



Lower Columbia Region Harbor Safety Committee General Membership Meeting

1000 - 1200

Wednesday, September 10, 2014

**Venue: Millennium Bulk Terminals
4029 Industrial Way
Longview, Washington**

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	Fred Myer	Port of Portland	Ports
Anne McIntyre	Columbia River Pilots	Pilots	Eric Burnette Susan Johnson	OR Board of Maritime Pilots	State Agencies
Jon Gornick	US Army Corps of Engineers	Federal Agencies	Jim Townley	P.I.E.	Association
Jon Hellberg	US Coast Guard	Federal Agencies	Andy Meyer	Columbia River Yachting Assn.	Associations
Michael Zollitsch	Oregon DEQ	State Agencies	Kirk Bonnin Bryon Fletcher	Olympic Tug & Barge	Vessel Operators
Duffy Daniels	Wilhelmsen	Shipping Agents	Stu Sanborn	Tidewater Barge Lines	Vessel Operators
Ashley Helenburg	Port of Longview	Ports			
Guests in Attendance					
Name	Organization	Name	Organization		
John Moriarty	USCG	Xochitl Castaneda	USCG		
Ken Morrison	USCG	Bryan Smith	General Steamship		
Toby Jacobsen	Foss Maritime	Don Bybee	COLRIP		
Chris Boyce	COLRIP	Peter Bennett	Millennium Bulk		
Rick Williams	OMD	Doug Coburn	Gensteam		
Heather Sievers	Millennium Bulk	Sean Clark	Port of Kalama		
Kevin Buffum	Pacific Terminal Svcs.	Ken Lawrensen	USCG		
Steven Ogle	WA DOE				

CALL TO ORDER

Chair: Jim Townley
 Vice-Chair: Anne McIntyre
 Secretary: Susan Johnson

Introductions and opening remarks: Jim Townley thanks Peter Bennett and Millennium Bulk for use of their facility for this meeting.



Added to the Agenda:

- Update on the commissioning of the USS Portland
- Report on Board of Maritime Pilots action
- Update on Wave Energy Project at Camp Rilea

OLD BUSINESS

Budget Proposal for LCRHSC – Approval was given to move forward with letters to the Coast Guard, WA DOE, and OR DEQ seeking funding that is comparable to that being received by the Puget Sound HSC. Approval was also given to move forward in the time until the next meeting to identify private sector entities from which to request funding and how much to request. The Steering Committee will put together a strategy and report at the November meeting.

ACTIVE WORKING COMMITTEES REPORTS

- **ANCHORAGES** – The committee is ready to submit an application for designation for additional anchorage areas to the U.S. Coast Guard. A draft letter of application identifying ten new anchorage areas received Managing Board approval.
- **Extreme Water** – Jon Gornick with the Army Corps of Engineers gave an update on the current status of maintenance dredging. Earlier this year COLRIP issued a draft restriction. Since that time, with the work of the hopper dredges *Yaquina* and *Essayons*, the restriction has been lifted. Capt. McIntyre advised that the extreme low water weekends have been identified, with the lowest on October 18-19; September 20-21 and October 4-5 will also be low water weekends. This information has been communicated to CRSOA to broadcast. COLRIP may have to institute some case-by-case draft restrictions.
- **Make Way** – John Hellberg with the USCG advised that they have shifted some surface assets and working with other government agencies to enforce Rule 9 violations. There were two operations conducted this year – one in conjunction with the arrival of the dry dock Vigorous. The trigger for writing a citation for obstructing the safe passage of a vessel is blowing the danger signal.
- **Navigation** – Robin Wright with the Merchants Exchange advised that she and Jim Hansen are working on a presentation on AIS for the November General Membership meeting. There was discussion of the use of virtual AIS.
- **Executive Steering** – Previously known as the Past Chairs committee, an amendment to the charter has been proposed to include this committee under the LCRHSC's structure and membership section. The proposed language states "The Executive Steering Committee is comprised of past HSC chairs and current HSC officers. The Executive Steering Committee performs strategic planning and makes recommendations to the Managing Board." This will be an agenda item for approval at the next Managing Board meeting.

US COAST GUARD REPORT ON VESSEL INCIDENTS

In the last two months, there was one uninspected passenger vessel lost; no lives were lost. For reportable marine casualties, loss of propulsion/steering dominated the types of casualties. There were a couple of collisions, a couple of allisions, a couple of groundings, a couple of vessels that flooded without sinking – mainly among commercial fishing vessels.



NEW BUSINESS

- **USCG Proposed Manning Standard Changes for ATBs** – John Hellberg of the USCG advised that they are clarifying current Coast Guard policy with respect to articulating tugs and barges. The USCG's rules for seagoing barges, particularly those carrying oil, were envisioned with a typical stern tow. The current ATB configuration has the barge in front; and they have evolved in size and complexity over the years. They were intended to be inspected and certificated as manned vessels. The USCG wrote some new requirements that are being appealed.
- **Update on COBALT** – Fred Myer of the Port of Portland had some participation at this event (Columbia Basin Leadership Training) held in late August. This is a five-day indoctrination program for new Coast Guard leadership coming into the area. He noted that it was well-organized and well-attended. Mike Titone of CRSOA was not in attendance, but texted a brief report advising that the 14 Coast Guard employees attended including the Captain of the Port. The Ports of Longview, Kalama and St. Helens were added to the program. There was increased emphasis on oil spill prevention, emphasis on port facility tours, and clean rivers response equipment was also included in the tour.
- **Marine and Rail Oil Transportation Study** – Steve Ogle of WA Dept. of Ecology gave a brief summary on the status of this study. The first deliverable is due at the end of the month – a preliminary draft for the Governor with pertinent details and recommendations. Ecology has been doing a lot of outreach with stakeholder groups. There was discussion of conducting similar meetings for Columbia River stakeholders. The preliminary report will be posted on their website at WWW.ECY.WA.GOV.

PUBLIC COMMENT/REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Rick Williams offered to give a presentation at a future on the background of wave energy development, noting that the Ocean Energy Conference will be held in September. There should be a lot of new information to share with the HSC at a future meeting.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

- Andy Meyer gave an update on the commissioning of the USS Portland, the first vessel named after the city of Portland. It's a San Antonio class LPD (landing platform dock) 27 vessel being built in Pascagoula, MS. The commissioning is expected in 2017. A committee has been formed with the intent of getting the vessel to Portland for the commissioning. They are setting up a web site and looking for people with expertise to join, as well as donations in the near future to fund a commissioning in Portland. Requests for information can be sent to WEBMASTER.PORTLAND@GMAIL.COM. They have a presentation they can give at a future meeting.
- Eric Burnette advised that the Board of Maritime Pilots has issued a Notice of Proposed Civil Penalty to the captain of the yacht D'Natalin IV, which came into the Columbia River on September 7 without a pilot, in violation Oregon law.
- Rick Williams gave an update on the Wave Energy Project at Camp Rilea, which was designated a renewable energy feasibility study area as well as a danger zone in the territorial sea for the gunnery range. The first project that has been permitted is a short-term (two-week) deployment of a bottom-mounted wave energy device that was put in place last week. He also advised that the Oregon Wave Energy Trust Conference will be happening the week of September 22.

FUTURE MEETING DATES: November 12, 2014 – Portland Spirit

Adjourned 11:25 a.m.