



LOS ANGELES/LONG BEACH HARBOR SAFETY COMMITTEE

Mandated by
California Oil Spill Prevention and
Response Act of 1990

MINUTES OF THE ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY-NINTH MEETING OF THE LA/LB HARBOR SAFETY COMMITTEE Wednesday, 4 April 2018

The One Hundred and Sixty-Ninth Meeting of the Los Angeles/Long Beach Harbor Safety Committee was convened at the Port of Long Beach Administration Building. **Chairperson Strong** called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. **Executive Secretary Kip Louttit** determined that a quorum was present as listed below:

**FOR THE PORT OF
LONG BEACH**
Mr. Glenn Farren

**FOR THE PORT OF
LOS ANGELES**
Capt. Jay Dwyer

**FOR THE LONG BEACH
PILOT ORGANIZATION**
Capt. John Strong
(Jacobsen Pilot Service)

**FOR THE TANKER
OPERATORS**

Absent

**FOR THE LOS ANGELES
PILOT ORGANIZATION**

Capt Jeff White

**FOR THE OFF-SHORE
TERMINALS' MOORING
MASTERS**

Absent

**FOR TUG & BARGE
OPERATORS**
Mr. Andre Nault
(Harley Marine Services)

**FOR DRY CARGO VESSEL
OPERATORS**
Capt. Jeff Cowan

**FOR PLEASURE BOAT
OPERATORS**

Absent

FOR ORGANIZED LABOR

Mr. Eric Morgan
(Inland Boatman Union of Pacific
& Sause)

**FOR THE CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION**

Absent

**FOR MARINE OIL TERMINAL
OPERATORS**
Capt. Sean Merchant
(Valero)

**FOR U.S. COAST GUARD
SECTOR LOS ANGELES and
LONG BEACH**

Capt. Charlene Downey

**FOR THE NON-PROFIT
ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION
ORGANIZATIONS FOR
SANTA MONICA BAY**

Vacant

**FOR THE NON-PROFIT
ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION
ORGANIZATIONS FOR LA/LB**

Absent

FOR THE CDF&W/OSPR

Mr. David Mighetto

**FOR PASSENGER FERRY
OPERATORS**

Absent

FOR THE USACOE

Absent

**FOR THE CALIFORNIA
STATE LANDS COMMISSION**

Vacant

FOR THE NOAA/NOS

Mr. Jeff Ferguson

**FOR THE SHIP'S AGENT
ORGANIZATION**
Mr. Ron Kelly

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

(Transmarine)

**FOR COMMERCIAL
FISHING**

Absent

FOR THE U.S. NAVY

Absent

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Capt. J. Kipling Louttit
(MX-SoCal)

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

Chairperson Strong welcomed everyone in attendance and thanked all for their interest in and participation on the Los Angeles/Long Beach Harbor Safety Committee. He thanked the Port of Long Beach for making their facilities available for this gathering.

ACTION ITEMS:

Mr. Mighetto stated that there would be three members to be sworn in today. **Capt. Michael Jessner** (APL) appointed as alternate member representing Dry Cargo Vessel Operators. **Mr. Ron Kelly** (Transmarine) was reappointed as primary member representing Ships' Agents Organizations. **Mr. Jonathan Bishop** was reappointed as primary member representing the California Coastal Commission. Mr. Bishop's appointment was also for the ports of Humboldt Bay, Hueneme, and San Diego. **Mr. Mighetto** administered the oath to **Capt. Jessner** and **Mr. Kelly**. **Mr. Bishop** was absent.

ITEM I: APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF LAST MEETING:

- (1) **Chairperson Strong** called for a motion to approve the minutes of the 168th Meeting on 7 February 2018. **Capt. Dwyer** made a motion, seconded by **Capt. White**, to accept and approve the Minutes of the 168th Meeting on 7 February 2018. **Mr. Ferguson** requested one correction to the minutes and pointed out that that the acronym NOAA stood for National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, not the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration. **Capt. Strong** and **Capt. Louttit** said the correction would be made. There was no comment or discussion. With the correction, the motion carried unanimously by a voice vote from voting members present.

ITEM II: OLD BUSINESS:

- (1) **Chairperson Strong** called for an update on Marine Exchange Vessel Traffic Service (VTS) activities from **Capt. Louttit**, who reported:
 - a. **Incidents:**
 - i. There was one incident since the last HSC meeting in February, which was a bulk ship that departed the Foxtrot Anchorages with no pilot aboard to conduct sea trials, but that movement violated the Port State Control Action for the vessel to stay within the Los Angeles and Long Beach Captain of the Port Zone. The vessel ultimately reversed course and returned to the Foxtrot anchorages.
 - ii. There have been four total incidents this calendar year, which is one more than as of this date last year.
 - b. **Traffic Report:** Capt. Louttit referred to a handout and reported:

- i. **Arrivals.** There were 357 arrivals in February and 394 arrivals in March. Arrivals from the North (Santa Barbara Channel) were 152 in February and 156 in March, which was 43% and 40% respectively. Arrivals from the West (through Naval Air Ranges, also known as the Pacific Missile Test Range) were 75 in February and 82 in March, which was 21% both months. Arrivals from the South (South America, Panama Canal, Mexico, and San Diego) were 122 in February and 146 in March, which was 34% and 37% respectively. The remainder were the 8 ships in February and 10 ships in March that arrived from the Chevron Offshore Terminal in El Segundo, which was 2% and 3% respectively.
- ii. **Departures.** There were 316 departures in February and 358 departures in March. Departures to the North were 132 in February and 131 in March, which was 42% and 37% respectively. Departures to the West were 68 in February and 75 in March, which was 22% and 21% respectively. Departures to the South were 109 in February and 142 in March, which was 34% and 40% respectively. The remainder were the 7 ships in February and 10 ships in March that departed to the Chevron Offshore Terminal in El Segundo, which was 2% and 3% respectively.
- iii. **2 Comments on ship count:**
 1. Ship count overall is down for the calendar year. 357 ships arrived in February, which is 7 below the monthly projection and 12 ships fewer than February 2017.
 2. 394 ships arriving in March is 11 ships above the monthly projection but is 31 ships fewer than March 2017.

c. **Final Comments:**

- i. **Dynamic Under Keel Clearance Project:** The Dynamic Under Keel Clearance Project continues to be successful and is meeting its 3 goals of increasing safety, increasing efficiency, and reducing emissions associated with transporting oil into the Port of Long Beach. Since the last HSC meeting in February, 4 more tankers have entered Long Beach with drafts greater than 65 feet, 3 at 68' and 1 at 68.6', just under the 69' draft limit per the LA/LB Harbor Safety Plan. As of today, 7 tankers have entered port with 66' draft, 11 tankers entered with 67' draft, 10 tankers with 68' draft, and 2 tankers with between 68 and 69-foot draft have safely and smoothly entered port and moored at T-121. The maximum draft limit is 69' per the Harbor Safety Plan. There have been no issues and computer model predictions continue to be validated by the on-board motion sensor. The transits are daylight only with corresponding higher tide.
- ii. **Whales:** At the request of the National Marine Fisheries Service and the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary, we continue to advise all inbound and outbound vessels that there are whales in Southern California's waters and that the vessels should take appropriate precautions.

(2) **Update on USCG Sector LA/LB Activities:** Capt. Downey reported:

- a. **M/V Transatlantic:** The vessel was auctioned off and the bank is in the process of finalizing the agreement. The new owner plans to take ownership of the vessel by the

end of next week. Initial discussions indicate the new owner plans to bring the vessel to a lay berth to prepare the ship for a dead ship tow to Ensenada, MX, where the vessel will be reflagged foreign. The new company is pursuing an aggressive schedule to have the vessel in Mexico by the end of April, however, multiple requirements will need to be cleared prior to the vessel moving.

- b. **Tank Vessel Megacore Philomena:** The vessel has been in our port since December 2017. The vessel is at inner anchorage and is under a U.S. Marshall's Arrest due to financial disputes. The Coast Guard has been aboard the vessel for compliance exams. The vessel is safe, secure, and manned appropriately. Assuming the legal disputes are not cleared, the current plan has the vessel potentially going to auction in July.
- c. **Regulated Navigation Areas (RNA) in Morro Bay:** Coast Guard District Eleven in Alameda published a notice of inquiry for Morro Bay Bar. The comment period was extended until 14 April. If you would like further information, contact CG Sector LA/LB.
- d. **Gerald Desmond Bridge Replacement:** The project seems to be going on schedule and progressing. The over-the-water work is anticipated to start 1 May of this year. The CG District Eleven bridge office is coordinating the final plan and details. CG Sector LA/LB will coordinate with all of you regarding the plans for the over-the-water work.

(3) Update on OSPR Activities: **Mr. Mighetto** reported:

- a. **Escort Tug Inspection Program (ETIP) and Alternate Compliance for San Francisco Bay Area Program:** **Mr. Mighetto** took over these 2 programs for OSPR. The programs are designed to allow OSPR to audit the tugs which provide tank vessel escort services. The Marine Exchange of Southern California maintains a list of tugs approved for escort in the LA/LB area and the Marine Exchange of San Francisco Bay Region does the same for their area. OSPR's database is used to provide tug specifications such as length overall, bollard pull, and drydock information. Tug operators in the escort program were e-mailed a list from the database for verification and update of their fleet including drydock information so updated lists can be sent to the Marine Exchanges. **Mr. Mighetto** said the response from the tug companies and individuals involved in providing the requested information was outstanding. Specifically complimented were Harley Marine, Foss Maritime, and AMNAV. Crowley has a boat coming out of the water for a month. Thank you again and please contact **Mr. Mighetto** if you need more information.
- b. **Chairperson Strong** thanked OSPR Prevention Chief **Mr. Ted Mar** for attending today.

(4) Update on California State Lands Commission Activities: The seat is vacant, but **Mr. Chris Beckwith** reported:

- a. **Engineering Rehabilitation Projects:** The commission worked for the past year with the Port of Los Angeles on engineering rehabilitation projects for approximately 7 marine oil terminals in the port. A couple will involve a complete rebuild of the facility itself.
- b. **EIRS and Permitting:** 4-5 EIRs are being worked along with permitting.

- c. **Meeting with the Coast Guard:** The Commission recently met with **Mr. John Albrough** of CG Sector LA/LB to discuss information sharing of incidents and accidents and participating in the Marine Transportation System Recovery Unit.
 - d. **Prevention First Symposium.** The *Prevention First* Symposium will be 25-26 September in Long Beach at the Westin Hotel. Registration information is on the CA State Lands web site.
- (5) Update on U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) Activities: **Mr. Fields** was absent; no report.
- (6) Update on National Oceanic and Atmospheric (NOAA) activities: **Mr. Ferguson** reported:
- a. Navigation Rules into the Coast Pilot: Coast Guard headquarters put out a press release a few weeks ago that announced putting the Navigation Rules into the Coast Pilot. This will be a new appendix to the Coast Pilot and include both Inland and International Rules, so vessels required to carry both will only need to carry one document. Roll-out will start with Coast Pilot 1 at the end of the month, and if rollout goes well it should be in Coast Pilot 7 for this area by the time the Committee next meets in June, or, if not by then, **Mr. Ferguson** should have a good estimated date.
 - b. Bottom Survey: The NOAA Ship FAIRWEATHER did a comprehensive survey of the ports and approaches in 2013 to support the dynamic under keel clearance project. The ports have been doing subsequent surveys inside the breakwater. A NOAA hydrographic ship will be operating in the Channel Islands area later this year, and if anyone requires a survey redone outside the breakwater, contact **Mr. Ferguson**, give him the location, and he will see if it can be added to the ship's schedule.
- (7) Update on Area Maritime Security Committee: **Capt. Downey** reported:
- a. **Federal Maritime Security Coordinator, Lay Berth Policy:** The policy was last updated in 2005, and a new update includes alternative operations which are defined as operations that cannot otherwise be conducted at an MTSA regulated facility. For example, unique cargo operations such as the use of heavy lift vessels to remove old gantry cranes. The policy is also updated to clarify TWIC requirements for these operations, and changes to notification requirements from 6 hours to 24 hours. Anything outside of those parameters must be approved by the Captain of the Port. Once legal review is complete the update will be promulgated widely.

ITEM III - NEW BUSINESS:

(1) Sub-Committee Reports:

- a. S/C #1 (Navigation Safety) – **Capt. John Betz** was absent but **Chairperson Strong** reported:
 - a. Painting of the Vincent Thomas Bridge is proceeding smoothly, check-ins are being done, and there is no problem with underhanging items.
 - b. The Harbor Safety Plan is current.
 - c. **Capt. Strong** will chair the S/C #1 meeting this afternoon at 1330 at the Marine Exchange.

- b. S/C #3 (Tug Utilization Group (TUG)) – **Mr. Andre Nault**: No meetings and nothing significant to report.

(2) Brief:

- a. **Presentation on the Port of Long Beach Survey and Soundings Program: Mr. Chu Man Kow** did a presentation on the POLB Harbor Sounding Program, which takes soundings throughout the port on a two-year cycle and updates navigational charts for the public. Stakeholders include the Port of Long Beach, Office of Coast Survey in NOAA, Jacobsen Pilot Service, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the Harbor Safety Committee. At the end of the brief **Chairperson Strong** commented on the importance of accurate charts and under keel clearance since ships are getting larger and complimented the coordination between the Port and NOAA to get the latest sounding data *onto* the chart, and obstructions that have been removed *off* the chart. In response to **Chairperson Strong's** question, **Mr. Kow** clarified that the Port Records Center is open to the public and is in this same building; just call or stop in during working hours.

(3) Port of Long Beach Construction: Chairperson Strong requested **Mr. Robert Seidel**, Port of Long Beach, give an update on construction.

- a. **Mr. Seidel** reported that the Middle Harbor Project is in the final phase of construction. This is Phase III and upcoming projects include filling in the slip and completing construction of the wharf so it connects to pier F. There will also be land-side work and an intermodal rail yard. Old cranes at the old terminal are being knocked down. Regarding the fill project, there will be demolition and removal of an old, subsurface sea wall made of rock and concrete at Pier F. This will include drilling and blasting. Test blasting will begin in May and production blasting will continue weekly from June to September. Permits must be obtained, and navigation safety and emergency response coordinated. The Coast Guard was notified. **Capt. Downey** said she had not heard of it. There is an information meeting about it at 1330 this afternoon at the POLB Maintenance Facility Building. In response to a question, the fill and wharf project are to be complete in May 2020. The rail and land-side work are scheduled to be complete in December 2020.
- b. **Chairperson Strong** and **Mitch Poryazov** (Port of Long Beach), briefed there had been several meetings and briefings regarding the Gerald Desmond Bridge Replacement Project and over-water work.

ITEM IV – PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

ITEM V - ADJOURNMENT:

The next HSC meeting will be at the Port of Los Angeles Wednesday 6 June, 9:30 AM gathering and 10:00-11:00 AM meeting.

With no further business to discuss, **Chairperson Strong** called for a motion to adjourn. **Mr. Ferguson** made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by **Capt. Dwyer**, and the meeting adjourned at 10:43 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

//signed//

169th Mtg. LA/LB HSC
POLB, April 4, 2018

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Capt. J. Kipling Louttit
Executive Secretary

11 May 2018

LA/LB HARBOR SAFETY COMMITTEE

April 4, 2018

NAME

E-MAIL / TELEPHONE

AGENCY

NAME	E-MAIL / TELEPHONE	AGENCY
Chun Man Kou	chun.kou@polb.com	POLB
CHRIS Beckwith	chris.Beckwith@SLC.CA.GOV	CSLC
Andre Nault	anault@harleymarine.com	Harley Marine
DOUG LARSEN	(562) 889-7158 DOUG@LARSENMARINESERVICES.COM	LMS
KARMA LARSEN	KARMA@LARSENMARINESERVICES.COM	LMS
JEFFREY FERGUSON	JEFFREY.FERGUSON@NOAA.GOV	NOAA
Jeff Cowan	jcowan@vnet.com	CAMM
Jon VICTORIA	JON.VICTORIA@WILDLIFE.CA.GOV	CDFW/OSPR
John L. Dwyer	JDwyer@fornia.org	LA TILB SERVICE
TED MAR	TED.MAR@WILDLIFE.CA.GOV	DFW/OSPK
Mike Jessner	Capt. mike.jessner@gmail.com	APL Maritime
Jon HORNECKER	jon.hornecker@polb.com	POLB
Sean Marchant	sean.marchant@valerocom	Valero
RONALD Kelly	R.Kelly@TRANSMARINE.com	TRANSMARINE
Mitch Popyazov	dimitar.popyazov@polb.com	POLB

LA/LB HARBOR SAFETY COMMITTEE

April 4, 2018

NAME

E-MAIL / TELEPHONE

AGENCY

CRAIG FLINN

310-567-3260
Dflinn@PortLA.org

POLA Pilot Secure

Morgan, Eric

elijah1@icloud.com

organized labor/UBU

Laura Kovary
laura.kovary@gmail.com

EMS

JEFF WHITE

jwhite@portla.org

LA Pilots

Maurry Jessner

mjessner@verizon.net

RICK YELTON

ryelton@chgms.com

GALLAGHER MARINE SYSTEMS

ROBERT SEIDEL

rseidel@polb.com

POLB

JEFF VROBLAND

jvrobland@harleymarine.com

AMS