



# LOS ANGELES/LONG BEACH HARBOR SAFETY COMMITTEE

Mandated by  
California Oil Spill Prevention and  
Response Act of 1990

## MEETING OF THE LA/LB HARBOR SAFETY COMMITTEE Wednesday, 5 December 2018

The One Hundred and Seventy-Second Meeting of the Los Angeles/Long Beach Harbor Safety Committee was convened at the Port of Los Angeles Administration Building. **Chairperson Strong** called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. **Executive Secretary Kip Louttit** had an excused absence. Marine Exchange General Manager **Reid Crispino** (Acting Executive Secretary) determined that a quorum was present as listed below:

**FOR THE PORT OF  
LONG BEACH**  
Mr. Dan Kane

**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**  
Capt. Ken Graham

**FOR TUG & BARGE  
OPERATORS**  
Ms. Kariane Dill  
(Foss)

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

**FOR PLEASURE BOAT  
OPERATORS**  
Capt. John Betz  
Rick Roberts

**FOR ORGANIZED LABOR**  
  
Capt. Eric Morgan  
(Sause)

**FOR THE CALIFORNIA  
COASTAL COMMISSION**  
Mr. Jonathan Bishop

**FOR MARINE OIL TERMINAL  
OPERATORS**  
Absent

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

**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**  
Capt. Ray Lyman

**FOR THE USACOE**  
  
Absent

**FOR THE CALIFORNIA  
STATE LANDS COMMISSION**  
Vacant

**FOR THE NOAA/NOS**  
Absent

**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

**FOR COMMERCIAL  
FISHING**

Mr. Daniel Strunk

**FOR THE U.S. NAVY**

Absent

**EXECUTIVE SECRETARY**

Mr. Reid Crispino (Acting)  
(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 Los Angeles for making their facilities available for this gathering. **Chairperson Strong** had everyone introduce themselves. **Chairperson Strong** noted that the Coast Guard and all other federal employees were not present today due to the National Day of Mourning for Former President George Herbert Walker Bush, who recently passed away, but that a meaningful HSC meeting could be held.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

**Mr. Mighetto** stated that there would be two appointments to be sworn in today. **Capt. Joseph Meyer** was appointed as alternate representing the Port of Los Angeles Pilot Organization, and **Mr. Chu Kow** was appointed as alternate representing the Port of Long Beach. **Capt. Eric Morgan** (Sause Brothers), was previously appointed as alternate representing Organized Labor. **Mr. Mighetto** administered the oath to **Mr. Kow** and **Capt. Morgan**. **Capt. Meyer** was not present.

**ITEM I: APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF LAST MEETING:**

- (1) **Chairperson Strong** called for a motion to approve the minutes of the 171st Meeting on 3 October 2018. **Capt. Dwyer** made a motion, seconded by **Capt. White**, to accept and approve the Minutes of the 171st Meeting on 3 October 2018. There was no comment or discussion. 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 **Mr. Crispino**, who reported for **Capt. Louttit**:

a. **Incidents:**

- i. There were three incidents since the last HSC meeting in October, for a total of 17 incidents this calendar year, which is one more incident than as of this date last year. The first incident this period and 15<sup>th</sup> of the year was a tanker at the El Segundo Offshore Moorings with Mooring Master aboard whose engine would not start. 12 minutes later the engine started. The vessel safely transited to a Long Beach inner anchorage. The 2<sup>nd</sup> incident of this period and 16<sup>th</sup> of the year was a container ship 4 miles northwest of Point Fermin with no pilot aboard that reported a fuel injector leak. The vessel safely transited out of the lanes, drifted, repaired the leak in 30 minutes, and got underway for Oakland. 30 minutes later the vessel stopped again to check on issues with the repairs. Initially the CG directed the vessel to return and anchor but later cleared the vessel to continue to Oakland. The 3<sup>rd</sup> incident of this period and 17<sup>th</sup> of the year was a container ship 18 miles northwest of Point Fermin with no pilot aboard that reported a main engine exhaust valve leak. The vessel departed the traffic lanes and drifted 11.5 miles offshore while it conducted repairs. Repairs were complete in 1 hour and the vessel was cleared by the Coast Guard to continue to Oakland.
- ii. **Traffic Report:** **Mr. Crispino** referred to a handout and reported

1. **Arrivals.** Total arrivals were 400 ships in October and a low of 360 ships in November. Arrivals from the North (Santa Barbara Channel) were 179 in October and 156 in November, which was 45 and 43 percent. Arrivals from the West (through Naval Air Ranges, also known as the Pacific Missile Test Range) were 84 in October and 78 November, which was 21 and 22 percent. Arrivals from the South (South America, Panama Canal, Mexico, and San Diego) were 126 in October and 119 in November, which was 32 and 33 percent. The remainder were 11 ships in October and 7 ships in November that arrived from the Chevron Offshore Terminal in El Segundo, which was 3 and 2 percent.
2. **Departures.** Departures were 372 ships in October and 330 ship in November. Departures to the North were 160 in October and 144 in November, which was 43 and 44 percent. Departures to the West were 65 in October and 73 in November, which was a low 17 percent and a normal 22 percent. Departures to the South were 138 ships in October and 109 ships in November, which was 37 and 33 percent. The remainder were the 9 ships in October and 4 ships in November that departed to the Chevron Offshore Terminal in El Segundo, which was 2 and 1 percent.

iii. **2 Comments on ship count:**

1. The percentages of ships using the 4 arrival and departure routes, East, West, North, and South, has been very consistent year to year and month to month since 2015.
2. That said, ship count overall is down for the calendar year as follows. For the 11-month period January to November 2018, 4,151 ships arrived in 2018, which is 206 fewer ships than the same 11-month period in 2017. The 206 fewer ships are primarily comprised of 95 fewer foreign tankers, 55 fewer vehicle ships, and 86 fewer ships calling for bunkers (refueling) only. However, there were 14 more container ships and 18 more bulk ships. Passenger ships and general cargo ships were almost even.

iv. **3 Final Comments:**

1. **Electrical Work at the Marine Exchange:** We will be doing routine electrical upgrade work at the Marine Exchange next Thursday 13 December during the afternoon from approximately noon until 1700 that will require us to secure power to the building. We plan to activate our Continuity of Operations and Business Continuity Plan and conduct Vessel Traffic Service Operations from our backup VTS site at the Port of Long Beach Joint Command Center during this period. You should not notice any difference operationally other than to our web site, which will lose its weather, reports, and Target Mapping inputs during this period. We will send reminder notices next week to port partners.
2. **Dynamic Under Keel Clearance Project:** As of 26 November, 47 tankers have safely entered the Port of Long Beach with drafts

between 65 feet and 69 feet. 11 tankers had a draft of 66 feet, 12 had a draft of 67 feet, 12 had a draft of 68 feet, 5 had drafts between 68 feet and 69 feet, and 7 were at the maximum draft of 69 feet per the Harbor Safety Plan. The project continues to be successful in meeting its 3 goals of increasing safety, increasing efficiency, and reducing emissions associated with transporting oil into the Port of Long Beach. This will be the last routine report on this successful ongoing project.

3. **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 waters and that the vessels should take appropriate precautions.

(2) Update on USCG Sector LA/LB Activities: The Coast Guard was absent due to the federal day of mourning. No report.

(3) Update on OSPR Activities:

- a. **Mr. Mighetto** reported that OSPR thanked and appreciated **Mr. Andre Nault** and Sub-Committee 3 (Tug Utilization) for conducting a meeting that reviewed the regulations regarding escort tugs in wake of the EXXON VALDEZ grounding. **Mr. Mighetto** said the outcome and product he was provided gives a good history of the program and why things may be done differently between ports. The work helped OSPR with tracking tug movements between ports, sales/purchases/leasing tugs, training, bollard pull, repowering, and dry dockings. Foss, Crowley, and Harley participated and are thanked.
- b. Because of a glitch in the way OSPR requests funds from the State of California, the OSPR budget is being hindered and any requests for funding increases would probably not be honored. There will be an 18-month period of austerity and OSPR travel and participation in other events is expected to be hindered.
- c. The HSC is governed by the Brown Act and there are new requirements effective 1 January 2019 that must be met, such as posting HSC agendas on the HSC's internet web page. The Marine Exchange will take for action.
- d. **Mr. Mighetto** thanked all members of the HSC for their service and wished all happy and safe holidays.

(4) Update on California State Lands Commission Activities: The seat is vacant but **Mr. Chris Beckwith** reported that State Lands renewed its MOU with OSPR and is near completion of updated MOU with the California State Fire Marshal's office to perform jurisdictional inspections of pipelines in the State of California. In January 2019, work with the Coast Guard will begin on jurisdictional determinations regarding marine oil terminals in California. The CA State Lands office will move in the next few months.

(5) Update on U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) Activities: **Mr. Fields** was absent due to the federal day of mourning but he provided the following report by e-mail, which **Chairperson Strong** read:

- a. The Corps has two projects that are going on now.

- i. The breakwater repairs with Connolly Pacific are ongoing and should be complete late Spring or early Summer.
    - ii. The Corps is developing the documentation for working on a maintenance dredging event for the POLB Approach Channel and the dredging of the LA River Estuary. The Corps hopes to begin this work in May of this coming year.
  - b. Mr. Fields reported he would see if the City of Long Beach would release the letter it received from the Navy regarding the status of the breakwater.
- (6) Update on National Oceanic and Atmospheric (NOAA) activities: **Mr. Ferguson** was absent due to the federal day of mourning but he provided the following report by e-mail, which **Chairperson Strong** read:
- a. The NOAA 2019 tide tables are now available. For those who still compute predicted tides the old fashioned way, hard copy tide tables for 2019 are now available. The books can be found at your local maritime supply store or can be bought directly from our print on demand partners.
  - b. Due to a change in the US Coast Guard policy which now allows the use of electronic tide and current predictions to meet carriage requirements, NOAA will likely eliminate the paper tide table books in 2020.
  - c. The Whale Advisory Zone off San Francisco and the coast wide incentive-based Vessel Speed Reduction program both closed on Nov. 15, 2018. The Santa Barbara Channel Whale Advisory Zone was set to close on Nov. 30, 2018, however, due to the presence of about 20 humpback whales in / near the Santa Barbara Channel Traffic Separation Scheme, the slow speed advisory will remain in effect until December 30, 2018.
- (7) Update on Area Maritime Security Committee: The Coast Guard was absent due to the federal day of mourning. No report.
- (8) Other: None.

### **ITEM III - NEW BUSINESS:**

#### **(1) Sub-Committee Reports:**

- a. S/C #1 (Navigation Safety) – **Capt. John Betz** had an excused absence and **Chairperson Strong** provide his report.
  - a. The subcommittee has met twice. **Chairperson Strong** chaired the November meeting and the minutes are in the package sent before this meeting. This meeting generated a meeting of Subcommittee #3, Tug Utilization, regarding tug escort regulations.
  - b. **Chairperson Strong** read from an e-mail from LCDR Isaac Mahar that:
    - i. The explosion at the Evergreen terminal in October had been determined to be a spontaneous combustion industrial accident.

- ii. Marine Transportation System Recovery Units (MTS RUs) will be expanded into Port Coordination Teams. Initially, MTS RUs had a security focus but now they will be expanded to all-hazards.
- c. The Vincent Thomas Bridge has commenced a 3-year painting project; air draft will be reduced 4 feet at certain times which will be advertised.
- d. Various speakers reported that over-water work on the new Gerald Desmond Bridge is expected to start in December or slip to January.
- b. S/C #3 (Tug Utilization Group (TUG)) – Mr. **Mighetto** confirmed he was getting the information he needed from S/C #3 as discussed earlier in the meeting.
- c. LNG Working Group – The next meeting will be tomorrow, 6 December at the POLB Maintenance building. **Chairperson Strong** reported that Jacksonville had received it's 1<sup>st</sup> LNG bunkering barge, which could provide good information for us.

#### **ITEM IV – PUBLIC COMMENTS**

a. **Capt. Richard McKenna** reported that he had attended the International Seafarers' Center meeting in Baltimore, which received a presentation by NAMEPA (North American Marine Environmental Protection Association), which produced an informational magazine entitled "Operation Compliance; Tools for Effective Environmental Compliance." **Capt. McKenna** is on the Board of LAMI (Los Angeles Maritime Institute), which teaches children using 2 tall ships, and the magazine was initially intended to help teach environmental issues to the children who attend LAMI's programs. However, **Capt. McKenna** thought the magazine provides good info for a broader audience such as the Committee. He provided copies and they are also available at the Marine Exchange.

#### **ITEM V - ADJOURNMENT:**

Chairperson Strong asked for a moment of silence in honor of Former President George Herbert Walker Bush, 41<sup>st</sup> President of the United States.

**The next HSC meeting will again be in Los Angeles on Wednesday 6 February, with special time of 11:30 AM gathering and 12:00-1:00PM meeting** due to the Area Maritime Security Committee meeting from 9:30-11:30 the same day and location.

**Chairperson Strong** wished everyone happy holidays and adjourned the meeting at 10:40AM.

Respectfully submitted,

//signed//

Reid Crispino  
Acting Executive Secretary  
And Captain J. Kipling (Kip)  
Executive Secretary  
25 January 2019

LA/LB HARBOR SAFETY COMMITTEE

December 5, 2018

NAME

E-MAIL / TELEPHONE

AGENCY

RICK ROBERTS RICHARDRUVANE@GMAIL.COM ALAMITOS BAY YACHT CLUB

Jeff Cowan Capt Cowan@master mariner.org CAMM

DAVID MIGHETTO david.mighetto@wildlife.ca.gov OSPR.

John W. Dwyer JDWYER@FORD.ORG FORD LIA

Chris Beckwith Chris.Beckwith@SLC.CA.GOV state lands

Chu Man Kow chu.kow@polb.com Port of Long Beach

Jon HORNECKER jon.hornecker@polb.com POLB

JEFF WHITE jwhite@portla.org LA PILOTS

DAN KANE daniel.kane@polb.com 562-283-7812 POLA

COURTNEY NORSHARP courtney.norsharp@polb.com POLB

Ken Graham Kenneth.Graham@chevron.com Chevron

Mike Jessner capt.mikejessner@gmail.com APL

Kari Dill Kariane@foss.com FOSS

DICK MCKENNA RBMAC13@GMAIL.COM ISC

Jonathan Bishop Jonathan.Bishop@coastal.ca.gov CCC

RONALD KELLY R.KELLY@TRANSMARINE.COM TRANSMARINE

Jon Victoria JON.VICTORIA@WILDLIFE.CA.GOV

Roy Lyman rlyman@CALIFORNIAEXPORTERS.ORG CCE



LA/LB HARBOR SAFETY COMMITTEE

December 5, 2018

NAME

E-MAIL / TELEPHONE

AGENCY

Danny Strunk

D Strunk 22nd St @ Yarrow

San Pedro Bai