



Lower Columbia Region Harbor Safety Committee General Membership Meeting

**1000 - 1200
Wednesday, July 9, 2014**

**Venue: USCG Sector Columbia River/Air Station Astoria
2185 SE 12th Place – Training Deck
Warrenton, 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	Merchants Exchange	Associations	Susan Johnson	OR Board of Maritime Pilots	State Agencies
Anne McIntyre	Columbia River Pilots	Pilots	Jim Townley	P.I.E.	Association
Dan Jordan Gary Lewin	Columbia River Bar Pilots	Pilots	Andy Meyer	Columbia River Yachting Assn.	Associations
Capt. Travers Lt. Morrison	US Coast Guard	Federal Agencies	Kirk Bonnin	Olympic Tug & Barge	Vessel Operators
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
Brian Fletcher	Tidewater Barge Lines	Vessel Operators	Ernie Quesada	Clean Rivers Cooperative	Port & Vessel Services
Bob Troyer	WA Dept. of Ecology	State Agencies	Holly Robinson	MFSA	Associations
Ashley Helenburg	Port of Longview	Ports			
Guests in Attendance					
Name	Organization	Name	Organization		
Scott McMullen	OR Fisherman's Cable	Christine Neiss	USCG		
Chantel Schneider	USCG	Aaron McClellan	USCG		
Rick Williams	OMD	Doug Coburn	Gensteam		
Corey Deck	USCG Auxiliary	Bryan Smith	Gensteam		
Ken Lawrenson	USCG	Elroy Olsen	COLRIP		
Tim Heintz	Laurelwood Resident	Sean McKenzie	USCG		
Tim Patching	COLRIP	Corey Bertheau	USCG		
Don Bybee	COLRIP	Chris Boyce	COLRIP		
Ross McDonald	Sause Bros.	Mike Tierney	COLBAR		



CALL TO ORDER

Chair: Jim Townley

Vice-Chair: Anne McIntyre

Secretary: Susan Johnson

Introductions and opening remarks: Jim Townley and Capt. McKenzie

REVIEW OF MINUTES

Managing Board and General Membership Minutes for the May 14, 2014 meetings were approved.

OLD BUSINESS

Budget for LCRHSC – Anne McIntyre gave an update on the status of this item. At a meeting of the Past Chairs committee it was agreed that with the expanding mission of the HSC that it would be appropriate to adopt a more formal administration. HSC's in other areas have budgets that are administered by Marine Exchanges in those regions. They proposed adopting a similar model funded by donation-based dues and have basic administration tasks performed by the Portland Merchants Exchange. They would attend the meetings, draft the agendas, take the minutes, update and maintain the website, pay expenses, invoice and collect member assessments, and generate financial reports. Funding could also be set aside for the Chair to attend the National Harbor Safety Committee conference; and for LCRHSC to sponsor one luncheon a year. Funding these activities will likely cost less than \$12,000/year. Work will continue with the Merchants Exchange to identify the costs of this administrative activity.

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

- **ANCHORAGES** – Nothing new to report.
- **Bridges** – Nothing new to report.
- **Extreme Water** – Nothing new to report.
- **Harbor Safety Plan** – Mike Titone advised that the section on Incident Management Guidelines is currently under review. It has been suggested that state reporting requirements (in addition to federal) should be included in this section, and to put contact information into one section of the document rather than scattered throughout. The plan is to review each section in a systematic and continuous way. Once the legal cites and contact information have been reformatted, the completed sections will be forwarded to managing board members for further comment and finally a vote of approval on the changes to each section at upcoming meetings. The sections on Aids to Navigation and Required Charts are next in line for review.
- **Make Way** – Corey Deck with the USCG Auxiliary gave an update on information re-education activities to prevent Rule 9 violations. Coast Guard, Sheriffs and Auxiliary have all been making efforts to educate to recreational boating public to stay out of the way of commercial vessel traffic. The Columbia River Pilots have also been coordinating with MSO Portland to conduct a Coast Guard ride along on an outbound vessel in September, targeting fishing boats at the confluence of the Lewis and Columbia Rivers. A flyer is also being updated that will be incorporated into the Make Way section of the Harbor Safety Plan. There will also be two separate Make Way operations in August and September that will include eleven agencies out on the water to conduct an aggressive education campaign. The operation will also coincide with the heavy lift operation of the dry dock in August.



- **Navigation** – The planned movement of a dry dock to its Swan Island facility has been delayed until mid-August. There is a draft restriction in the Longview area (41.06') – a 35-foot shoaling hump was found yesterday. The Army Corps is bringing in a hopper dredge to address that situation.
- **Outreach** – Heather Stebbings offered to contact representatives of environmental and tribal groups to invite to HSC meetings. It was suggested that the volunteer coordinator for Columbia Riverkeeper would be an important addition to the HSC.
- **Past Chairs** – The committee has met since the last meeting and proposed changing their status to that of an Executive Steering Committee made up of past chairs and current officers, to do more in-depth research on issues and bring back recommendations to the managing board. A committee description is being drafted in concert with the budget discussion, which may require revisions to the bylaws (charter) to support.

US COAST GUARD REPORT ON VESSEL INCIDENTS

Reports have been received on incidents groundings and fires. The most significant marine casualty was on June 20 involving a guide boat passing over the Columbia River bar. A wave flipped the boat over and a passenger died.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Marine and Rail Oil Transportation Study** – Bob Troyer of WA Dept. of Ecology gave a briefing on the status of this study. The focus is public health and safety and environmental impacts. They have hired a contractor who will write the report. They would like stakeholders in the HSC to review the draft report and provide feedback. More information about the study can be found on their website at WWW.ECY.WA.GOV.

PUBLIC COMMENT/FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Scott McMullen with the Oregon Fisherman's Cable Committee expressed interest in seeing the Coast Guard grant approval for virtual AIS aids to navigation. Potential topic for Navigation Subcommittee – suggested a letter from the HSC encouraging adoption of virtual AIS. There was discussion of having an expert on the topic give a presentation on the capabilities of virtual AIS at a future meeting. Robin Wright offered to look into on behalf of the HSC.
- Rick Williams announced that there is a wave energy demonstration pilot project being planned for late August, off the south end of Camp Rilea. He offered to give an update on wave energy at a future meeting.
- Portland MSU is hosting the next industry breakfast on 7/17. The scheduled speaker is Sam Johnson, Executive Director of the Columbia River Maritime Museum.
- Capt. Travers, the new USCG COTP for Sector Columbia River, introduced himself and thanked everyone for attending.
- Mike Titone advised the CRSOA will be conducting a COBALT training session in the near future.
- The first organizational meeting was held for the USS Portland commissioning ceremony in Portland in 2017.
- The annual Columbia River Maritime Picnic will be July 29 at Frenchman's Bar in Vancouver.
- The Portland Merchants Exchange Annual Open House will be July 31.

FUTURE MEETING DATES

- September 10, 2014 –Longview, WA (place TBA)
- November 12, 2014 – Portland Spirit

Adjourned 11:05 a.m.