



# LOS ANGELES/LONG BEACH HARBOR SAFETY COMMITTEE

Mandated by  
California Oil Spill Prevention and  
Response Act of 1990

## MINUTES OF THE ONE HUNDRED AND FORTY SECOND MEETING OF THE LA/LB HARBOR SAFETY COMMITTEE WEDNESDAY, 5 December, 2012

The One Hundred and Forty Second Meeting of the Los Angeles/Long Beach Harbor Safety Committee was convened in the main auditorium of the Port of Los Angeles. **Chairman Strong** called the Meeting to order at 10:12 a.m. The **Executive Secretary** determined that there was a quorum present, as listed below --

FOR THE PORT OF  
LONG BEACH

Vacant

FOR THE  
PORT OF LOS  
ANGELES

(Absent)

FOR THE LONG BEACH PILOT  
ORGANIZATION

Captain John Strong

FOR THE TANKER OPERATORS

Capt. Norman George  
(Crowley)

FOR THE LOS ANGELES PILOT  
ORGANIZATION

Capt. Craig Flinn

FOR THE MOORING MASTERS

Capt. Ken Graham  
(Chevron)

FOR TUG & BARGE OPERATORS

Captain Doug Houghton  
(Crowley)

FOR THE DRY CARGO CARRIERS

(Absent)

FOR RECREATIONAL BOATERS

Ms. Camille Daniels

FOR ORGANIZED LABOR

Absent

FOR THE CALIF. COASTAL COMM.

Mr. Jonathan Bishop

FOR THE MARINE OIL TERMINALS

Capt. Rob McCaughey  
(Tesoro)

FOR THE U.S. COAST GUARD  
SECTOR LA/LB

Commander Ryan Manning

FOR ENVIRONMENTAL  
(SANTA MONICA BAY)

Mr. Brian Meux  
(Santa Monica Bay Keeper)

FOR ENVIRONMENTAL GROUPS  
(LA/LB HARBOR REGION)

(Absent)

FOR THE CDF&G/OSPR

Mr. Mike Coyne

FOR PASSENGER FERRY OPERATORS

Mr. Ray Lyman  
( Catalina Express)

FOR THE USACOE

Mr. Jim Fields

FOR THE CALIF.STATE LANDS  
COMM.

(Absent)

FOR NOAA/NOS  
Mr. Gerry Wheaton

FOR SHIP'S AGENTS

Mr. Ron Kelly  
(Transmarine)

FOR COMMERCIAL FISHING

(Absent)

FOR U.S. NAVY

(Absent)

c/o Marine Exchange of Southern California  
P. O. Box 1949 • San Pedro • California 90733-1949  
Telephone (310) 519-3134 • Fax (310) 241-0300  
E-mail: HSC@mxsocal.org

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY  
Capt. Dick McKenna  
(MX-SOCAL)

ALTERNATES, MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC, AND OTHER  
PARTIES (SEE ATTACHED LIST)

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**Chairman Strong** opened the meeting by asking for a moment of silence in memory of **Boatswain's Mate Chief Horne, USCG**, who died tragically on 2 December in pursuit of illegal drug traffickers. Thereafter, he welcomed everyone in attendance, thanking all for their interest and participation in the Los Angeles/Long Beach Harbor Safety Committee. He expressed the Committee's appreciation and thanks to the Port of Los Angeles for making their facilities available for this gathering.

**ITEM I -- APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**Chairman Strong** called for approval of the minutes of the 141st Meeting. *Mr. Ray Lyman moved, seconded by Capt. Doug Houghton, to accept and approve the Minutes of the 141st Meeting. Motion carried unanimously by a show of hands from voting members present.*

**ITEM II – OLD BUSINESS:**

**(A) Update on Vessel Traffic Activities:**

**Chairman Strong** called for an update on VTS activities from **Executive Secretary McKenna**. There were eight incidents since the last meeting, bringing it to 26 overall for the year. Notably, three of the incidents were propulsion related, two involved close quarters situations and one involved a search and rescue situation (small boat fire).

He discussed traffic patterns for the previous month, in which thirty one pt. five percent of arrivals came by way of the Santa Barbara Channel with twenty eight pt. six percent using it for departure. In the Pacific Test range area, twenty seven percent used this for arrivals, but thirty two pt. seven percent used it for departure. With the resolution of the Local 63 OCU strike yesterday, ship traffic is returning to normal. Anchorages are clearing and some diverted ships are being re-routed to discharge cargo for local destinations. It will be several days before we are totally back to normal.

**(B) Update on USCG Sector LA/LB Activities: Commander Ryan Manning, USCG commented:**

(1) He thanked everyone for their sympathy and support in the case of the death of **BMC Horne**. He indicated further details would be forthcoming as the investigation proceeds. There will be a memorial service at 1300, 8 December at Sector LALB. Invitations can be expected for all of the Harbor Safety Committee. The Chief is the first Coast Guardsman killed in the line of duty in a law enforcement action since the Prohibition Era.

(2) The IMO's Maritime Safety Committee met last week and approved the recommendation of the recent Port Access Route Study for the Santa Barbara Channel Traffic Separation Scheme. It is scheduled to take effect 1 June, 2013, pending the results of a Coast Guard comment period to be implemented shortly.

(3) The Holiday Boat Parade season is upon us, having been kicked off last week in the Port of Los Angeles. Another 20 events are expected from Morrow Bay down to Newport Beach. Over 800 participants are expected, with an estimated 100,000 spectators involved. The POLA event came off safely and successfully, and it is hope that ensuing events will also enjoy the same experience.

(4) TSA has been receiving a high volume of inquiries regarding TWIC renewals via the Extended Expiration Date (EED). **Cdr. Manning** is in touch with a TSA representative who has suggested a way of expediting the process by applying in groups. He has offered to help anyone interested by putting them in touch with that representative.

(C) Update on OSPR Activities:

**Mr. Mike Coyne** advised that the Passenger Ferry/Excursion Vessel Operator Seat will expire in February. He encouraged anyone interested to apply.

The West Coast Harbor Safety Committee Conference will convene in Sacramento January 15. This includes participation from HSCs from West Coast States, Alaska, Hawaii and British Columbia. The focus will be on prevention.

The bunkering best practices video produced by the B.C./States Task Force has been reviewed. It closely parallels the practices developed by the LALB and San Francisco Harbor Safety Committees with some minor differences. These have been sent back to the Task Force Committee for resolution.

(D) Update on California State Lands Commission Activities:

**Mr. Bob Chatman** updated the Committee on several Commission personnel changes. **Mr. Curtis Fossum** is retiring as Executive Director, effective December 7. He will be replaced by **Ms. Jennifer Luchese**. Also, **Mr. Don Hermanson**, who came out of retirement to run the LALB Division is re-retiring 21 December. This leaves the Division Chief position vacant for the time being.

(E) Update on U.S. Army Corps of Engineers:

**Mr. Jim Fields** gave a run down on the Port Complex's dredging activity. Long Beach Channel has been dredged to 76 feet back to Berth T121, with the exception of a few minor high spots. The pilots have been notified. The high spots must be cleared before the Channel can be certified. It is anticipated that the (minor) remaining material will be placed within the Middle Harbor Project.

At the Port of Los Angeles, channel deepening is complete, again with occasional high spots consisting of some small amounts of material. A cost share arrangement for the removal is being discussed with the Port. There also remains some material to be removed for the China Shipping Project, it will be placed in the Shallow Water Habitat with project completion expected before the end of the year. Also, at the Southwest Marine site, a dike wall has been set but is not completely back filled. This will serve as an ongoing disposal site for the foreseeable future. New navigational aids will also be installed very early in the New Year at the shallow Water Habitat. Finally, updated tidal information indicates a gain of .1 feet depth gain in the channel.

(F) Update on NOAA/NOS:

**Cdr. Gerry Wheaton** announced that up until recently there have been difficulties reconciling the Coast Pilot with Sailing Directions. He is now in contact with a **Mr. Richard Dawson**, a person who can assist in getting this rectified. He encouraged all five California HSCs to bring any of these issues to his attention so that they may be resolved.

**RAADM Garret Blaine**, head of Coast Survey, has expressed an interest in meeting with his various local managers. Pending funding availability, there is a possibility that he may attend the February HSC meeting and visit the Pilot Stations and VTS.

(G) Update on the Area Maritime Security Committee:

**CDR Manning** mentioned that MARAD has produced a draft of a Facility Security Officer Course. A copy can be obtained from the Chair of the FSO Sub-Committee, **Mr. Chris Dunlay**, Total Terminals International,

or from CDR. Manning himself. On a related note, the Facility Security Officers meeting scheduled for last week needed to be postponed because of the strike. The revised date is pending. He expressed his appreciation for American President Lines for providing a container ship for live security training on 1 November. This was done at considerable expense to the Company and is greatly appreciated. The new Joint Command Center in Port Hueneme is nearing completion and is expected to improve interagency coordination.

**ITEM III - New Business:**

**(A) Sub Committee Reports:**

**S/C # 1 (Navigation Safety) – Capt. John Betz**

The Sub Committee has met twice since the last meeting and will meet again this afternoon at the Marine Exchange. The Committee's main objective will be a chapter by chapter review of the Harbor Safety Plan. The objective is to have any issues raised by the January sub Committee meeting so that all concerns may be addressed by the full Committee meeting in February.

**S/C # 2 (Planning & Outreach) –** No meetings held over the summer, no immediate plans.

**S/C # 3 (Tug Utilization Group; TUG) – Captain Doug Houghton** The planned November meeting has been postponed until later this month or early January. The purpose of the meeting will be to review the pre arrival bunkering check list as a best practice.

**S/C # 4 (Recreational Boats & Commercial Fishing Vessels) – Ms. Camille Daniels** – Nothing to report.

**ITEM IV – NEW BUSINESS:**

**Chairman Strong** invited those with changes or updates to the Harbor Safety Plan to attend today's and/or January's Navigation Sub-Committee meeting in the interest of compiling all changes before the full Committee meeting in February. Alternatively, members or the public can email **Capt. John Betz** prior to the January meeting with proposed changes.

**CDR. Manning** indicated that his Prevention Staff is undergoing a quality control review. Of primary interest to the Committee is a District call for a reduction of Aids To Navigation (ATON) that can be done without. **LCDR Jones** will bring this topic to the Navigation Sub-Committee for discussion.

**Public Comments:**

**Mr. Carlos Heron** of the **ILWU** voiced concern over an event at **Crowley** docks Berth 51 on November 15. He cited the use of sub contractors for hazmat cleanup operations, wherein they were observed in what he called unsafe practices – not using prescribed safety equipment, improper procedures around hatches, non-adherence to safety guidelines, etc. He asked for the Committee's help. **Captain Norman George** of **Crowley** suggested that it would be more appropriate for his Company to address these issues and that they would be happy to do so. The issue was referred accordingly.

**Ms. Donya Webb** of the **Long Beach Red Cross** commented on Emergency Preparedness. The agency has recently added the Port of Los Angeles to its coverage, and she advised that her unit was available to help as necessary.

**ITEM V -- MEETING SCHEDULE:**

The next regular meeting for the LA/LB HSC will be held on Wednesday, the sixth of February, 2013, at the Port of Long Beach at 1330.

**ITEM VI -- ADJOURNMENT:**

With no further business to discuss, **Chairman Strong** adjourned the 142nd Harbor Safety Committee meeting at 10.48 a.m..

Respectfully submitted,

Capt. R.B McKenna  
Executive Secretary

LA/LB HARBOR SAFETY COMMITTEE

December 5, 2012

NAME

E-MAIL / TELEPHONE

AGENCY

NAME	E-MAIL / TELEPHONE	AGENCY
Doug Houghton	DHoughton@HARLEY MARINE.COM HARLEY	
Andre Nault	anault@harleymarine.com	Harley Marine
Gerry Wheaton	Gerry.Wheaton@NOAA.gov	NOAA
Jon Victor	JVICTOR@OSPR.DFG.CA.GOV	DFG/OSPR
Ray Lyman	PLYMON@CANTLINEXPRESS.COM	CCB
Michael Coyne	MCOYNE@OSPR.DFG.CA.GOV	DFG
Bob Chatman	ROBERT.CHATMAN@SLE.CA.GOV	State Lands
Camille Daniels	CamilleDaniels@VERIZON.NET	Rec Boutes
CRAIG FLINN	CAPTDCF@COX.NET	POLIA Pilots
Ken Graham	KZMG@Chevron.com	Chevron
NORMAN GRAY	NORMAN.GRAY@CLAWD.COM	CLAWD PESTICIDE
DOUG LARSEN	DOUG@LARSENMARINESERVICES.COM	LMS
Ed McLan	ed@FOSS.com	FOSS
Paul Hendriks	FOSS phendriks@foss.com	FOSS
JOHN BETZ	BETZ JOHN@MAC.COM	POLA
Jonathan Bishop	Jonathan.Bishop@coastal.ca.gov	CCC
Lara Koray	Lara.Koray@bp.com BP Shipping	BPS

