



**Lower Columbia Region Harbor Safety Committee**

# **General Membership Meeting Minutes**

**Held:**

January 13, 2010

1030-1200 hours

**Venue:** Port of Vancouver

3103 Lower River Road

Vancouver, WA 98660



**1005 Call to Order**

<b>Attendance Report</b>					
<b>Member</b>	<b>Alternate</b>	<b>Attendance</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Alternate</b>	<b>Attendance</b>
Paul Amos	Steve Woods	Present	Kristin Meira	Glenn Vanselow	Not Present
Ernie Quesada		Present	Pete Pawlicki		Present
Chip Boothe	Bob Troyer Diane Butorac	DB Present	Peter Richards	John Withers	Present
Dennis Corwin		Not Present	Steve Shaver	Robert Rich Fred Harding	Not Present
Eric Burnette	Sebastian Degens	Present	Jim Townley	Audrey Gurule	Present
Roman Geigle	George Birch	Present	Lars Uglum		Present
Dan Jordan	Gary Lewin	Present	Michael Zollitsch	Garret Wickham	Not Present
Heather Moats		Not Present	<b>Liaison</b>	<b>Liaison</b>	
Tom Markgraf		Not Present	Tiffany Clark	Jaime Sayers Jason Bonham	Present
Hans Meere		Present	Jon Gornick	Doris McKillip	Present
12 Members or Alternates were present The meeting was conducted with a Quorum present.					
<b>Guests in Attendance</b>					
<b>Name</b>	<b>Email or Telephone</b>		<b>Name</b>	<b>Email or Telephone</b>	
CDR Zamperini					
William Clark	William.r.clark@uscg.mil				

**Introductions**

Officers, Managing Board Members, Alternates, USCG Liaison Personnel and Guests were introduced and signed attendance record.

**Old Business**

**Review of Minutes**

Review of Minutes from Managing Board Meeting 11-10-09- Paul Amos.  
Motion for approval of minutes was made, seconded and carried unanimously

Review of Minutes from General Membership Meeting 11-10-09- Paul Amos.  
Motion for approval of minutes was made, seconded and carried unanimously.



## **New Business**

### **Roster Revision- Dan Jordan**

Reported that as we progress we need to ensure that our roster is up to date with all of the correct information for members.

## **Sub-committee Reports**

### **Anchorage – Eric Burnette**

Mr. Burnette reported that he was informed during a meeting that the feasibility study will be able to be conducted one year earlier than anticipated moving the anchorage stern buoy project one step closer.

He stated that they will be looking for approximately \$25, 000 in matching funds for the project if the feasibility study costs more than \$100,000. He stated that Mr. Hackett with the ACOE stated that we may want to look at the feasibility of 4-6 stern buoys being placed along the Columbia River vice 2 buoys as well as dredging the anchorages to accommodate the larger PANAMAX vessels that the Columbia will be able to support soon.

It was reported that with the new anchorages in the CFR that the existing anchorage guidelines need to be changed to reflect the CFR and a few other general housekeeping changes need to be made to the guidelines. A call to reconvene the anchorage subcommittee prior to the end of January to start work on updating and changing the anchorage guidelines to reflect the new anchorages.

### **Bridges Committee - Dennis Corwin**

Nothing Significant to report since the last meeting.

### **Extreme River Levels - Eric Burnette**

Nothing Significant to report since the last meeting.

### **Finance**

Nothing Significant to report since the last meeting.

### **Harbor Safety Plan – Diane Butorac**

The Bunkering chapter as well as the Enforcement chapters were both voted in unanimously and will be added to the Harbor Safety Plan as standing Standards of Care/Guidelines.



The Depths and Underkeel Clearance chapter has put out a request to the ACOE for assistance. Mr. Mike Ott will be assisting with this subcommittee on behalf of the ACOE.

The Incident Management Chapter is still in the drafting stages with a meeting proposed between the CG, DOE offices and the Incident Management Sub-committee to cover the grounding section.

CDR Zamperini stated that he made a change to the reporting of groundings. This change is that all unintentional groundings must be reported, whether or not they create a hazardous condition. The verbiage regarding the intentional grounds has been removed because in severe weather or to preserve a life a tug with a tow may intentionally ground the vessel. The definition of unintentional was determined to be stated as an unplanned grounding.

Another discussion point was whether or not a vessel should be required to report to the CG of their situation before they're going to back off of a "soft" or stable grounding situation to keep from missing a tide that may assist them in getting ungrounded. It was also discussed that a quick phone process of no longer than 15 minutes to conference in the COTP on these incidents was necessary for approval of actions to be taken. From reports of other similar incidents it seemed that the CG has created a lag in timely communications and actions.

The Severe Storms/Weather chapter is currently on hold until the other chapters being drafted are completed.

#### **Outreach**

Nothing significant to report since the last meeting.

#### **For the Good of the Order**

##### **Public Comments on Meeting Dates:**

It was determined that an email with a survey will be sent out to determine the best days to hold the upcoming meetings and it was discussed that the meeting locations might be better off changing locations each time to make it more accessible

##### **Schedule and Place for Next Meeting**

Next meeting to be held at a time and location still to be determined.

**Adjourned** at 1045



**Lower Columbia Region Harbor Safety Committee**

# **General Membership Meeting Minutes**

**Held:**

March 10, 2010  
1000 - 1200 hours

**Venue:** Port of Longview  
10 Port Way  
Longview, WA 98632



**0840 Call to Order**

<b>Attendance Report</b>					
<b>Member</b>	<b>Alternate</b>	<b>Attendance</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Alternate</b>	<b>Attendance</b>
Paul Amos	Steve Woods	Present	Kristin Meira	Glenn Vanselow	Present
Ernie Quesada		Not Present	Pete Pawlicki		Present
Chip Boothe	Bob Troyer Diane Butorac	DB Present	Peter Richards	John Withers	Not Present
Dennis Corwin		Not Present	Steve Shaver	Robert Rich Fred Harding	FH Present
Eric Burnette	Sebastian Degens	Present	Jim Townley	Audrey Gurule	Present
Roman Geigle	George Birch	Present	Lars Uglum		Not Present
Dan Jordan	Gary Lewin	Present	Michael Zollitsch	Garret Wickham	Not Present
Heather Moats		Not Present	<b>Liaison</b>	<b>Liaison</b>	
Tom Markgraf		Not Present	Tiffany Clark	Jaime Sayers Jason Bonham	Present
Hans Meere		Not Present	Jon Gornick	Doris McKillip	Not Present
9 Members or Alternates were present, the meeting was conducted with a Quorum present.					
<b>Guests in Attendance</b>					
<b>Name</b>	<b>Email or Telephone</b>	<b>Email or Telephone</b>			
CAPT Myer	COTP Portland, USCG				
CDR Zamperini	USCG				
Heather Hastings	Officer in Charge CDC Seattle Quarantine Station				
Stephen Moore	Oregon Public Health Department				

**Introductions**

Officers, Managing Board Members, Alternates, USCG Liaison Personnel and Guests were introduced.

**Old Business**

**Review of Minutes**

Review of Minutes from Managing Board Meeting 01-13-10.

Motion for approval of minutes was made, seconded and carried unanimously

Review of Minutes from General Membership Meeting 01-13-10.

Motion for approval of minutes was made, seconded and carried unanimously.



**New Business** - none

### **Harbor Safety Plan Committee Reports**

#### **Anchorage – Eric Burnette**

Committee reported that they are working with the ACOE for adding stern buoys over the length of the river and where their placement would be most advantageous. They are looking at adding four to ten stern buoys to the anchorages. Reported they will be having a meeting on Monday March 15, 2010 from 10:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. at the Port of Portland building.

#### **Bridges Committee - Dennis Corwin**

It was discussed if the bridges committee would be interested in drafting the letter to the Washington Department of Transportation in regards to the lack of a fender system around the supports of the Longview Bridge.

#### **Extreme River Levels - Eric Burnette**

A meeting to be held in April at the Northwest River Forecast center was proposed to get a long term forecast.

#### **Finance**

Nothing significant to report.

#### **Harbor Safety Plan – Diane Butorac**

The Bunkering chapter as well as the Incident Management chapters were both voted in unanimously and will be added to the Harbor Safety Plan as standing Standards of Care/Guidelines.

The Harbor Depths and Underkeel Clearance chapter are still being worked on at the subcommittee level. Recommendation was made to send a draft of the Underkeel Clearance chapter to the various ports for input. Mr. Burnette stated input was still needed from stake holders on the Underkeel Clearance chapter.

The next chapters to be brought to the Managing board for approval are the Sever Weather/Storms chapter as well as the Aids to Navigation chapter.

The Sever Storms/Weather chapter is currently on hold until the other chapters being drafted are completed.

A proposal was made to reprioritize the remaining chapters of the Harbor Safety Plan now that the high priority chapters have been addressed.



### **Outreach**

The subcommittee reports that there is a PowerPoint drafted which will be sent to the Chair for approval that can be used for outreach meetings.

### **Presentation by Heather Hastings Officer in Charge, CDC Seattle Quarantine Station**

Ms. Hastings discussed the notification requirements for when a sick individual was onboard a ship and the CDC's response and roles in the care of the person as well as their role in preventing the spread of contagious illness to healthy individuals. A discussion was started over the notification of personnel, i.e. tug crews, pilots, assist vessel personnel, of a possible sickness onboard a vessel. It was reported that the quarantine anchorage for the Portland Captain of the Port is the Astoria Anchorage.

### **For the Good of the Order**

Mr. Ott with the ACOE reported their will be an annual dredging meeting on April 7 for the Portland District to cover the capacity of dredging.

A prospective meeting with the new Sector Commander, Captain Kaup before the July HSC meeting.

### **Schedule and Place for Next Meeting**

Next meeting to be held in Portland at the USCG Training Deck, Swan Island.

**Adjourned** at 1137





**Lower Columbia Region Harbor Safety Committee**

**General Membership Meeting Minutes**

**Held:**

May 12, 2010

1000 - 1200 hours

**Venue:** Sector Portland

6767 North Basin Ave

Portland, OR 97217

Training Deck



## 1000 Call to Order

<b>Attendance Report</b>					
<b>Member</b>	<b>Alternate</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Alternate</b>	<b>Present</b>
Paul Amos	Steve Woods	Present	Kristin Meira	Glenn Vanselow	GV Present
Ernie Quesada		Not Present	Pete Pawlicki		Not Present
Chip Boothe	Bob Troyer Diane Butorac	BT Present	Peter Richards	John Withers	Not Present
Dennis Corwin		Present	Steve Shaver	Robert Rich Fred Harding	FH Present
Eric Burnette	Sebastian Degens	Present	Jim Townley	Audrey Gurule	Not Present
Roman Geigle	George Birch	Present	Lars Uglum		Present
Dan Jordan	Gary Lewin	Present	Michael Zollitsch	Garret Wickham	Present
Heather Moats	Patrick Grill	PG Present	<b>Liaison</b>	<b>Liaison</b>	
Tom Markgraf		Not Present	Tiffany Clark	Jaime Sayers Jason Bonham	Present
Hans Meere		Present	Jon Gornick	Doris McKillip	Present
12 Members or Alternates were present; the meeting was conducted with a Quorum.					
<b>Guests in Attendance</b>					
<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Email or Telephone</b>			
CDR Mike Zamperini	USCG				
William Randy Clark	USCG				
Captain Scott Heesacker	Portland Fire Dept.				

### Introductions

Officers, Managing Board Members, Alternates, USCG Liaison Personnel and Guests were introduced.

### Old Business

#### Review of Minutes

Dan Jordan reported that the Minutes from Managing Board Meeting 03-10-10 and General Membership Meeting 03-10-10 were approved at the Managing Board Meeting.



## New Business

CDR Zamperini, Chief of Prevention, Sector Portland, gave a brief of Coast Guard activities since the beginning of the year. This will be a normal report at all LCRHSC meetings to keep the LCRHSC informed of incidents that might warrant further discussions among LCRHSC members.

Mr. William Clark with the Planning Department, Sector Portland, gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Marine Transportation System Recovery Unit plan. He requested volunteers to assist with prioritizing the various aspects of the marine transportation system on the river systems within the Sector area of responsibility. He stated that most work could be completed via email and online venues. He also asked for a group of industry personnel who may be willing to take ICS training to be able to work together virtually in the case of an incident that requires implementation of the plan.

Captain Scott Heesacker and Mr. Tim VonSeggern with Portland Fire and Rescue presented a PowerPoint showing a proposed regional response vessel that Portland Fire and Rescue are currently trying to get a security grant to have the funding to purchase this boat and then once it is received Portland Fire and Rescue will carry all costs for maintenance, upkeep, and staffing of the new fireboat. It was proposed that the LCRHSC draft a letter of support for the regional response vessel.

Mr. Brian Fletcher with Tidewater discussed the following two issues:

The first issue was in regards to the deteriorating pile dikes in the vicinity of Hayden Island. He was specifically asking if there is something the LCRHSC can do to assist the ACOE get funding for the upkeep and/or repair of the pile dikes. There is a concern that newer or unfamiliar users may run aground on submerged piles of rocks at dikes where the "teeth" are not visible damaging their vessels. He asked if there is a way that the rocks may be marked such as a buoy. The Corps of Engineers requested that the tug companies that use the river compile a list of the missing and unmarked dikes along the rivers. It was discussed if a working group should be created for this issue.

Mr. Fletcher discussed a near miss that one of his vessels had while transiting the northern section of the Columbia River when a bridge operator started closing a bridge with approaching river traffic. Not every bridge is issuing a radio broadcast to alert mariners the bridge will be closed and the CFR does not require the bridges on the Snake River to announce closures of the bridge. Mr. Fletcher noted that it appeared Burlington North Railroad Bridges was having issues with closing with approaching marine traffic and the bridge tenders were not listening to radio traffic for bridge notifications. The suggestion was made that John with the Columbia River Towing Association contact Burlington North Railroad to speak to them about the near miss situations. It was also suggested that Austin Pratt get involved with this conversation.



Mr. Fletcher also mentioned a 35 foot long shelf that is on the Snake River that vessels have been running aground on causing them to damage their vessels. He requested assistance from the Coast Guard in marking this area. CDR Peloquin, District Waterways Department, stated they will look into marking this area of concern.

### **Working Committee Reports**

#### **Anchorage – Eric Burnette**

The committee reported that the scope, schedule, and budget should be provided by the ACOE in approximately the next four weeks for the stern buoys project. The Port of Portland has been identified as the primary sponsor for the feasibility study funding and will be reaching out to various river users for funding of the project. The rough estimate of cost per buoy is \$200,000-\$300,000; of this construction cost sponsors will be needed for 10% of that cost.

#### **Bridges Committee - Dennis Corwin**

The Tri-met Bridge is on schedule and the first piles are scheduled to be set in July of 2011. There is concern that Tri-Met hasn't responded to comments on the bridge.

#### **Extreme River Levels - Eric Burnette**

There will be a meeting on river levels at the Port of Portland office on May 26, 2010 at 9:30 A.M.

#### **Finance**

Nothing Significant to report since the last meeting.

#### **Harbor Safety Plan – Diane Butorac**

The Aids to Navigation chapter was voted on and approved with a statement added that requests changes/recommendations to Aids to Navigation on the river be forwarded to the LCRHSC as well as to the Coast Guard District Thirteen office.

Revisions to the Anchorage guidelines were voted on and approved to include Cottonwood Island Anchorage and bring other sections in line with the new CFR.

#### **Outreach**

Peter Richards and Chip Booth gave a PowerPoint presentation to the Oregon Board of Maritime Pilots to share with them what the LCRHSC is and what our goals and concerns are.



### **Make- Way**

It was discussed that the Willamette Falls locks will now be operational and with the opening of the locks there will be make-way concerns due to the high volume of pleasure craft in the channel. There was a request for assistance from the Coast Guard Auxiliary with escorts to the locks.

### **Request for Public Comment**

It was reported that the City of Portland's Healthy and Working Rivers committee is interested in attending the next meeting.

The National Harbor Safety Committee joint Area Maritime Security Committee meeting will be held in Jersey City, New Jersey June 8-11, 2010.

Mr. Mark Daily with NOAA Load-Max introduced himself to the committee and reported they will be adding a Load-Max station in Hammond.

### **For the Good of the Order**

The area of responsibility for the LCRHSC covers the waters of the Columbia River from the Pacific Ocean to the Bonneville Dam to include the Willamette River as far inland as Oregon City and the Willamette Falls, but that doesn't prevent discussion of safety related issues that cross the boundaries.

### **Schedule and Place for Next Meeting**

Next meeting is to be held at the Maritime Museum in Astoria, Oregon hosted by the Columbia River Bar Pilots. Items proposed for that agenda are:

1. The move of the Coast Guard COTP to Astoria and hopefully, a tour of the new Sector and an introduction to the incoming Captain of the Port.
2. Vessel quarantine issues in the Astoria Quarantine Anchorage

**Adjourned** at 1147



**Lower Columbia Region Harbor Safety Committee**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Held:**

July 14, 2010

1000 - 1200 hours

**Venue: Columbia River Maritime Museum**

1792 Marine Drive

Astoria, Oregon 97103

Rolf Klep Conference Room



**1000 Call to Order**

<b>Attendance Report</b>					
<b>Member</b>	<b>Alternate</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Alternate</b>	<b>Present</b>
Paul Amos	Steve Woods	Not Present	Kristin Meira	Glenn Vanselow	Present
Ernie Quesada		Not Present	Pete Pawlicki		Present
Chip Boothe	Bob Troyer Diane Butorac	DB Present	Peter Richards	John Withers	Not Present
Dennis Corwin		Not Present	Steve Shaver	Robert Rich Fred Harding	FH Present
Eric Burnette	Sebastian Degens	Present	Jim Townley	Audrey Gurule	Not Present
Roman Geigle	George Birch	Not Present	Lars Uglum		Not Present
Dan Jordan	Gary Lewin	Present	Michael Zollitsch	Garret Wickham	Present
Heather Moats	Patrick Grill	Not Present	Melissa Huska	Andrew Williamson	Present
Tom Markgraf		Not Present	Jaime Sayers		Present
Hans Meere		Present	Jon Gornick	Michael Ott	Not Present
8 Members present and 1 Proxy, The meeting was conducted with a Quorum present.					
<b>Guests in Attendance</b>					
<b>Name</b>		<b>Organization</b>	<b>Name</b>		<b>Organization</b>
CAPT Tumbarello, USCG		CO, Sector Portland	Heather Hastings		CDC Seattle Quarantine Station
			Steve Moore		Oregon Public Health Division

**Introductions**

Officers, Managing Board Members, Alternates, USCG Liaison Personnel and Guests were introduced.

**Old Business**

**Review of Minutes**

Review of Minutes from Managing Board Meeting 05-12-10- Dan Jordan.  
Motion for approval of minutes was made, seconded and carried unanimously

Review of Minutes from General Membership Meeting 05-12-10- Dan Jordan.  
Motion for approval of minutes was made, seconded and carried unanimously.



## **New Business**

LCDR Williamson , Chief of Prevention, Sector Portland, gave a quick brief of Coast Guard activities that have occurred since the last meeting of the LCRHSC.

Mrs. Heather Hastings introduced the CDC quarantine stations to the members again and quickly explained what the goal of the CDC Quarantine stations were.

Mr. Moore discussed what the Public Health administration is doing to help prevent the spread of communicable diseases from ports of entry in the US. He spoke of creating a network of contacts to use in the event of a “Sick Ship” or a ship that has crew that may be carrying a contagious disease onboard. This list would allow for the quick response to the crew for assistance from health care providers and to ensure that personnel are notified in advance that there is a communicable disease onboard the vessel.

## **Working Committee Reports**

### **Anchorage – Eric Burnette**

Ms. Alison Burcham with the Army Corps of Engineers was introduced to the committee. A brief synopsis of the stern buoy proposal was given. The proposal is currently nearing the \$100,000 mark. After this amount has been met a sponsor or a group of sponsors able to do a 50/50 share will be needed to continue with the project. The suggested locations in the Navy study for any new stern buoys are as follows: Longview, (2) Cottonwood, Kalama, Upper Vancouver, and the Willow Bar area. Not all of these areas are deepwater areas, some are naturally deep but others are shallow draft. The question was posed to the working committee asking if the two step arrival/departure will be looked at in the study for the feasibility of the stern buoys. It was reported that the main priority currently is to find sponsors to help with the cost share to ensure that the study will continue going forward.

### **Bridges Committee -**

The Port of Portland reported they are working with Trimet on the bottoms of the new bridges.

### **Extreme River Levels - Eric Burnette**

It is being reported that this year will be the 6<sup>th</sup> driest year since 1973. Low snow amounts this winter are causing a low melt and water is not being added to the river. The low water weekends are expected to be when low tidal amplitude coincides with a weekend. Predicted days for lowest water are: August 2-3, September 5-6, September 20-21, and October 17-18. The lowest stage out of all of these dates is expected to be October 17-18.





### **Finance**

Nothing significant to report since the last meeting.

### **Harbor Safety Plan – Diane Butorac**

The chapters for review to be added to the Harbor Safety Plan have been prioritized and the new priority is as follows:

Severe Weather  
Small Vessels Make-Way  
Charts/Publications  
Identification Systems

The next chapters to be drafted are the severe weather chapter and the small vessels/make way chapter.

The Harbor Depths/Underkeel clearance chapter has been placed on hold pending the outcome of a pending study.

### **Outreach**

A discussion on having the outreach committee work on educating the public about the harbor safety plan was held. It was discussed that it might be a good idea to contact local organizations to pass the word on the harbor safety plan.

### **Make- Way**

A discussion of the upcoming buoy 10 fishing was held along with a request that the CG have a Make-way operation to help combat the make-way issues for the Summer/Fall fishing seasons. It was stated that the most effective time frame for an activity of this type would be between the months of August and October during the salmon runs.

A request was also made for the establishment of Season buoy 75A near Columbia City.



### **For the Good of the Order**

Captain Tumbarello, Commanding Officer for Sector Portland, explained the new Sector construct.

The question of opening a closed river bar after hours was brought up by the Crab Fisherman Association (?? Please help me with the name of this association).

Kristin Meira discussed the meeting being held on July 15 at the Sector that was over the Lock Closure that would be affecting our tow boat companies.

September 14-15, 2010 there will be a meeting in Portland for the local NOAA office.

July 29, 2010 will be the Open House for the Merchants Exchange.

### **Schedule and Place for Next Meeting**

Next meeting is to be held in Portland with the Port of Portland tentatively offering their location for the next meeting.

**Adjourned** at 1134



**Lower Columbia Region Harbor Safety Committee**

# **General Membership Meeting Minutes**

1000 - 1200  
September 8, 2010

Venue: Marine Safety Unit Portland  
6767 North Basin Ave  
Portland, Oregon

Training Room



1003 Call to Order

Roll Call

<b>Attendance Report</b>					
<b>Member</b>	<b>Alternate</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Alternate</b>	<b>Present</b>
Paul Amos	Steve Woods	PA Present	Kristin Meira	Glenn Vanselow	Not Present
Ernie Quesada		Not Present	Pete Pawlicki		Present
Chip Boothe	Bob Troyer Diane Butorac	DB Present	Peter Richards	John Withers	Not Present
Dennis Corwin			Steve Shaver	Robert Rich Fred Harding	Fred Harding
Eric Burnette	Sebastian Degens	EB Present	Jim Townley	Audrey Gurule	Not Present
Roman Geigle	George Birch	RG Present	Lars Uglum		Present
Dan Jordan	Gary Lewin	DJ Present	Michael Zollitsch	Garret Wickham	MZ Present
Heather Moats	Patrick Grill	Not Present	Melissa Huska		Present
Tom Markgraf		Not Present	Jaime Sayers		Present
Hans Meere		Present	Jon Gornick	Michael Ott	MO Present
<b>Guests in Attendance</b>					
<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>		
CAPT Doug Kaup	COTP, USCG Sector Columbia River	CDR Jeff Ramos	USCG District 13, Inspections & Investigations		
CAPT Leonard Tumbarello	Deputy, Sector Columbia River	CDR Peloquin	USCG District 13 Waterways Management Staff		
CAPT Daniel LeBlanc	CO MSU Portland				

**Introductions**

Officers

- Chair Dan Jordan
- Vice Chair Hans Meere
- Secretary MST1 Jaime Sayers

Managing Board and General Members

Guests



## **Old Business**

Review of Minutes from General Membership Meeting 07-14-10 - Dan Jordan.

## **New Business**

LCDR Williamson, Chief of Prevention, MSU Portland, and MST1 Jaime Sayers, MSU Portland Waterways Management Division, gave quick briefs of Coast Guard activities that have occurred since the last meeting of the LCRHSC.

Chairman Dan Jordan opened a discussion about the size of the Managing Board. The lengths of time people are on the board and who is on the board was discussed. The topic of adjusting the number of people needed to have a quorum was discussed.

It was suggested that some members of the Managing Board be asked to switch from being voting members to participating as liaison positions or asked to return to the General Membership. It was suggested to look at the attendance over the previous 12 months to determine who has been available to attend the meetings at least 50-60% of the time and having those members as the managing board. The appropriateness of sending out a letter to all managing board members to assess their involvement in the committee and to determine if they need to become an alternate and have their alternate move up as a primary member.

It was discussed that we may need to send out an invitation to the General Membership to solicit for members interested in being a part of the Managing Board.

## **Working Committees Reports**

### **Anchorage – Eric Burnette**

The Port of Portland will be going before ICRA to request approximately \$130,000 to help fund the remainder of the feasibility study. A letter to the ICRA of support and information on the necessity for the stern buoy project was discussed.

### **Bridges Committee -**

The Columbia River Pilots are still drafting a letter in regards to the lack of abutments around the piers of the Longview bridge.

It was reported that there is a proposal to replace the Hood River Bridge with a new bridge that will have horizontal clearance of 450' and a vertical draft of 80'.

### **Extreme River Levels - Eric Burnette**

It was reported that the National Weather Service had a broadcast being sent out warning mariners of the extreme low river levels during the last low water period.



### **Harbor Safety Plan – Diane Butorac**

The HSC agreed that the foundation of the Harbor Safety Plan was completed and discussed various ways to publicize it. The following methods were agreed upon:

- Distribute using the HSC email list to industry and stakeholders
- PIO USCG would put the information in the Coast Pilot and possibly in the LNM
- Jaime would look to add information on this to the Makeway flyer
- Develop a flyer with information on the plan. Diane asked for photos and it was decided to add information on attending General Membership meetings
  - USCG Aux and Power Squadron would provide flyer as handout
  - Provide flyer to Oregon State Marine Board

The next two chapters in development are Severe Weather and Makeway. Stu Richards and Lt Huska are the lead for the Makeway chapter with workgroup members of Dan Jordan and Roman Geigle. The Severe Weather chapter workgroup members are Paul Amos, Dan Jordan, Eric Burnette, and someone to be assigned from USCG Response.

### **Make-Way**

Updating notes for Makeway say the flyer. Issues to include in the HSP chapter should include sound signals and VHF use, the ticketing process, and identification of key areas like Buoy 10 and off Cape Disappointment.

### **Outreach**

Suggestions were requested on how best to publicize the HSP and formally announce the existence of one in this port.

Hans Meere, Vice Chair, suggested using a distribution list that the Merchants Exchange has to publicize the plan.

The suggestion was made to add an announcement to the Coast Pilot. Another suggestion made was to have a statement about it on the Make-way hand out used in the area and have the Auxiliary or Power Squadron hand it out. Fliers could be given out at boat shows as well as during routine make way activities.

**Finance** – nothing to report

### **Request for Public Comment**

CDR Zamperini discussed the issue of dredging the anchorages and who funds that activity. Eric Burnette, Port of Portland, suggested talking to the Pacific Northwest Waterways Association about finding funds to allocate to the CG and then the money can work with the Army Corps of Engineers to have the dredging work completed on the anchorages.

Paul Amos with the river pilots opened a discussion on the lack of gangways for safe egress of vessels as they come into port. At times Pilots are made to stay onboard the vessels



for hours after docking or to disembark from the vessel in an unsafe manner. The Pilots have also been required to make preparations to have a gangway at the dock as they are directing the vessel while underway on the river. It was requested to be added to the November meeting.

**For the Good of the Order**

**Schedule and Place for Next Meeting and Request for Host for Next Meeting**

Next meeting is to be held in Portland to facilitate the election of new officers.

**Motion to Adjourn at 1151**



**Lower Columbia Region Harbor Safety Committee**

# **General Membership Meeting Minutes**

**Held:**

November 10, 2010

1000 - 1200 hours

**Venue: USCG MSU Portland**

**6767 North Basin Ave**

**Portland, OR 97217**

Training Room





**1003 Call to Order**

<b>Attendance Report</b>					
<b>Member</b>	<b>Alternate</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Alternate</b>	<b>Present</b>
Paul Amos	Steve Woods	PA Present	Kristin Meira	Glenn Vanselow	KM Present
Ernie Quesada		Not Present	Pete Pawlicki		Present
Chip Boothe	Bob Troyer Diane Butorac	DB Present	Peter Richards	John Withers	Not Present
Dennis Corwin		Not Present	Fred Harding	Robert Rich Steve Shaver	FH Present
Eric Burnette	Sebastian Degens	EB Present	Jim Townley	Audrey Gurule	JT Present
Roman Geigle	George Birch	Not Present	Lars Uglum		Present
Dan Jordan	Gary Lewin	DJ Present	Michael Zollitsch	Garret Wickham	MZ Present
Heather Moats	Patrick Grill	Not Present	Melissa Huska	Jeremy Maginot Jaime Sayers	Present
Tom Markgraf		Not Present	Jon Gornick	Jessica Stokke	Present
Hans Meere		Present			
10 Members present The meeting was conducted with a Quorum present.					
<b>Guests in Attendance</b>					
<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>		
CAPT Kaup	COTP, Sector Columbia River	CDR Vlaun	CO, Fir		
CDR Zamperini	XO, MSU Portland				

**Introductions**

Officers

- Chair Dan Jordan
- Vice Chair Hans Meere
- Secretary MST1 Jaime Sayers

General Membership

Guests



## **Old Business**

### **Review of Minutes**

Review of Minutes from Meeting 09-08-10 - Dan Jordan.

Motion for approval of minutes was made, seconded and carried unanimously

It was reported that this meeting will be the last meeting with Dan Jordan as the Committee Chair. Hans Meere will be the new Committee Chair and Eric Burnette will be the Vice-Chair. A second solicitation was made for a volunteer to take the position of Committee Secretary.

A solicitation was made for new members of the Managing Board. Phil Brotherton requested to join the Managing Board. Susan Johnson will be switching places with Tom Markgraf to represent the Oregon State Pilots.

## **New Business**

Chairman Dan Jordan opened a discussion about changing navigation practices on the river. With the increased use of Electronic Navigation Charts vessels there is an increasing trend to navigate within the lines of the dredged channel. Not taking advantage of the available water within the buoyed channel often causes unnecessary close quarters situations. An example of this situation was given that a vessel requiring a 20' draft was transiting an area of the river and was going to be crossing in close proximity to a vessel that needed deeper water but the Captain of the lighter vessel wasn't comfortable transiting outside of the dredged channel. Tugs and tows also show a greater tendency to navigate within the dredged channel. This is happening more frequently and Capt Jordan wanted to determine if there was enough interest in this issue to have a subcommittee move forward with discussions.

During the above conversation Eric Burnette, Port of Portland, discussed that they have similar situations on the Willamette River where the dredged channel ends and where the Harbor Line is. The standards for navigating between the dredged channel, harbor line, and any regulated navigation area on the Willamette River was also stated as an issue that will need to be discussed soon. Paul Amos, River Pilots, mentioned looking in the Coast Pilot to determine if the above items are discussed in the Coast Pilot already.

It was suggested that the Columbia River Towboats Association would be a good organization to make sure is participating in these discussions.

A member asked if there is a set distance between the edge of the dredged channel and the actual position of the Aid to Navigation marking the navigable channel. It was



suggested to get the Coast Guard local Aid to Navigation “expert” to give a discussion and reason for the location of the aid to navigation on the Columbia River.

Jim Townley with the Columbia River Steamship operators Association suggested have a lawyer from the Admiralty look at the documentation that comes out of the discussions created by the navigation subcommittee to ensure the wording is correct.

It was determined that the navigation subcommittee will work on this and will add a page to the Harbor Safety Plan to cover this subject. The lead of this subcommittee is Paul Amos, with Dan Jordan, Gary Lewin, Jim Townley, Lars Uglum, Fred Harding, Kirk Bonnin and Jon Gornick.

Captain Gary Lewin reported that a proposal has been made that would request the channel be shifted away from a large shoal area and into deeper water. The area in the proposal is in the vicinity of Buoy 14 and Cow Slip. He also mentioned that in other ports the towing community has designated towing vessel lanes. The pilots pointed out that in many areas of the area the river is not wide enough to allow for designated towing lanes. The river pilots also mentioned adjusting the speed of vessels to allow for meeting each other at wider sections of the river.

Lars Uglum with the Port of Vancouver opened for discussion the policy that the river pilots currently use for inbound transits of vessels requiring 38’ or deeper drafts on the river. Currently the vessels must wait for a certain tidal phase to enter the river system which can cause scheduling conflicts for the vessels. Paul Amos said that there’s more to the issue than water depth and that the hydraulics of handling a deep ship against a current may not have changed. They will monitor the handling characteristics of the deeper ships over a period of time and consider revising this policy if they see an improvement.

The pilots also stated that once they receive the final chart from the Army Corps of Engineers that the Columbia River is officially 43’ in depth that they will slowly start bringing in vessels with deeper drafts on a case by case basis to determine what the river can allow safely. The river pilots also mentioned that just because the river is now 43’ they won’t immediately start taking larger vessels. They will be waiting for the charts as well as for the approval of the Captain of the Port on bringing in larger vessels.

The Army Corp of Engineers reported that the actual work on the Columbia River dredged channel was completed on November 3, 2010 but that the official letter will not be released until approximately November 15-17, 2010.



It was stated that the MSU Portland Waterways Management Division will start coordinating a meeting to discuss all of the navigation concerns.

## **Working Committee Reports**

### **Anchorage – Eric Burnette**

The Army Corps of Engineers has moved forward with the feasibility study for adding more stern buoys to the Columbia River system. The draft cost share has been completed. The Port of Portland is looking at the other Ports to share the cost of the study. A letter of intent is being distributed to show money is available to pay for the remainder of the feasibility survey.

The managing board approved amendments to the anchorage guidelines allowing vessels with a length of less than 760' to anchor in Astoria North Anchorage.

CAPT Kaup, Sector Columbia River COTP, mentioned that EGT, the new grain facility in Longview, WA is looking to have a new anchorage.

It was discussed that there are very few places with deep water for anchorages. It was stated that dredging of the existing anchorages is the most feasible way to create more deep water anchorages. It was discussed who pays for the dredging between the Army Corps of Engineers and the CG. Certain Districts solicit congress for money to do exactly that. It was asked if it was possible for a study to be completed to have the Army Corps of Engineers have the funds for dredging.

### **Bridges Committee - Eric Burnett**

They have sent a second letter to the TriMet officials to discuss the concerns the committee has with the new TriMet Bridge over the Willamette River. It was stated that the letter regarding the fender system around the Longview Bridge will be shifted and handled by the Navigation Sub-Committee.

### **Extreme River Levels - Eric Burnette**

There was nothing of significance to report from the committee.

### **Finance**

The River Pilots volunteered to provide \$350 to retain the domain name and website for the committee.

### **Harbor Safety Plan – Diane Butorac**

It was reported that the newest chapter to be completed is the severe weather chapter. A solicitation for a lead on the committee drafting this chapter was given with no results.



### **Outreach**

Diane Butorac displayed a two page flyer, front and back that could be added to our website and then printed out and distributed by members of the committee to use.

### **Make- Way**

The make-way chapter of the HSP is in progress and is expected to be completed by the middle of December.

### **For the Good of the Order**

It was reported that Project River Guard had received a waiver from FEMA. This project is looking at information sharing along the river from Astoria, OR all the way through to Lewiston, ID. This will also look at VAIS from the Bonneville Pool all the way to Lewiston, ID. This is a multi-phase project which is to do a study and make a plan to improve communications on the Columbia River.

CDR Vlaun the CO of the CGC Fir explained how Aid to Navigation buoys are placed in relation to the dredged channel.

The committee thanked Capt Dan Jordan for his service as Vice Chair and Chair.

### **Schedule and Place for Next Meeting**

Next meeting is to be held at the Port of Vancouver on January 12, 2010.

**Adjourned** at 1100