



LOWER COLUMBIA REGION
HARBOR SAFETY COMMITTEE

DRAFT

Lower Columbia Region Harbor Safety Committee
General Membership Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 11, 2024 | 1415-1545hrs
Clean Rivers Cooperative & Virtual Meeting via MS Teams

Officers:

President/Chair: Larry Landgraver, *Port of Longview*

Vice President: Ross McDonald, *Sause Bros.*

Secretary: Carl Bertapelle, *Merchants Exchange*

Association Account Specialist: Michelle Eyres, *Merchants Exchange*

1. Welcome at 1425 hours.
2. Additions/Corrections to Agenda
3. Review of Meeting Minutes from May 8, 2024 (*attached*)
4. Board of Directors Meeting Update—*Presiding Officer*
 - a. Financial Report & Administrative Updates (*Merchants Exchange*)
 - b. Appointment of Randy Cooper, EGT, to Board of Directors; replacing Hans Meere, retired.
 - c. Appointment of Carl Obermeier, MFSA, to Board of Directors replacing Mason Sullivan.
5. Subcommittee Assignments & Discussions
 - a. Membership Outreach Subcommittee—The next meeting is September 27 at 1000 via Teams. Any interested member may join.
 - a. Bridge Subcommittee--a joint meeting was held with CRSOA two months ago. No formal response to the letter from the Pilots has been crafted. Several projects are underway which address areas of concern from the letter. The Executive Committee would like guidance from the board regarding whether or not a formal letter is needed. Given the high cost and complications associated with channel widening, it was suggested that a separate subcommittee be created to address this one issue. The subcommittee would review navigation and safety concerns of ports, pilots, USACE, etc. Ports are concerned regarding the cost of channel widening in that Ports bear one quarter of the expense. USACE would like to meet to discuss the air gap sensor. The EIS has just been finished. The



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Bridge Subcommittee will have one more meeting to finalize the letter. On September 26, there will be a meeting with Pilots, local law enforcement, Washington and Oregon DOT and 911 representatives to discuss how to deal with closing bridges in the event of a strike.

- b. Navigation Subcommittee—the Chair reported there was no response to the request to meet or request for topics needing discussion. Weather buoys, engine failures and bridge visibility were suggested by the board as possible topics.
 - c. Harbor Safety Plan Subcommittee—the Chair had no updates to report.
6. Agency Updates
- a. Columbia River Pilots reported there have been 1,152 arrivals on the river. The navigation realignment is moving forward for the Lewis & Clark Bridge. NOAA is conducting a new survey of the river for bridge and power cable heights. It was suggested that current velocity sensors are also needed.
 - b. MARAD – West Coast Update, *Xochitl Castaneda (virtual)*—MARAD has a survey seeking information regarding what equipment needs ports have. LCRHSC will send out the survey to members. The MARAD ship is available for drills and other activities. The OPPA meeting is in The Dalles and grants are available through the Department of Transportation and MARAD will be reaching out to ports and cargo shippers.
 - c. US Army Corps of Engineers, *Jessica Stokke (online)*—The new ship simulator has come online for the new turn. LCRHSC will share out the Material Management Plan.
 - d. ~~NOAA – Office of Coast Survey, *Laura Pagano*~~
 - e. United States Coast Guard – Sector Columbia River Update, *LCDR Jesse Wallace & Staff*
7. Speaker/Presentation: Clean Rivers Cooperative, *Vanessa Green*
8. Old Business: Astoria Meeting Recap--attendance was very good and appreciated by the meeting planners. Please send any feedback regarding the meeting (what worked or what didn't) to Michelle Eyres at eyres@pdxmex.com. Decisions will need to be made to start planning the 2025 conference.
9. New Business:
- a. Oregon Board of Maritime Pilots sent a letter to Washington and Oregon governors supporting the pilots' letter.
 - b. COBALT starts September 21.
 - c. An agent reported that one of their ships was unable to offload garbage and sludge at the United Grain Terminals
10. Good of the Order



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- 11. CRC Tour
- 12. Adjourn

Next Meetings:

Board of Directors: 1330-1405hrs

General Membership: 1415-1545hrs

Date	Location
November 13, 2024	Columbia River Pilots
January 8, 2025	Port of Kalama
March 12, 2025	TBD
May 14, 2025	TBD
July 9, 2025	Astoria