



## Lower Columbia Region Harbor Safety Committee

**0900 - 1200**  
**Wednesday, March 13, 2013**  
**Venue: Portland Merchants Exchange**  
**200 SW Market Street, Propeller Room**  
**Portland, Oregon**

<b>Managing Board Members Present</b>					
Name of Member and Alternate	Agency/ Industry/ Organization	Sector	Name of Member and Alternate	Agency/ Industry/ Organization	Sector
<b>Heather Stebbings</b>	Pacific Northwest Waterways Assn.	Associations	<b>Eric Burnette</b>	Port of Portland	Ports
<b>Robin Wright</b>	Merchants Exchange	Associations	<b>Susan Johnson</b>	OR Board of Maritime Pilots	State Agencies
<b>Kirk Bonnin</b>	Olympic Tug & Barge	Barge Operators	<b>Jim Townley</b>	CRSOA	Associations
<b>Lt. Morrison</b>	US Coast Guard	Federal Agencies	<b>Hans Meere</b>	Export Grain Terminal (EGT)	Terminal Operators
<b>Dan Jordan</b> <b>Gary Lewin</b>	Columbia River Bar Pilots	Pilots	<b>Mike Zollitsch</b>	Oregon DEQ	State Agencies
<b>Paul Amos</b>	Columbia River Pilots		<b>Jim Townley</b>	CRSOA	Associations
<b>Roman Geigle</b>	NWFF Environmental	Port & Vessel Services	<b>Phil Brotherton</b>	Transmarine Navigation Corp	Shipping Agents
<b>Guests in Attendance</b>					
Name	Organization	Name	Organization		
Ed Irish	Tesoro	Brian Fletcher	Tidewater		
Rick Williams	Ocean Energy	Kevin Buffum	Pacific Terminal Services		
Kimberly Rule	USCG	Rven Garcia	USCG		
Steve Sanborn	Tidewater	Ashley Helenberg	Port of Longview		
Andy Myer	Columbia River Yachting				

**A quorum was present for the meeting.**

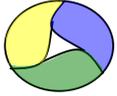
**Call to Order**

Chair: Roman Geigle  
 Vice-Chair: Jim Townley  
 Secretary: Susan Johnson

Introductions

**Review of Minutes**

Minutes for the January 9, 2013 meeting were approved.



### Old Business

- **Identify locations for 2013 meetings:**  
March 13 – Merchants Exchange  
May 8 – Millenium Bulk, Longview, WA  
July 10 – Maritime Museum, Astoria  
September 11 – Port of Vancouver, WA  
November 13 – Portland Spirit
- Review update of **Subcommittee Membership list:** Add the Columbia River Yachting Association.
- LCR HSC flyer has been updated and posted on the website.

### Committee Reports - Suggestion to list lead person for each committee along with contact information.

- **Anchorage**  
See Report on Stern Buoy Issues under New Business.
- **Bridges**  
The Tri-Met Bridge is moving forward without adverse impacts. The Sellwood Bridge was moved to new pilings in January. Oregon has signed off on their share of funding for the CRC.
- **Extreme Water**  
There was nothing new to report.
- **Finance**  
A motion to remove this item from the committee list was approved.
- **Harbor Safety Plan**  
Approval of the HSP was withheld at the last meeting pending additional changes to the restricted visibility guidelines. Those changes are still being developed. A motion to approve the 2012 version of the HSP passed.
- **Upriver Ports and Navigation**  
No additional outreach has occurred since the last meeting. There was discussion of getting contact information of upriver stakeholders to add to the general membership mailing list. PNWA will advise when the next upriver navigation meeting is scheduled.
- **Make Way**  
Operation Make Way addresses recreational boater Rule 9 violations. ODFW has the ability to close down fisheries where there are frequent violations. The editor of *Freshwater News* is willing to print a message free of charge in their publication.
- **Navigation**  
Dan Jordan reported on items the committee is dealing with: (1) encourage WA to reinstall riprap around the towers of the Longview Bridge; (2) weather buoys off the Columbia River Bar – one broke away and was reinstalled, another is slated for removal. A letter campaign has been launched to keep funding for #46089; (3) The corps is going to realign the channel further away from shoals at buoy 14 upstream of Hammond. A section of the channel will be widened. The committee will be meeting after the close of the HSC meeting to talk about maneuverability issues due to low sulfur fuels, which frequently cause reductions in horse power. They will also be discussing procedures for dead ship tows, which require companies to submit a plan to the Coast Guard.
- **Outreach**  
Efforts have been focused on upriver interests. Ed Bowles of ODFW would like to incorporate HSC's message into their education efforts.



### USCG Report on Vessel Incidents:

- 1/16/13 – Fishing vessel crew member fell off setting crab pots; not recovered
- 1/19/13 – Motor vessel lost power
- 1/19/13 – Fishing vessel lost steering and grounded; freed on tide
- 1/24/13 – Motor vessel experienced reduction in power while outbound
- 1/27/13 – Motor vessel lost propulsion
- 2/09/13 – Motor vessel lost propulsion outbound
- 3/10/13 – Fishing vessel ran aground; freed on tide

### New Business

- **Report on Stern Buoy Issues and Updates:** Eric Burnette reported on progress since the January meeting. The new buoys have not proven to be safe for tug crews. The existing buoys are going to be swapped out with different buoys already available on the shelf. The current project is still open and could be extended to get additional stern buoys installed.
- **Update from Navigation on letter sent to WSDOT in regard to lack of piling fendering on the Longview Bridge:** There was no response to the letter sent two or three years ago. There was discussion of sending another letter of concern or bring into the public spotlight. Eric Burnette, Paul Amos and Heather Stebbings will contact lobbyists in Olympia and other WSDOT contacts regarding this safety issue.
- **Report on Impact to Navigation from Emission Control Area Implementation:** Lt. Rven Garcia also reported on the Low Sulfur Committee. They have collected data from seven random vessels – not enough to define trends so they have yet to find anything significant. Low sulfur fuel usage is also changing ship traffic patterns and causing exports of the fuel to South America for use coming back.
- **Possible Impact of Federal Sequester on Projects:** The Army Corps is looking at \$250 million in cuts across all business lines. They are still determining the nature of the impacts – mainly administrative, but they should not affect dredging projects. The Coast Guard is expecting reductions in travel and energy budgets, and civilian employee furlough days.
- **Overview of Maritime Stakeholders Regional Preparedness Seminar:** Robin Wright reported that the Merchants Exchange received a grant to conduct a comprehensive business continuity disaster recovery plan. Discussions included the basics of business continuity planning and impacts based on loss of resources; communications. They have a how-to kit available for continuity planning. They are designing a drill scenario to be conducted in the fall.

### For the Good of the Order:

- Sequestering follow-up – local customs is being affected; there have been reductions in night boardings.
- Rick Williams volunteered for the Navigation Committee. He reported that a marine danger zone off Camp Rilea was been published in the federal register (live fire area). Development of architecture for wave measurement is still in development stage with no funding. Well out on the horizon is ocean energy where three areas of interest to navigation have been identified. The Oregon Wave Energy Trust approved a study by the Oregon Military Department to initiate a conceptual design for Camp Rilea.

**Next Meeting:** May 8, 2013; Location: Millenium Bulk in Longview, WA.

**Adjourned 11:15 a.m.**