



LOWER COLUMBIA REGION  
HARBOR SAFETY COMMITTEE

## Lower Columbia Region Harbor Safety Committee General Membership Meeting Notes

**Wednesday, January 10, 2024 | 1416-1519 hrs**  
**Venue: Port of Vancouver USA & Microsoft Teams**

### In attendance:

Larry Landgraver, <i>Port of Longview</i> <b>Chair</b>	Colin Nelson, ISA WAV Surveillance
Ross McDonald, Sause Brothers <b>Vice Chair</b>	Jeremy Brock, Shaver Transportation
Carl Bertapelle, Merchants Exchange <b>Secretary</b>	Dan Jordan, Columbia River Bar Pilots
Dan Jordan, Columbia River Bar Pilots	Carlie Gilligan, Sector Columbia River
Steve Ackerman, Columbia River Bar Pilots	Andy Hudkins
Jeremy Nielson	Sean Whalen
Neal Feustel, Foss Maritime	Shannon Anthony, Sector Columbia River
Kenny Davais, Port of Vancouver USA	Eugene Chung, Sector Columbia River
Richard Vincent, Port of Portland	Jody Stiger, Sector Columbia River
Kevin Steder, TEMCO	Ron Gill, Port of Vancouver USA
Fred Myer, Port of Portland	Jill Lazo, Sector Columbia River
Joshua Emerson, DEQ	Tonya Lim, Sector Columbia River
Brian Kirk, WA Department of Ecology	J. Anthony, Sector Columbia River
Kate Mickelson, CRSOA	Eric Sigfridson, Shaver Transportation
Tereza Edwards, CRSOA	Kenny Koebberling
Hans Meere, EGT, LLC	Randy Reinhofer
Luke Otteson, CRLS	Alex Gorbachov
Brian Carrico, Interstate Bridge Replacement	Tony Sellers
Cory Cothren, Tidewater	Jeffrey Ferguson, NOAA
Tori Thomas, Crowley	Carl Obermeier, MFSA
Christi Dunham, Inchcape Shipping Service	Vanessa Green, Clean Rivers Cooperative
Jon Hellberg, Shaver Transportation	Curtis Cannizzaro, Merchants Exchange
Dena Horton, PNWA	Ashley Ros, Merchants Exchange
Ken Mishler, Port of Vancouver USA	

### 1. Meeting Called to Order: *Presiding Officer*

Larry Landgraver, Chair and Presiding Officer, called the meeting to order at 1426 hrs.

### 2. Additions/Corrections to Agenda

There were no additions or corrections to the agenda.

### 3. Review of Meeting Notes from November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023

There was one amendment to the correct spelling of a name on the attendance list.

The meeting notes from the November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023 were presented and there were no additions or corrections.

### 4. Board of Directors Meeting Update: *Presiding Officer*

**a. Financial Report & Administrative Updates:**

Ashley Ros presented the December 2023 financials. Accounts Payable and Accounts Receivable are current. There is one remaining outstanding 2023 member dues, the company has agreed to pay but are still awaiting payment. The membership may need to be reversed; an update will be given at March Meeting. It was noted, our annual Oregon Corporation Fee was included on the December financials.

**b. 2024 Dues Billing Notice & Meeting Schedule**

It was reported that the 2024 dues invoicing will be completed this month. The invoices will be addressed to the elected Board member. The 2024 meeting schedule is listed on the agenda with the meetings primarily being hybrid. We are in need of hybrid meeting hosts. If you're interested in hosting a LCRHSC meeting, please reach out to the executive committee.

**5. Harbor Safety Plan Status**

**a. Membership Outreach Committee**

- i. One of our goals for 2024 is to expand our membership base and foster new partnerships. Carl has agreed to be the chair on the committee. If you have interest in participating in committee, please contact Carl.

**6. Speaker/Presentation**

- a. Port of Vancouver USA - Brief Commercial Outlook – Zack Merrill, Sale Account Manager  
Zack Merrill gave brief commercial outlook as he researches macroeconomics that impact the river. He gave an overview of what's happening on the Columbia River in terms of volume of maritime transport compared to what's happening in the United States. He discussed critical minerals & qualifying deglobalization predictions. He briefly touched on geopolitical and climate risks critical to waterways in 2023. And lastly, he noted, a climate record low water on the Mississippi. Zack's presentation and contact information will be shared via the post meeting debrief email.

**7. Regular Committee Reports & Stakeholder Updates**

**a. Navigation Subcommittee**

Dan Jordan delivered a brief update; there are three missing weather Buys (2 NOAA's, 1 scripts). The scripts buoy should be redeployed when weather permits. The NOASS's Buys timeframe is late march or Ealy April. The Coast Guard has issued a safety notice, emphasizing the importance of ships including the types and limitations of their horsepower limiters on copilot cards which ships have been doing which is a positive step.

**b. MARAD – West Coast Update**

No representative was present.

**c. Army Corps of Engineers**

No representative was present.

**d. NOAA – Office of Coast Survey Update (Jeff Ferguson)**

Jeff Ferguson delivered a brief update; NOAA is phasing out paper charts for the Columbia River, with all current raster charts becoming final editions by January and officially discontinued by July 2024. An alternative is our website's custom chart tool, which converts ENC data into printable PDFs sold by specific vendors. Jeff will be intown January 22<sup>nd</sup> at a meeting hosted by the Columbia rive pilots with stakeholders and senior management to learn about traffic on river, how everyone uses NOAA products and services, and how to prioritize surveys and work moving forward. If anyone has items you would like on agenda for senior NOAA individuals, please let Jeff know.

**e. USCG Sector Columbia River Update (Sector Columbia River Representative)**



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- Vessel Inspections Division noted the National Passenger Vessel Association conference is in Portland January 27<sup>th</sup>-January 30<sup>th</sup>. The 2024 Q1 Enhanced Exam Program (EEP): Immersion Suits were reviewed. The Enhanced Exam Program (EEP) with an aim to increase focus on a specific aspect of ship safety. This increased focus can be due to the implementation of new regulations, deficiency trends discovered, or other program interests.
- Investigations Division reviewed there is a bulletin and graphics explaining the process for a sexual assault and harassment procedure. There were 279 marine casualties in Sector Columbia River Area of responsibilities. 144 marine casualties were commercial fishing vessels. Coast Guard has released a Findings of Concern titled: *Findings of Concern 001-24 Commercial Fishing Can Be Dangerous for the Unprepared*. The findings of concerns address several factors that increases the risk to crewmembers and decreased the crewmembers' readiness to respond to emergencies. Factors such as medical issues of crewmembers, drug use, fatigue, & lack of written procedures.
- Emergency Management and Force Readiness Dept. reported the upcoming drills/exercise events which includes 15 FEB: Area Maritime Security Meeting, 22 FEB: SCR Continuity of Ops TTX – Clean Rivers, 6 APR: Reserve Mobilization Mass Rescue Op TTX, 22-26 APR: Tsunami Seminar/Drill, 8 May: Area Maritime Security Plan Workshop.
- Incident Management Division responded to 11 cases. Issued 1 LOW's, and 1 Federal Projects, Upcoming events and project include FY24 Government Initiated Unannounced Exercise (GIUE) Program Update. ON Dec 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023 the Removal of sunken KMT-3 Tug took place. Vessel was found approximately 1 week after sinking. KMT-3 was removed by crane from 40 feet deep with no pollution. The Federalized Case: Contractor Ballard Marine Construction assists with removal of 135 gallons diesel fuel and 100 gallons oily water from M/V NAIAD II near the mouth of the Lewis River.
- Waterways Management/Facilities reported on the Notices of Proposed Rule Making: Anchorage Grounds in the Columbia River. NPRM's are posted on the Federal Register with a public comment period ending on February 26<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to make a comment, visit Regulations.gov and search "Establish Anchorage Grounds: Columbia River"
- Cybersecurity The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) is hosting a free two-hour security webinar to enhance your organization's resilience in case of an active shooter incident on January 18<sup>th</sup>, 1200-1400 PST.

## 8. New Business/Good of the Order

The Executive Committee announced that they are working on hosting a Regional Harbor Safety Committee Meeting with Coos Bay and Grays Harbor. The current working plan is to host the groups with the Astoria Meeting in July. Please provide feedback and input if there are ideas for presentations/topics.

Larry announced that this was Ashley's last meeting and thanked her for her time working on LCHRSC.

With no further business before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 1519 hrs.