



Lower Columbia Region Harbor Safety Committee General Membership Meeting

**0900 - 1000
Wednesday, May 14, 2014**

**Venue: Merchants Exchange
200 SW Market Street
Portland, Oregon**

| Managing Board Members Present | | | | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Name of Member and Alternate | Agency/ Industry/ Organization | Sector | Name of Member and Alternate | Agency/ Industry/ Organization | Sector |
| Robin Wright Liz Wainwright | Merchants Exchange | Associations | Eric Burnette | Port of Portland | Ports |
| Anne McIntyre Paul Amos | Columbia River Pilots | Pilots | Susan Johnson | OR Board of Maritime Pilots | State Agencies |
| Jon Gornick | US Army Corps of Engineers | Federal Agencies | Jim Townley | P.I.E. | Association |
| Roman Geigle | NWFF Environmental | Port & Vessel Services | Philip Brotherton | Transmarine Navigation | Shipping Agents |
| Dan Jordan | Columbia River Bar Pilots | Pilots | Andy Meyer | Columbia River Yachting Assn. | Associations |
| Hans Meere | Export Grain Terminal | Terminal Operators | Kirk Bonnin | Olympic Tug & Barge | Vessel Operators |
| Capt. Ropp Lt. Morrison | US Coast Guard | Federal Agencies | Lars Uglum | Port of Vancouver | Ports |
| Andy Meyer | Columbia River Yachting Assn. | Associations | Steve Shaver | Shaver Transportation | Vessel Operators |
| Michael Zollitsch | Oregon DEQ | State Agencies | Fred Harding Rob Rich | Shaver Transportation | Vessel Operators |
| Heather Stebbings | Pacific Northwest Waterways Assn. | Associations | Michael Titone | Columbia River Steamship Operators | Associations |
| Dennis Corwin | Portland Spirit | Vessel Operators | Carl Boelter | Clean Rivers Cooperative | Port & Vessel Services |
| Brian Fletcher Stu Sanborn | Tidewater Barge Lines | Vessel Operators | Holly Robinson | MFSA | Associations |
| Scott Ferguson | WA Dept. of Ecology | State Agencies | | | |
| Guests in Attendance | | | | | |
| Name | Organization | Name | Organization | | |
| Crescent Moegling | NOAA | Lt. Neiss | USCG | | |
| Ed Irish | Tesoro Corp. | Bryan Smith | Gensteam | | |
| Doug Coburn | Gensteam | Russ Lyzell | Gensteam | | |
| John Doucette | Westway Terminal Co. | Sencer Under | NCB | | |



| Guests in Attendance | | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| Name | Organization | Name | Organization |
| Salvatore Ali | NCB | Steve Dobbins | COLRIP |
| Carol Bua | Tidewater | Kevin Buffum | Pacific Terminal Svcs. |
| Tom Colby | BP Shipping | Torrey Bertheau | USCG |
| Jim Horne | CRSOA/NLI | | |

CALL TO ORDER

Chair: Jim Townley

Vice-Chair: Anne McIntyre

Secretary: Susan Johnson

Introductions: Members and Guests

REVIEW OF MINUTES

Managing Board Minutes for the March 12, 2014 meeting approved.

OLD BUSINESS

Status update on Washington State HB 2347; NDZ initiative – HB 2347, the Oil Transportation Safety Act, did not pass the session. However, the WA Dept. of Ecology was directed to conduct a Marine and Rail Oil Transportation Study that will analyze the risks to public health and safety and the environmental impacts associated with the transport of oil. A draft petition to designate Puget Sound as a No Discharge Zone (NDZ) is posted on WA Dept. of Ecology's for public comment. Andy Meyer referred to a Seattle Times article that noted that this petition may unfairly target recreational boaters and create expensive retrofit costs for towboats.

ACTIVE WORKING COMMITTEES REPORTS (Items for Managing Board discussion or decision only)

- **ANCHORAGES** – Eric Burnette advised that the four signatory ports to the past anchorage projects have been asked for authorization to update the economic analysis and permitting process to show feasibility for four more stern buoys. Mike Titone is getting agents to retrieve data on how many ships have been inconvenienced with no place to go and the economic impact of delays. The River Pilots are also looking at where to designate new anchorages. The Managing Board approved the changes to the Anchorage Guidelines, which will be posted on the HSC website.
- **Bridges** – Nothing new to report.
- **Extreme Water** – A report from the River Forecast Center will be forthcoming as we get closer to the freshet in mid-June. A forecast should be available by mid-July to predict this year's low water windows.
- **Harbor Safety Plan** – Mike Titone is the lead on updating separate sections of the plan and looking for volunteers to help with a technical review. He has met with the Coast Guard and they are also going to help routinely go through the plan and cross-reference sections to the appropriate regulations. Bunkering and lightering guidelines review with help from Shaver, Tidewater and Olympic representatives. Incident management guidelines review with help from Anne McIntyre and Holly Robinson. Navigation practices review with help from Dan Jordan. Charts and publications review with help from Dan Jordan and Crescent Moegling.



- **Make Way** – Torrey Bertheau, USCG Enforcement in Warrenton, gave an update on enforcement efforts being planned for this year. Joining the effort will be Multnomah, Columbia, Clark and Clatsop county marine patrols; and the Oregon State Marine Board (OSNB). Areas of focus in late August and early September will be Warrior Rock to the Lewis & Clark Bridge. Similar Make Way efforts at the mouth of the Columbia (buoy 10) will be treated as a separate operation. The tactical effort will be in three parts: (1) Multiple surface assets on the water in problem areas for 2-4 days at a time; (2) USCG observers on vessels for outbound transits; and (3) OSMB/USCG created fliers to hand out in a boater education campaign prior to fishing season at boat ramps and marinas. There was discussion of updating the Make Way section of the harbor safety plan with the new fliers. There was also a question of whether Make Way could be extended from I-5 Bridge to Bonneville – possibly with CG Auxiliary support. Stakeholders should notify the USCG to report any additional problem areas. It was noted that the July meeting is usually dedicated to a broader Make Way discussion.
- **Navigation** – Dan Jordan explained that the committee deals primarily with unusual incidents on the river. A committee meeting tomorrow will be about a heavy lift submersible ship arriving sometime in August with a dry dock for Swan Island.
- **Outreach** – Heather Stebbings advised that in conjunction with the Lower Columbia River Infrastructure meetings, they have formed a subcommittee to develop a PR campaign to disseminate positive press on navigation on the lower Columbia River.

US COAST GUARD REPORT ON VESSEL INCIDENTS

Reports have been received on incidents involving loss of propulsion and a couple of injuries. Yesterday the Coast Guard detained a new vessel under flag of Singapore with steering problems. Last week they also received training from an NTSB investigator.

NEW BUSINESS

- **July 9th HSC Meeting in Astoria** – The meeting will be held at the Training Deck at the USCG Air Station in Warrenton. A list of potential attendees to the meeting is being drafted.
- **International Oil Spill Conference** – Liz Wainwright gave a briefing on this conference which is held every three years on a rotation between the United States, Europe and Asia. The focus is prevention, preparedness, and response. There were on-water demonstrations of equipment, a trade show, and training sessions.
- **Update – PNWA Mission to WA, DC** – Heather Stebbings gave an update on their annual mission to WA, DC for a week in March to do advocacy work. They took 60 stakeholders for meetings on Capitol Hill. She noted that the Lower Columbia did well in securing funding for maintenance dredging and to continue the jetty rehabilitation.
- **OBMP Executive Director Briefing** – Eric Burnette gave some insight into his new role as E.D. for the Board of Maritime Pilots. His two immediate tasks are to contract for independent incident investigations and put in place a mechanism for providing greater medical oversight of pilot fitness. He is currently working half-time for the Board and half-time for the Port of Portland until his replacement is hired.



- **Marine and Rail Oil Transportation Study** – Scott Ferguson of WA Dept. of Ecology gave a briefing on the status of this study. The focus is public health and safety and environmental impacts. Findings and recommendations are due to the Governor in October and an interim report to the Legislature by December 1. More information about the study can be found on their website at WWW.ECY.WA.GOV. There will be a meeting about the study later today at the Merchants Exchange.
- **Would LCRHSC benefit from having a budget?** – The Managing Board will take a serious look at this and try to have something for the July 9 meeting. Some investigative work and analysis needs to happen to get to a resolution.

PUBLIC COMMENT/FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

It was agreed to get an update on the Marine and Rail Oil Transportation Study at the July 9 meeting in Astoria.

FUTURE MEETING DATES

- July 9 – USCG Astoria
- September 10 – potentially Longview
- November 12 – Portland Spirit

Adjourned 11:20 a.m.

Save for managing board minutes -