternate	Agency/ Industry/ Organization	Sector
Jim Townley	Columbia River Steamship Operators	Associations	Eric Burnette	Port of Portland	Ports
Margerie Sedam	Merchants Exchange	Associations	Lars Uglum	Port of Vancouver USA	Ports
Heather Stebbings	Pacific Northwest Waterways Assn.	Associations	Susan Johnson	Oregon Board of Maritime Pilots	State Agencies
Kirk Bonnin	Olympic Tug & Barge	Barge Operators	Mike Zollitsch	Oregon Dept of Environ. Quality	State Agencies
Jeremy Maginot Mike Zamperini	US Coast Guard	Federal Agencies	Diane Butorac	Washington State Dept of Ecology	State Agencies
Dan Jordan	Columbia River Bar Pilots	Pilots	Hans Meere	Export Grain Terminal (EGT)	Terminal Operators
Paul Amos	Columbia River Pilots	Pilots	Pete Pawlicki	K-Sea Transportation	Vessel Operators
Ernie Quesada	Clean Rivers Cooperative	Port & Vessel Services	Dennis Corwin Don Gribling	Portland Spirit	Vessel Operators
Roman Geigle George Birch	NWFF Environmental	Port & Vessel Services			
Guests in Attendance					
Name	Organization	Name	Organization		
Tony Sellers	USCG Ret.	Heather Sievers	Millenium Bulk		
Stu Richard	Columbia River Pilots	Mike M.	Willamette Star		
Brian Fletcher	TBL	Duffy Daniels	Wilhelmsen Ship Svcs.		
Bruce Skerry	Transmarine Navigation	Crescent Moegling	NOAA		
Joe Brown	USCG	Mitch Cline	USCG		
Peter Bennett	Millenium Bulk				

A quorum was present for the meeting.

Call to Order

Chair: Eric Burnette

Vice-Chair: Diane Butorac



Introduced Managing Board Members and Guests

Review of Minutes

The November 9, 2011 meeting notes were incomplete and Heather Stebbings agreed to share a copy of her notes from that meeting. Approval of the January 11, 2012 minutes was postponed.

Old Business

- Charter Update: Diane Butorac sent the proposed update by email, noting that several people have had difficulty opening the attachments. A motion to approve the changes to the Charter, that are mostly administrative in nature, was seconded and approved.
- 2013 HSC National Conference: After significant discussion, a commitment to 2013 seemed infeasible, but there was further discussion of hosting the event in 2014. It was agreed to get a formal response from the local Coast Guard on whether they could participate. During discussion in the general meeting, conflicting numbers relative to the cost of staging the conference raised concerns. It was agreed that contacts would be made to confirm the actual cost of this event.
- Stern Buoy Project Update: Application was made to the Coast Guard to extend the existing Cottonwood anchorage up to the downstream border of the old Trojan site, which raised Prescott-area resident objections. Of the three buoys being sited, one is being placed in Vancouver and the other two are in doubt. Rainier is another potential site for one of the buoys. Cmdr. Mike Zampirini advised that the Coast Guard is considering rewriting the boundaries of the anchorage area to protect views as a compromise with area residents. Paul Amos raised concern about the loss of an undesignated anchorage area that will be created that has been used for decades at least as a temporary area while waiting for berths. There are other areas that should or could be designated in the future.

Committee Reports

Anchorage (Eric Burnett) – Old Business, Stern Buoy Project Update

Bridges (Dennis Corwin)

Work with the Coast Guard (and the Port of Portland) is starting on bridge clearances for the Columbia River Crossing. Arrangements for a presentation on the issue could be on the agenda for the next meeting. The Tri-Met and Sellwood bridges are on schedule.

Charter (Diane Butorac) – Old Business

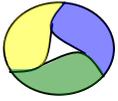
Navigation (Paul Amos) – New Business

Make Way

During the general meeting, Stu Richard noted that there are problems at this time of year with salmon fisherman when the bar is closed both on the Willamette and upriver Columbia. Mike Zampirini suggested that pilots identify hot spots that the Coast Guard can target for education and enforcement.

Outreach

Heather Stebbings has been in contact with upriver interests about the potential for establishing a harbor safety committee there. They would like to hold an initial meeting to learn about harbor safety committees. Other stakeholders think that one committee would be best for the entire river system. Currently, the LCRHSC geographical area ends at Bonneville Dam spillway. There will be a more detailed discussion at the next meeting. Grays Harbor and Coos Bay are also considering establishing area harbor safety committees.



Introduction from the Chair

Crescent Moegling is NOAA's new Navigation Manager for the Northwest Region which includes Washington and Oregon. The Office of Coast Survey provides paper and electronic safety and navigation, and nautical charting products. She is actively seeking input from user groups on where they think surveys should be conducted, as well as field questions or comments on any of their products or services.

USCG Report on Vessel Incidents

Mike Zampirini reported on the following casualties:

- *Cargo vessel* - Master was found inebriated onboard. Subsequently he was arrested, fined and banned from sailing in U.S. waters for a year. (Astoria)
- *Fishing vessel* – 62' fishing vessel with four onboard including a contract NOAA observer. All onboard were lost and a formal investigation is ongoing. (Astoria)
- *Fishing vessel* – Capsized in surf, two onboard lost. (Gold Beach)
- *Fishing vessel* – 69' fishing vessel washed up on north jetty. Four onboard were rescued. (Newport)
- *Cargo vessel* – Vessel had been laid up for years and recently put back in service. The inbound car ship experienced loss of propulsion due to a leak in the cooler. (Astoria)

Shoaling in the Vicinity of the White Salmon River (Brian Fletcher/Tidewater)

The dam breach on the White Salmon in October has since formed a large delta, to the point that vessels must deviate around it. Sediment is still continuing to build. The Coast Guard installed a temporary buoy which has since been moved out another three hundred feet. The situation will continue to be monitored.

Emergency Tow System

USCG Lt. Kelly Thorkilson, Incident Management Division Chief at Sector Columbia River, gave a presentation on their new Emergency Tow System. There have been some events over the past year, more recently with the vessels with losses of propulsion that have drawn attention to their vulnerabilities offshore with disabled vessels. The Emergency Towing System is a pre-stage package of equipment that can be deployed on a disabled vessel to hook up to a tug of opportunity. The system can be deployed from tug to ship or from helicopter to ship to hook up to a tug. The system can be used on most vessels except Panamax-sized vessels. The Coast Guard will be conducting a deployment exercise of the system on May 22-24 at the Astoria Anchorage.

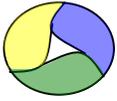
Emission Control Area – Low Sulfur Fuel

Arven Garcia, USCG Marine Inspector, provides training on rules and regulations on low sulfur fuel switching in emission control areas. He gave a presentation on the enforcement provisions going into effect in North America on August 1, 2012. The enforcement area extends out to 200 miles offshore. That means that at 200 nautical miles, a vessel must switch from 3.5% sulfur fuel content to one percent. In 2015, the sulfur cap will drop to 0.1%. The concern is of vessels losing propulsion connected with fuel switchover. It is anticipated that at 200 miles out, vessels that do lose propulsion will have time to fix the problem, rather than lose propulsion in the river system. There is also concern that low speed maneuvering in port has also caused propulsion problems, which may or may not be resolved by assist tugs. Domestic vessels are issued documentation by the EPA to certify their compliance. Worldwide compliance is overseen by the IMO, which by 2020 will have a 0.5% sulfur cap. When foreign vessels come into US waters, they will have to comply with the 0.1% sulfur cap.

New Business

- **Navigation (Paul Amos)**

Paul Amos intends to resurrect the committee which has been inactive for over a year. There was a situation where a small vessel under 10,000 gross tons arrived with only one working radar. While that falls within proper guidelines, for safety purposes two working radars are preferred in case one fails. The committee will review this and other issues within the context of harbor safety guidelines, as well as update the *Coast Pilot*.



- Willamette River Dredging Project – An informal overlay drawing was provided identifying the next area to propose dredging on the Willamette River to the Army Corps. The last area proposed for dredging at Post Office Bar took three years to complete. The next area to formally request for dredging is the Albina Turning Basin. Typically, ships can only turn here if there are no other ships in the vicinity. Otherwise, a ship must go four miles downriver in reverse to the next turning basin. A letter will be drafted to the Army Corps from the Managing Board of the Harbor Safety Committee to request formal consideration of this project.

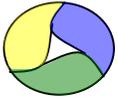
For the Good of the Order

Future agendas:

- Long-range regional growth; planning – Paul Amos referred to a meeting the pilots organized with stakeholders in January on this subject. It was agreed to include this as a May agenda item.
- Derelict vessels.

Next Meeting: May 9, 2012; Location: Millennium Bulk Logistics, Longview

Adjourned 1150



Lower Columbia Region Harbor Safety Committee Meeting Minutes

0900 - 1200

Wednesday, 09 May 2012

Venue: Millennium Bulk Terminals, Administration Building
4029 Industrial Way, Longview, WA

Managing Board Members Present

Name of Member and Alternate	Agency/ Industry/ Organization	Sector	Name of Member and Alternate	Agency/ Industry/ Organization	Sector
Jim Townley	Columbia River Steamship Operators	Associations	Eric Burnette	Port of Portland	Ports
Kirk Bonnin	Olympic Tug & Barge	Barge Operators	Susan Johnson	Oregon Board of Maritime Pilots	State Agencies
Jon Gornick	US Army Corps of Engineers	Federal Agencies	Pete Pawlicki	Kirby Offshore Marine	Vessel Operators
Tony Sellers ENS McPhillips	US Coast Guard	Federal Agencies	Diane Butorac Bob Troyer	Washington State Dept of Ecology	State Agencies
Dan Jordan	Columbia River Bar Pilots	Pilots	Hans Meere	Export Grain Terminal (EGT)	Terminal Operators
Anne McIntyre	Columbia River Pilots	Pilots	Fred Harding	Shaver Transportation	Vessel Operators
Roman Geigle George Birch	NWFF Environmental	Port & Vessel Services	Dennis Corwin	Portland Spirit	Vessel Operators
Duffy Daniels	Wilhelmsen	Vessel Operators			

Guests in Attendance

Name	Organization	Name	Organization
Tony Sellers	USCG Ret.	Heather Sievers	Millennium Bulk
Stu Richard	Columbia River Pilots	Bruce Reed	Tidewater
Jason Sasso	NWFF	Tom Jacobsen	Foss Maritime
Bruce Skerry	Transmarine Navigation	Mark Bailey	NOAA
Chris Satalich	Columbia River Pilots	Mitch Cline	USCG
Cale Karrick	Transmarine Navigation	Mike Morgan	Willamette Star
Anne Pressentin	Columbia River Crossing	Mike Niemi	Columbia River Crossing
Brett Harding	Shaver	Robert Johnson	Columbia River Bar Pilots
Peter Bennett	Millennium Bulk	KJ Hauge	Wilhelmsen
Brad Warner	Columbia River Pilots	Randy Clark	USCG

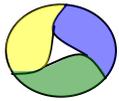
A quorum was present for the meeting. Diane Butorac was given proxy authority by Mike Zollitsch, DEQ.

Call to Order

Chair: Eric Burnette

Vice-Chair: Diane Butorac

Secretary: Susan Johnson



Introduced Managing Board Members and Guests

Review of Minutes

Minutes from the January 11 and March 14, 2012 meetings were approved. The November 9, 2011 minutes are still in need of final review.

Presentation by Peter Bennett of Millenium Bulk Terminals

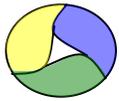
Peter Bennett, Vice President Business Development, Bulk Products, gave an overview of their facility which sits on the former site of the old Reynolds Aluminum smelter. The bulk import facility has occupied the premises for about one year. They have been engaged in ongoing clean-up efforts on the site and are planning to build an export coal facility. The company plans to build two docks for coal export operations and expects to load two ships a day at maximum capacity. Plan permits were submitted in February to the required agencies.

Old Business

- **HSC Letter of Support for Willamette Dredging in Albina Turning Basin:** The Port of Portland is in the process of hiring Parsons Brinkerhoff to do a feasibility study for that project as was done for Post Office Bar. Eric Burnette proposed to delay submission of the letter until the study is released. He added that the Army Corps has a placeholder for the project in their 2014 budget request.
- **2013 HSC National Conference:** Diane Butorac made some contacts to confirm the actual cost of this event, which was \$50,000 for the conference plus an additional \$15,000 - \$20,000 for a social event. The work involved is also more than previously believed. It was proposed and approved that the committee not host the 2013 event. There was discussion of one of the board members attending the conference being held this August in Pittsburgh.
- **Stern Buoy Project Update:** The project is still on track, with installation scheduled for August for one in Vancouver and one in Prescott. The third buoy had also been intended for Prescott but it will likely be placed in Rainier in November. Prescott-area residents and officials have tentatively agreed to one anchorage upriver near Trojan with some restrictions. A formal written approval and withdrawal of previous objections is expected from them within the next few weeks. Subsequent changes to the anchorage guidelines will then be submitted for approval. Emerging anchorage issues given future traffic projections are that there are just not going to be enough – prompting additional feasibility studies, stern buoys, and identification of additional anchorage areas for dredging.

Committee Reports

- **Anchorage**
The Port of Portland, Columbia River Pilots and Army Corps have met three times to review river status and note a remarkable rate of shoaling again this year. Dredge funding will not be adequate to address the current rate of shoaling. As of April 30, 18 of 29 reaches of the Columbia River have shoaling less than 43 feet. The Columbia River Pilots have requested an inventory of berths suitable for vessels 40-43 feet, including specs and if there's a current survey, to temporarily site loaded vessels in the event they can't move them out immediately. There are discussions of following a more aggressive two-step departure model, which will tax the existing anchorages.
- **Bridges: Presentation on the Columbia River Crossing**
Mike Niemi and Anne Pressentin provided an overview and history of the project and its current status. A project fact sheet and email sign up for periodic updates was made available.
- **Extreme Water**
A forecast has been requested from the NW River Forecast Center expected by late May or early June. The Army Corps is working with pool managers upstream to try to equalize flows to avoid the peak overflows from dams that cause extreme shoaling and sand waves. However, this will complicate the forecasting model.
- **Finance**
Port of Portland paid the annual fee for the website for 2012.



- **Navigation**

There was a committee meeting a couple of weeks ago. Discussed was the creation of a chapter in the Harbor Safety Plan for guidelines to include; minimum number of operating radars onboard, navigating inside or outside the authorized dredged channel; possible new passing lanes; and dead ship tows. The Columbia River Bar Pilots will be submitting changes to the Coast Pilot for changes in the pilotage area and updated information on the pilot boat and helicopter.

- **Make Way**

There was discussion of whether any actions were needed in preparation for the Spring and Fall seasons. The Coast Guard intends to conduct another May Way operation in late summer. Washington Fish and Wildlife has published Make Way information in their guide. HSC will be looking into publishing information in a similar Oregon issue. The Columbia River Pilots are working with the Oregon State Marine Board to put a presentation together for recreational boaters.

- **Outreach**

Following up on discussion from the last meeting about establishing an inland HSC or extending the scope of this committee, an email report was submitted. A PNWA poll of inland ports and navigation interests indicated a preference for one committee for the river system. They recommended that the committee could hold a meeting in the Tri-Cities or Walla Walla once a year in conjunction with Army Corps navigation outreach meetings. Another option would be to establish a subcommittee dedicated to upriver concerns or have an upriver representative on the Managing Board. Roman Geigle agreed to take the lead and attempt to recruit upriver participants. He has also been in contact with Capt. Charlie Yates in Coos Bay about establishing a HSC in that area, who has safety concerns with the port's expansion plans. There was discussion of having a representative from LCRHSC attend meetings in Coos Bay.

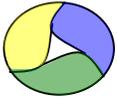
USCG Report on Vessel Incidents: No report available.

New Business

- **Regional Growth Discussion (Capt. Anne McIntyre and Jim Townley):** Earlier in the year the Columbia River Pilots in sponsorship with the Port of Portland held a regional planning meeting to determine if infrastructures were adequate to accommodate projected growth. Infrastructure concerns include stern buoys, emergency anchorages, pilot dispatch systems, enough pilot trainees, capacity of the river system and dredging. Since then there have been a few informal meetings with the Ports of Portland and Vancouver, Pilots, and PNWA. There will be another regional planning meeting on May 30 at the Port of Vancouver. The plan is to form a subcommittee under the PNWA to start looking at how to address these infrastructure issues. Better communication between stakeholders will be needed to avoid unintentionally working at cross-purposes and developing and funding duplicate systems.
- **Derelict Vessel Taskforce Update (Randy Clark, USCG):** A few weeks ago a floating home which had been illegally moored at Ackerman Island left its moorings and was captured by the Coast Guard before it could hit the I-5 bridge. A standoff between authorities for its removal from a boat ramp where it was docked under emergency circumstances is ongoing. The State of Washington has legislatively increased their vessel removal fund from \$1.7 million to 3.7 million. Oregon's fund is \$150,000 (per biennium). An upcoming Clean Pacific Conference will devote a segment of their program to submerged wrecks and abandoned vessels.
- **Dead Ship Tow Policy (ENS McPhillips, USCG):** Before a tow plan can be approved, it needs to be submitted to the USCG for permit. Plan details must include departure point, destination, vessel being towed, partners in the project, and communications schedule. Berth to berth movements within port would not require such an all-encompassing plan, but the Coast Guard does need to be informed.
- **River Status (Eric Burnette):** Continued discussion on issues noted in Anchorage Committee report and need to be aware of shoaling concerns.

Next Meeting: July 11, 2012; Location: USCG Sector Columbia River, Warrenton OR. There will be just a general membership meeting from 10:00-12:00.

Adjourned 12:01 p.m.



Lower Columbia Region Harbor Safety Committee General Membership Meeting Minutes

1000 - 1200

Wednesday, 11 July 2012

Venue: USCG Sector Columbia River, Training Room
Warrenton, OR

Managing Board Members Present					
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Kirk Bonnin	Olympic Tug & Barge	Barge Operators	Susan Johnson	Oregon Board of Maritime Pilots	State Agencies
Jon Gornick	US Army Corps of Engineers	Federal Agencies	Dennis Corwin	Portland Spirit	Vessel Operators
Capt. Bruce Jones Tony Sellers LT Morrison	US Coast Guard	Federal Agencies	Diane Butorac	Washington State Dept of Ecology	State Agencies
Dan Jordan	Columbia River Bar Pilots	Pilots	Hans Meere	Export Grain Terminal (EGT)	Terminal Operators
Paul Amos	Columbia River Pilots	Pilots	Mike Zollitsch	Oregon DEQ	State Agencies
Roman Geigle	NWFF Environmental	Port & Vessel Services			
Tony Anderson	Transmarine	Vessel Operators			
Guests in Attendance					
Name	Organization	Name	Organization		
LT Johna Rossetti	USCG	Dave Taylor	USMC Ret.		
Mike Maloney	Portland Reg. Disaster Pl.	Ed Irish	Tesoro Corp.		
Brian Fletcher	Tidewater	Chris Farrell	Columbia River Bar Pilots		
Brad Warner	Columbia River Pilots	Sean Clark	Port of Kalama		
Jennifer Hennessey	WA Dept of Ecology				

A quorum was present for the meeting.

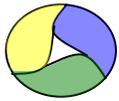
Call to Order

Chair: Eric Burnette

Vice-Chair: Diane Butorac

Secretary: Susan Johnson

Introduced General Membership and Guests



Presentation by USCG

LT Johna Rossetti, USCG Sector Columbia River, gave an overview of the recent exercise deploying their emergency towing system in the East Mooring Basin in Astoria. The system was deployed from a helicopter and tugboat. She then played a video showing a test of the same emergency towing system that was done in Alaska.

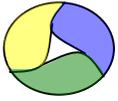
Capt. Jones also commented on two issues they have been addressing. The first concerns derelict vessels. They met with Gov. Gregoire and Gov. Kitzhaber two weeks ago for a briefing on this issue and took them on a flight to show them several of the derelict vessels along the Columbia River near Portland. The second issue is tsunami debris and the concerns of the commercial fishing industry of hazards to navigation.

Old Business

- **Stern Buoy Project Update:** The project is currently in the hands of the Army Corps of Engineers. They had planned to install two buoys using sand anchors in August and the third buoy has to be driven into rock in October. The Corps has decided to do all three buoy installations in October. This opens up a window of opportunity to purchase additional buoys with outside funding – the project is permitted for up to seven buoys.
- **Discussion of potentially expanding our AOR to the Tri-Cities:** Roman Geigle provided some background, noting that the committee's original charter covered the entire river system, which became infeasible. Mr. Geigle traveled to Walla Walla to an informational meeting at the Army Corps and had discussions with area stakeholders to determine if there was interest in participation on the committee and what form that participation would take, such as a subcommittee that could be formally adopted at the next meeting. Capt. Jones suggested that the USCG could host an industry breakfast for stakeholders in that region as well. Mr. Geigle has also been in contact with Coos Bay interests who have expressed interest in forming a harbor safety committee in that region. There was discussion of having a committee meeting in conjunction with PNWA's annual convention in October. At the next HSC meeting, we will formally discuss adding an Extended AOR Sub-committee and identify the sub-committee members.
- **River Status and Dredging Plan for 2012 Update:** Jon Gornick from the Army Corps of Engineers gave an update on the dredging season, advising that they are well into it having removed about 900,000 cubic yards of material from the bars at Puget Island and Westport. They meet with the pilots regularly to identify critical areas requiring dredging. The dredge Stuyvesant is about to start on a two million yard project at the mouth of the Columbia River. The dredge Essayons is working on a number of bars from Willow bar down through Longview. The dredge Oregon is currently working on the Pillar Rock-Brookfield reach and will eventually be moved down to Miller Sands. The dredge Yaquina will be back in September to knock down some shoals in the river. There has been more coordination this year between the Army Corps and Bonneville Power to control dam flows.
- **Emission Control Area Update:** Eric Burnette advised that he attended a conference hosted by PMSA in Tacoma where they discussed the mandate for observing the emissions control limits that goes into effect August 1. Vessels operating within 200 nautical miles of the coast must burn fuel with one percent or less sulphur content. Diane Butorac sent out the EPA notice on how to address fuel non-availability. Another mandate will go into effect January 1, 2015, requiring a drop to 0.1% in allowable sulphur in fuel, bears watching. Those fuel stocks are not in hand and ready to test as yet. There was discussion of why other countries were switching to 0.5% at that time, and that Asia, Africa and South America were not yet affected by these limits. It was also noted that these fuels may come at a significantly increased cost over current bunker costs. The USCG will be tracking loss of propulsion in vessels related to fuel switching.

Committee Reports

- **Anchorage (Eric Burnette)**
Related to the stern buoy project is the creation of the Prescott anchorage. The decision on this deep draft anchorage is currently in the hands of the USCG in Seattle.
- **Extreme Water**
A forecast has been received projecting three low water weekends. Only one of those projections dips below 0.0 CRD in the upper river. The finalized forecast will be sent out when it is available.



- **Make Way**
Capt. Paul Amos advised that Capt. Stuart Richard is working with the USCG to set up the next Make Way operation.
- **Navigation**
Capt. Dan Jordan reported that they are drafting a new chapter of the Harbor Safety Plan that deals with navigation within the natural navigable channel and federally authorized channel with respect to vessel traffic. It has been observed that smaller vessels are staying in the channel delineated on the navigation charts and not considering the actual depth needed to operate safely, posing a hazard to deep draft vessels limited to the dredged channel when the smaller vessel refuses to leave the channel even if there is sufficient water available outside .
- **Outreach**
The last outreach focus involved upriver stakeholders. There has been discussion of more outreach to the recreational boating community, yacht clubs, etc.

USCG Report on Vessel Incidents: There were no incidents to report for this meeting.

New Business

- **Coastal Advisory Board Overview:** Jennifer Hennessey of the WA Dept. of Ecology (Ocean Policy) gave a presentation on the WA Coastal Marine Advisory Council and marine spatial planning. More information is available on their website at WWW.ECY.WA.GOV/PROGRAMS/SEA/MSP.

Request for Public Comment

- Capt. Dan Jordan gave an update on the wave buoy project. Two weeks ago one buoy broke loose but was recovered a few hours and redeployed. A NOAA wave buoy is scheduled to be deployed in August fifteen miles offshore. Current tables on the lower Columbia River do not take into account river flows. OSU was commissioned by NWS to develop a model that tie in the river flows. The model is completed and should be posted on the NWS website soon. Mr. Burnette also noted that a presentation would be appreciated when the under-keel clearance study is completed.
- Emergency management groups including the ports are planning a field exercise for next May. The scenario will be a bio-terrorism attack originating from a ship in port. The exercise is to be held in Portland.

For the Good of the Order

- Request for agenda items for the next meeting.
- There were no objections to the minutes of the last meeting submitted to the membership and they are deemed approved.
- Request for volunteers for Vice Chair for 2013.
- Heather Stebbings has been promoted to government relations director for PNWA.
- Tony Sellers brought copies of the latest USCG "Proceedings" magazine to circulate among the membership. It focuses on the 100th anniversary of the sinking of the Titanic.

Next Meeting: September 12, 2012; Location: USCG MSU Portland, Swan Island, OR.

Adjourned 12:05 p.m.



Lower Columbia Region Harbor Safety Committee Meeting

0900 - 1200

Wednesday, 12 September 2012

Venue: USCG MSU Portland, Swan Island

Managing Board Members					
Name of Member and Alternate	Agency/ Industry/ Organization	Sector	Name of Member and Alternate	Agency/ Industry/ Organization	Sector
Heather Stebbings	Pacific Northwest Waterways Assc.	Associations	Eric Burnette	Port of Portland	Ports
Kirk Bonnin	Olympic Tug & Barge	Barge Operators	Lars Uglum	Port of Vancouver USA	Ports
Jon Gornick	US Army Corps of Engineers	Federal Agencies	Mike Zollitsch	Oregon Dept of Environ. Quality	State Agencies
LT Morrison CDR Williamson	US Coast Guard	Federal Agencies	Chip Boothe Diane Butorac	Washington State Dept of Ecology	State Agencies
Dan Jordan	Columbia River Bar Pilots	Pilots	George Birch	NWFF Environmental	Port & Vessel Services
Paul Amos Anne McIntyre	Columbia River Pilots	Pilots	Fred Harding	Shaver Transportation	Vessel Operators
Guests in Attendance					
Name	Organization	Name	Organization		
MS1 John Newcomer	USCG	Ed Irish	Tesoro Corp.		
Pete Bonebakker	PGG	Brian Fletcher	Tidewater		
Mike Maloney	Regional Disaster Preparedness	Mike Morgan	Willamette Stevedores		
Sean Clark	Port of Kalama	Tony Sellers	USCG Rec		
Calum McClure	Liquiline				

A quorum was present for the meeting.

Call to Order

Chair: Eric Burnette

Vice-Chair: Diane Butorac

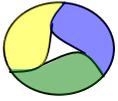
Secretary: Susan Johnson

Introduced Managing Board Members and Invited Guests

Introduced LT Morrison, Chief of Waterways Management, USCG Representative to the LCR HSC.

Review of Minutes

Minutes for July 11, 2012 meeting approved.



Old Business

- Discussed LCR HSC Officers for 2013. Dan Jordan volunteered to be chair or vice-chair and Eric Burnette volunteered to be chair or vice-chair. Further discussion needed.
- Discussed need to establish an Inland Ports and Navigation Subcommittee. Good local interest shown so it was agreed to establish the subcommittee and re-evaluate in six months. Roman Geigle volunteered to be Subcommittee Chair and Heather Stebbings, Paul Amos and Jon Gornick volunteered to be on the subcommittee. PNWA said there was a related meeting on October 10 in Vancouver and Roman will attend to provide information
- Eric Burnette discussed the HSC Conference in Pittsburg.
- Current and future dredging plans were discussed. The USACE is flat funded and costs are going up. There is not enough funding for the navigation channel work right now and no change to that expected. Discussed the Miami model where the deepening project was almost all funded locally. Work continues on the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund and groups realize a solution is needed.
- Eric Burnette presented information on the stern buoys. Three will be installed in October at Vancouver, Prescott and Rainier. The permit for impact hammer work at Prescott has been approved.
- Discussed implementation of the Emission Control Area (ECA).
 - There have been 8 deficiencies for low sulfur fuel (LSF) for arriving vessels but no detentions.
 - The EPA report form was used and the vessels took LSF before departing.
 - No marine casualties have been reported to the USCG related to LSF usage.
 - Pilots reported seeing problems when maneuvering ahead and astern where the engine won't start and problems with power availability at slower transit speeds. About 1/3 of the ships can't achieve full horsepower with the LSF. Some ships can't achieve sea speeds and can't fully counteract strong winds or tides and this is also creating longer transits. The fuel does not have enough BTUs for power. Pilots are collecting data to determine the extent of the problem and are ordering more or stronger tugs to address the safety issue. USCG reinforced that they will support the pilots. Any reduction in power or speed should be reported to the USCG as a Loss of Propulsion and pilots will ensure this is being done.
 - There is no problem with availability of the blended fuel to meet the requirements.
 - The USCG said it is critical to have the proper switching procedures and they are checking this during their inspections.
 - No action by the LCR HSC but continue discussion at November meeting and check in on issues.

Active Working Committees Reports

Anchorage

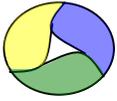
- Discussed of creation of Prescott Anchorage by USCG, it will be official in one week. The Harbor Safety Guidelines will be amended and will be sent out for Managing Board review and approval by email.
- The Columbia River Infrastructure meetings have identified critical needs and need for a long term execution strategy. We all need to look at issues and funding.

Extreme Water

- Draft restriction to 41 ft along the Columbia River. No incidents were reported during the last extreme low water event. It is likely the draft restrictions will happen more in the future as the condition is becoming more typical. Funding for dredging is an issue.
- Crescent Moegling corrected the app interface and it is now in order by navigation sequence.
- Two more events this year with the lowest water level in October.
- USACE said there are numerous sand waves and higher than normal deposition. Dredges Essayons and Stuyvesant will be used over the next weeks to deal with those and hope to do enough so that draft restrictions can be lifted. Dredge Oregon's last day is October 12 and then it is going in for repowering. Since it operated last year until January, expect its absence will impact dredge operations. May be able to use Stuyvesant after the dry dock period before it leaves the area.

Finance

- Website funding will be covered by NWFF in 2013 and Columbia River Pilots in 2014. There may be an additional cost this year; Hans Meere will let NWFF know the total amount needed.



Harbor Safety Plan

- USCG may have some administrative changes, CDR Williamson will check.

Make-Way

- There was an incident recently 2-3 miles below Bonneville Dam where a ship had to stop because smaller vessels would not move and had to blow the danger signal 7 times. The incident was reported to the USCG.
- USCG started Operation Make-way and Buoy 10 Operations on August 24-26 and September 1-2. Will conduct again starting September 13. USCG will be passing out flyers at boat ramps and will look at going out with towboats or sheriff boats with USCG enforcement personnel onboard soon. There have been 4-5 citations issued this year already.
- USCG will plan to enforce make-way requirements regularly using USCG personnel on chase boats or pilot boats.
- Columbia County Sheriff has been very helpful in enforcing make-way requirements.

Navigation

- If Dan takes over as chair or vice-chair, may need a new lead for the subcommittee.
- Draft Navigation Guidelines have been sent to the Managing Board for review. A safety issue is that with electronic charts being used more, some vessels are navigating within the chart lines for the federal channel and are not willing to go outside of the lines even if there is sufficient safe depth. Changes to the chapter were discussed during the meeting and will be made. The revised version will be sent out to the Managing Board for review and approval by email.

USCG Report on Vessel Incidents

- July – MV Hosanger had LOP due to electrical generator trip. COTP order issued.
- August – MV Bahial had soft grounding in Longview. Dive survey found no damage. COTP order issued.
- August – MV Pioneer had Asian gypsy moth infestation. Actions taken to eradicate.
- September – MV Vivosa Wisdom moved from Rainier anchorage to Prescott anchorage without a pilot, with no notice, and caused an obstruction of the navigation channel.
- FV Lady Cecilia – sank last year and the location has now been identified. Vessel is in 400 ft of water off Ledbetter Point. Still investigating cause.

New Business

- Committee Membership list needs to be updated. A list will be sent out to all members with the current subcommittees and people will add their name to the subcommittees they are active on.
- Grain terminals are in discussions with unions on contracts and the talks are expected to conclude at the end of September. If they are not agreed upon, protests are possible. USCG will enforce the Facility Security Plan as needed.
- Tsunami debris – NOAA said upwelling is keeping debris off the coast but expect to see some in the winter from the storms. WA and OR have plans in place for monitoring and public outreach and the USCG is doing outreach.
- PMSA meeting in Tacoma to talk about change for fuel requirements to ULSF and how to meet this requirement.
- Calum McClure from Liquiline presented information on use of LNG as a 2015 compliant bunker alternative.

Next Meeting: November 14, 2012; Location: Portland Spirit

Motion to Adjourn



Lower Columbia Region Harbor Safety Committee

0900 - 1200
Wednesday, 14 November 2012
Venue: Portland Spirit
110 SE Caruthers, Portland OR 97267

Managing Board Members Present					
Name of Member and Alternate	Agency/ Industry/ Organization	Sector	Name of Member and Alternate	Agency/ Industry/ Organization	Sector
Heather Stebbings	Pacific Northwest Waterways Assn.	Associations	Eric Burnette	Port of Portland	Ports
Kirk Bonnin	Olympic Tug & Barge	Barge Operators	Susan Johnson	OR Board of Maritime Pilots	State Agencies
Jon Gornick	US Army Corps of Engineers	Federal Agencies	Dennis Corwin Todd Bolger	Portland Spirit	Vessel Operators
Capt. LeBlanc Lt. Morrison	US Coast Guard	Federal Agencies	Diane Butorac	WA State Dept of Ecology	State Agencies
John Torjuson	Columbia River Bar Pilots	Pilots	Hans Meere	Export Grain Terminal (EGT)	Terminal Operators
Paul Amos	Columbia River Pilots	Pilots	Mike Zollitsch	Oregon DEQ	State Agencies
Roman Geigle Lee White	NWFF Environmental	Port & Vessel Services	Jim Townley Audrey Gurule	CRSOA	Associations
Robin Wright	Merchants Exchange	Associations	Ernie Quesada	Clean Rivers Cooperative	Port and Vessel Services
Fred Harding	Shaver Transportation	Vessel Operators	Peter Pawlicki	Kirby Offshore Marine	Vessel Operators
Lars Uglum	Port of Vancouver	Ports	Phil Brotherton	Transmarine Navigation Corp	Shipping Agents
Guests in Attendance					
Name	Organization	Name	Organization		
Mark Bailey	NOAA	Dale Beasley	CRCFA		
Douglas Boren	BOEM	Jean Thurston	BOEM		
Rick Williams	SAIC Maritime	Andy Lanier	DLCD		
Paul Klarin	DLCD	Travis Gullberg	Mult. Co. River Patrol		
Kimberly Rule	USCG	Mitch Cline	USCG		
Joe Brown	USCG	John Moriarty	USCG		
Len Tumbarello	USCG	Rebecca Henderson	COLRIP		
Brad Warner	COLRIP	Shaun Martin	Camp Rilea/OMD		

A quorum was present for the meeting.



Call to Order

Chair: Eric Burnette
Vice-Chair: Diane Butorac
Secretary: Susan Johnson

Introduced General Membership and Guests

Review of Minutes

Minutes for September 12, 2012 meeting approved.

Old Business

- **LCR HSC Officers for 2013.** Diane Butorac will not be able to chair due to a move to a new position within her organization. Roman Geigle volunteered to be Chair; Jim Townley volunteered to be Vice Chair; Susan Johnson agreed to stay on as Secretary. A motion to approve the new officers for 2013 carried.
- Discussion of **absentee managing board members** (which leads to quorum issues) Pete Richards and John Withers. A motion to remove and notify them by email carried. Discussion of inviting new members to liaise on offshore renewable energy issues.
- Discussion on updating **Committee Membership List:**
 - Anchorages – Eric Burnette will be lead.
 - Extreme Water – Eric Burnette will be lead.
 - Finance – Hans Meere will be lead.
 - Make Way – remove as formal subcommittee; Coast Guard will give regular updates.
 - Navigation – Dan Jordan will be lead. Coast Guard's John Hellberg, Sean Morrison and Kimberly Rule were added to the committee. Paul Amos will also stay on.
 - Bridges – Dennis Corwin will stay lead for Tri-Met and Sellwood; Eric will provide updates on the CRC.
 - Inland Portland & Navigation – change name to Upriver Ports and Navigation. Roman Geigle will be lead.
 - Outreach – Heather Stebbings will likely take lead from Kristin Meira; update flyer on website needed.

Committee Reports

- **Anchorage**
A motion to approve amendment to the Anchorage Chapter of the Harbor Safety Guidelines to include Prescott Anchorage carried.
- **Bridges**
Nothing new to report; Tri-Met on schedule.
- **Extreme Water**
River levels have not come up as much as usual for this time of year. The dredge Essayons has another sixteen days on the river. A 41' draft restriction has been in place; however deep draft vessels can make requests to the pilots to go to 43' on a case-by-case basis.
- **Finance**
NWFF Environmental has agreed to cover the cost of website fees for 2013 and the Columbia River Pilots in 2014.
- **Upriver Ports and Navigation**
Roman Geigle has made some contacts and there has been some feedback. He is collecting email addresses to put on our mailing list. Stakeholders in this region have a lot of dredging and maintenance issues.



- **Navigation**

The Navigation Chapter of the Harbor Safety Plan that deals with the federally authorized channel (as opposed to the natural navigable channel) has been updated. The issues addressed related to increased use of electronic charts by smaller boats that are staying within the dotted lines on the chart and blocking commercial traffic. A motion to accept the changes carried.

- **Stern Buoy Project Update:** There are now three new stern buoys in use in the river. There are some minor fixes that will be needed to the buoys. A request for five more stern buoys will be pursued by PNWA. Fred Harding brought up two issues on safety for the stern buoys, that it is difficult to get a 9" line through the open part of the hook and that there is nothing on the buoys to use as a foot brace. Jon Gornick will bring to Mark Dasso's attention.
- **Emission Control Area Update:** Effects on vessel power availability – So far there has been only anecdotal information passed from the pilots to the Coast Guard on power reduction incidents related to fuel switching with some vessels. It was agreed to begin coordination on collecting data from the pilots to share with the Coast Guard. The navigation subcommittee will take the lead on this issue and report at the next meeting.

USCG Report on Vessel Incidents: There were a handful of incidents since the last meeting. On October 7 the Saga Spray grounded in the channel while approaching Vancouver Berth 9. On October 8 the Green Phoenix grounded in the anchorage while approaching Vancouver Berth 7. On October 17 the Asian Triumph was preparing to depart Kalama when the main engine hesitated to respond. On October 23 the Jin Wan lost an anchor which was recovered and reinstalled. No damage, injuries or pollution occurred in these incidents. It was noted that the two groundings happened on the projected low, low water days.

New Business

- **Identify locations for 2013 meetings; proposed dates:**

- January 9, 2013 – tentatively at USCG Swan Island.
- March 13, 2013
- May 8, 2013
- July 10, 2013
- September 11, 2013
- November 13, 2013 – Portland Spirit

Further discussion on locations in January.

- An award was presented to Diane Butorac by CRSOA on behalf of the Columbia River region's maritime industry, for her work on safety, efficiency and furthering environmental stewardship.
- **Discussion of the interaction between offshore renewable energy project and Columbia River Bar pilotage grounds at the mouth of the Columbia River:** John Torjusen, Columbia River Bar Pilots; Paul Klarin, State of Oregon DLCD; Andy Lanier, State of Oregon DLCD; John Moriarty, USCG District 13; Jean Thurston, BOEM-RE; Rick Williams, SAIC. Each participant explained their roles in this and similar projects. Maps were provided showing conceptual renewable energy sites and vessel tracks through those areas. There was discussion of navigational safety, combining navigational aids with renewable energy technology and preventing exclusions of future innovations. It was noted that it takes 24 permits to get an ocean energy project approved, and this project is still just a concept. Rick Williams volunteered to serve on the Navigation committee on this issue.
- **Potential implications of gill net compromise emerging from Gov. Kitzhaber's issue team:** Paul Amos, Columbia River Pilots; Eric Burnette, Port of Portland. There was a measure on the ballot that would have banned gill netting on the Oregon side of the Columbia River, which did not pass. An emerging compromise out of Salem would shift the gill net grounds off the main stem of the Columbia to another location. An upcoming discussion with ODFW is intended to assess and understand any navigational safety implications.



For the Good of the Order: There is an open house tonight from 4-7 p.m. at the Columbia River Red Lion in Vancouver on bridge height for the Columbia River Crossing.

Next Meeting: January 9, 2013; Location: USCG MSU Portland, Swan Island, OR to be confirmed.

Adjourned 12:00 p.m.