



Lower Columbia Region Harbor Safety Committee General Membership Meeting

**0900 - 1000
Wednesday, November 13, 2013**

**Venue: Portland Spirit
110 S.E. Caruthers 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	Merchants Exchange	Associations	Eric Burnette	Port of Portland	Ports
Anne McIntyre	Columbia River Pilots	Pilots	Susan Johnson	OR Board of Maritime Pilots	State Agencies
Kirk Bonnin	Olympic Tug & Barge	Vessel Operators	Jim Townley	P.I.E.	Association
Dennis Corwin	Portland Spirit	Vessel Operators	Duffy Daniels	Wilhelmsen Ship Svc.	Shipping Agents
Roman Geigle	NWFF Environmental	Port & Vessel Services	Mike Titone	CRSOA	Associations
Phil Brotherton	Transmarine Navigation	Shipping Agents	Andy Meyer	Columbia River Yachting Assn.	Associations
Hans Meere	Export Grain Terminal	Terminal Operators	Mike Zollitsch	Oregon Dept. of Environ. Quality	State Agencies
Lt. Morrison	US Coast Guard	Federal Agencies	Heather Stebbings	Pacific Northwest Waterways Assn.	Associations
Guests in Attendance					
Name	Organization	Name	Organization		
Andrew Williamson	USCG	Ed Irish	Tesoro Corp.		
Michael Moreno	Merchants Exchange	Crescent Moegling	NOAA		
Brian Fletcher	Tidewater	Tony Sellers	USCG		
Matthew Pete	Consultant	Stu Sanborn	Tidewater		

Call to Order

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

Introductions

Review of Minutes

Managing Board Minutes for the September 11, 2013 meeting were approved. Approval of the General Meeting Minutes for that date was deferred to the January meeting.



Old Business

- **Make Way: Columbia River Pilots, USCG** – Request to contact Ed Bowles/ODFW and Army Corps for advice on Columbia River survey issues – Recreational boats were blocking Army Corps survey efforts in the Columbia City/St. Helens area of the river. It's a moot point now, but will likely happen again next summer.
- **Columbia River Water Treaty** – There was a great presentation at the last meeting on the re-negotiation of this treaty. Copies of the presentation are available. Stakeholders are working to ensure that navigation is seriously considered in the negotiations.

Active Working Committees Reports

Anchorage – The committee is working with PNWA, the Columbia River Pilots and CRSOA to install more anchor buoys. There will be a committee meeting on Thursday.

Bridges – Nothing new to report; they are on schedule with no major issues.

Extreme Water – Nothing new to report.

Harbor Safety Plan – Nothing new to report.

Make Way – The program was successful this year. (Also see Old Business)

Navigation – Nothing new to report.

Outreach – The Lower Columbia River Infrastructure group has created a subcommittee to generate positive press for the river system. They have brought in a public relations expert to assist.

USCG Report on Vessel Incidents

- A commercial fishing vessel grounded at the north jetty. Two crewmembers survived, one died.

The Coast Guard Industry Breakfast is scheduled for November 21

New Business

Security and Infrastructure: Michael Moreno, Portland Merchants Exchange – Mr. Moreno, Accounting and Grants Specialist, gave a presentation on the Port Security Grant Program and assisted security and safety resources that have been acquired through the program. MEX handles grant management and administration. Handouts of the presentation are available.

Request for Public Comment / Future Agenda Items

- Eric Burnette and Capt. Anne McIntyre attended the recent West Coast Harbor Safety Committee Summit in California. It was well attended with representatives from CA, OR, WA, BC and AK. They noted that our harbor safety committee is behind other states in dealing with issues. Other HSC's in comparable ports are more active, organized and have more regulatory involvement in prodding issues along. However, those committees also have public or stakeholder funding. They also saw other states currently dealing with issues that are coming soon to our river system.



There was discussion of taking the LCRHSC to a more organized level and have more regulatory involvement in prodding issues along. Lack of response on issues raised is common among HSC's. Our committee should devise ways to escalate concerns efficiently.

- Request for solicitations to join the Managing Board for 2014.
- Connect Oregon V – The Columbia River Bar Pilots had obtained Connect Oregon III funds to conduct a dynamic under-keel clearance study. Eric Burnette is now working with the Columbia River Pilots to extend the study upriver. The funding application deadline is February 25. There is a 20% funding match for the project. The grant will be for a one-year demonstration of a fully integrated system which goes from open ocean to Portland/Vancouver, to sequence and time vessels optimally for under-keel clearance and for safety.
- Brian Fletcher of Tidewater shared an ongoing development they are working through with the Army Corps in The Dalles river basin. In 2010, the Army Corps surveyed from Bonneville to The Dalles. The data from the survey raised no concerns. This October, Bonneville has been working on their lamprey weir project, and have been reducing flows daily to an average of 2-3 feet lower. This has caused Tidewater to have to hold up tows up to twelve hours waiting for adequate water. They did an independent survey in November and found one area had gone from 14 feet to 10 feet of water which is concerning.

For the Good of the Order

- Crescent Moegling advised of recent changes to NOAA's charting mission. With the availability of digital technology on vessels it means the availability of printed charts for sale is going away (mainly because sales have plummeted). They are reverting to sales of print-on-demand services and providing charts in a PDF format. It was noted that sole use of electronic charts will require an endorsement on federal licenses.
- Mike Zollitsch of DEQ advised that next Tuesday (11/19) at the Hilton is the northwest area committee meeting of the Northwest Area Contingency Plan for response to hazardous material incidents.
- New contact from EPA is interested in attending future meetings.

Next Meeting: Tentatively scheduled January 8, 2014; Location: MSU Portland

Adjourned 11:10 a.m.