



Lower Columbia Region Harbor Safety Committee

0900 - 1200
Wednesday, 14 November 2012
Venue: Portland Spirit
110 SE Caruthers, Portland OR 97267

Managing Board Members Present					
Name of Member and Alternate	Agency/ Industry/ Organization	Sector	Name of Member and Alternate	Agency/ Industry/ Organization	Sector
Heather Stebbings	Pacific Northwest Waterways Assn.	Associations	Eric Burnette	Port of Portland	Ports
Kirk Bonnin	Olympic Tug & Barge	Barge Operators	Susan Johnson	OR Board of Maritime Pilots	State Agencies
Jon Gornick	US Army Corps of Engineers	Federal Agencies	Dennis Corwin Todd Bolger	Portland Spirit	Vessel Operators
Capt. LeBlanc Lt. Morrison	US Coast Guard	Federal Agencies	Diane Butorac	WA State Dept of Ecology	State Agencies
John Torjuson	Columbia River Bar Pilots	Pilots	Hans Meere	Export Grain Terminal (EGT)	Terminal Operators
Paul Amos	Columbia River Pilots	Pilots	Mike Zollitsch	Oregon DEQ	State Agencies
Roman Geigle Lee White	NWFF Environmental	Port & Vessel Services	Jim Townley Audrey Gurule	CRSOA	Associations
Robin Wright	Merchants Exchange	Associations	Ernie Quesada	Clean Rivers Cooperative	Port and Vessel Services
Fred Harding	Shaver Transportation	Vessel Operators	Peter Pawlicki	Kirby Offshore Marine	Vessel Operators
Lars Uglum	Port of Vancouver	Ports	Phil Brotherton	Transmarine Navigation Corp	Shipping Agents
Guests in Attendance					
Name	Organization	Name	Organization		
Mark Bailey	NOAA	Dale Beasley	CRCFA		
Douglas Boren	BOEM	Jean Thurston	BOEM		
Rick Williams	SAIC Maritime	Andy Lanier	DLCD		
Paul Klarin	DLCD	Travis Gullberg	Mult. Co. River Patrol		
Kimberly Rule	USCG	Mitch Cline	USCG		
Joe Brown	USCG	John Moriarty	USCG		
Len Tumbarello	USCG	Rebecca Henderson	COLRIP		
Brad Warner	COLRIP	Shaun Martin	Camp Rilea/OMD		

A quorum was present for the meeting.



Call to Order

Chair: Eric Burnette
Vice-Chair: Diane Butorac
Secretary: Susan Johnson

Introduced General Membership and Guests

Review of Minutes

Minutes for September 12, 2012 meeting approved.

Old Business

- **LCR HSC Officers for 2013.** Diane Butorac will not be able to chair due to a move to a new position within her organization. Roman Geigle volunteered to be Chair; Jim Townley volunteered to be Vice Chair; Susan Johnson agreed to stay on as Secretary. A motion to approve the new officers for 2013 carried.
- Discussion of **absentee managing board members** (which leads to quorum issues) Pete Richards and John Withers. A motion to remove and notify them by email carried. Discussion of inviting new members to liaise on offshore renewable energy issues.
- Discussion on updating **Committee Membership List:**
 - Anchorages – Eric Burnette will be lead.
 - Extreme Water – Eric Burnette will be lead.
 - Finance – Hans Meere will be lead.
 - Make Way – remove as formal subcommittee; Coast Guard will give regular updates.
 - Navigation – Dan Jordan will be lead. Coast Guard's John Hellberg, Sean Morrison and Kimberly Rule were added to the committee. Paul Amos will also stay on.
 - Bridges – Dennis Corwin will stay lead for Tri-Met and Sellwood; Eric will provide updates on the CRC.
 - Inland Portland & Navigation – change name to Upriver Ports and Navigation. Roman Geigle will be lead.
 - Outreach – Heather Stebbings will likely take lead from Kristin Meira; update flyer on website needed.

Committee Reports

- **Anchorage**
A motion to approve amendment to the Anchorage Chapter of the Harbor Safety Guidelines to include Prescott Anchorage carried.
- **Bridges**
Nothing new to report; Tri-Met on schedule.
- **Extreme Water**
River levels have not come up as much as usual for this time of year. The dredge Essayons has another sixteen days on the river. A 41' draft restriction has been in place; however deep draft vessels can make requests to the pilots to go to 43' on a case-by-case basis.
- **Finance**
NWFF Environmental has agreed to cover the cost of website fees for 2013 and the Columbia River Pilots in 2014.
- **Upriver Ports and Navigation**
Roman Geigle has made some contacts and there has been some feedback. He is collecting email addresses to put on our mailing list. Stakeholders in this region have a lot of dredging and maintenance issues.



- **Navigation**

The Navigation Chapter of the Harbor Safety Plan that deals with the federally authorized channel (as opposed to the natural navigable channel) has been updated. The issues addressed related to increased use of electronic charts by smaller boats that are staying within the dotted lines on the chart and blocking commercial traffic. A motion to accept the changes carried.

- **Stern Buoy Project Update:** There are now three new stern buoys in use in the river. There are some minor fixes that will be needed to the buoys. A request for five more stern buoys will be pursued by PNWA. Fred Harding brought up two issues on safety for the stern buoys, that it is difficult to get a 9" line through the open part of the hook and that there is nothing on the buoys to use as a foot brace. Jon Gornick will bring to Mark Dasso's attention.
- **Emission Control Area Update:** Effects on vessel power availability – So far there has been only anecdotal information passed from the pilots to the Coast Guard on power reduction incidents related to fuel switching with some vessels. It was agreed to begin coordination on collecting data from the pilots to share with the Coast Guard. The navigation subcommittee will take the lead on this issue and report at the next meeting.

USCG Report on Vessel Incidents: There were a handful of incidents since the last meeting. On October 7 the Saga Spray grounded in the channel while approaching Vancouver Berth 9. On October 8 the Green Phoenix grounded in the anchorage while approaching Vancouver Berth 7. On October 17 the Asian Triumph was preparing to depart Kalama when the main engine hesitated to respond. On October 23 the Jin Wan lost an anchor which was recovered and reinstalled. No damage, injuries or pollution occurred in these incidents. It was noted that the two groundings happened on the projected low, low water days.

New Business

- **Identify locations for 2013 meetings; proposed dates:**

- January 9, 2013 – tentatively at USCG Swan Island.
- March 13, 2013
- May 8, 2013
- July 10, 2013
- September 11, 2013
- November 13, 2013 – Portland Spirit

Further discussion on locations in January.

- An award was presented to Diane Butorac by CRSOA on behalf of the Columbia River region's maritime industry, for her work on safety, efficiency and furthering environmental stewardship.
- **Discussion of the interaction between offshore renewable energy project and Columbia River Bar pilotage grounds at the mouth of the Columbia River:** John Torjusen, Columbia River Bar Pilots; Paul Klarin, State of Oregon DLCD; Andy Lanier, State of Oregon DLCD; John Moriarty, USCG District 13; Jean Thurston, BOEM-RE; Rick Williams, SAIC. Each participant explained their roles in this and similar projects. Maps were provided showing conceptual renewable energy sites and vessel tracks through those areas. There was discussion of navigational safety, combining navigational aids with renewable energy technology and preventing exclusions of future innovations. It was noted that it takes 24 permits to get an ocean energy project approved, and this project is still just a concept. Rick Williams volunteered to serve on the Navigation committee on this issue.
- **Potential implications of gill net compromise emerging from Gov. Kitzhaber's issue team:** Paul Amos, Columbia River Pilots; Eric Burnette, Port of Portland. There was a measure on the ballot that would have banned gill netting on the Oregon side of the Columbia River, which did not pass. An emerging compromise out of Salem would shift the gill net grounds off the main stem of the Columbia to another location. An upcoming discussion with ODFW is intended to assess and understand any navigational safety implications.



For the Good of the Order: There is an open house tonight from 4-7 p.m. at the Columbia River Red Lion in Vancouver on bridge height for the Columbia River Crossing.

Next Meeting: January 9, 2013; Location: USCG MSU Portland, Swan Island, OR to be confirmed.

Adjourned 12:00 p.m.