

SAN DIEGO HARBOR SAFETY COMMITTEE
DRAFT - Full Committee Meeting Minutes

DATE: March 23, 2011
TIME: 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM
PLACE: **Port District of San Diego**
Administration Building
3165 Pacific Highway, San Diego, CA 92101
First Floor Training Room

I. Introductions:

Voting Members: Capt. Rich Goben, Jessica Thomas, Edward Brooks, Harvey Vallier, Gary White, Capt. Ken Guyer, Paul Borde, Robin Blanchfield, Keith Ullrich, Capt. Debra Marks, Capt. Bill Bartsch, Sterling Stires

Non-Voting Members: Capt. Katsanis is not a member at this time but is in the process, Brad Oliver, Paul Patricio, Dan Kenley, Julie Thomas, Tim

McCormick, Cynthia Pridmore, Sara McPherson, Mike Twito, Patricia Hill, Lt. Michael Leon Guerrero, Commander Michael Dolan, Jon Victoria, Jack Prescott, Bruce Cummings, Jerry Lounsbury

II. Minute Review: January 26, 2011

Motion Approved

III. Unusual/Near Miss Incidents:

Some general comments re: RC-44 event: Guerrero: questioned if crossed into channel;

Goben: RC-44 event went smoothly-they tried not to impact Hornblower operations

IV. Julie Thomas –SCCOOS/CDIP Presentation:

Capt. Rich Goben introduced Julie Thomas from Scripps

Julie Thomas presented information about offshore wave buoys- they have about 50 buoys that feed into NOAA helps support Southern California Coastal Ocean Observing System in support of Maritime Transportation.

They are focused on winds and wave currents with over 30 years of archived data. CDIP-Southern California Swell Model are high resolution and available for California Ports and Harbors

Go to SCCOOS.org for offshore buoy locations; you have the capability to make up a monitoring prediction point; can click on “P” for full wave data. Colors are wave height; arrows are current vectors...two main uses are for search and rescue and for spills

V. Introduction of Harbor Police Chief, John Bolduc by Capt. Rich Goben

Bolduc welcomed group; thanked for participation and recognized great spirit of collaboration, mentioned the long dock off Shelter Island was damaged and one of the General Services vessels was destroyed by the outgoing tide of the Tsunami. Interesting lesson learned in regards how to protect assets White questioned if peer now open for custom checks; Bolduc responded that yes it had been repaired Blanchfield questioned if Coast Guard has rowboat alert system Guerrero said that Coast Guard does have capability and may incorporate something similar to Port’s WARN system; Guyer: concern about lack of communication; Bolduc: will have follow up meeting with Coast Guard and with Sharon at the Port Tenants on how to communicate better; they discovered gaps and will work to close; Prescott: announced that everyone on Tidelands should be sure to follow up to be sure that they are registered in the Port’s WARN system and their contact information is updated – the Port would like to do test in near future.

VI. USCG, San Diego Sector

Dolan: Spoke to Army Corp of Engineers, Scott John...don’t forget us in San Diego; Oceanside dredging is completed (routine maintenance dredging); San Diego cancelled last year due to environmental concerns and money; may have money in 2012 budget. Discussed approach of Super Servant 3; had issue with anchorage-will look at each anchorage on case by case basis; need more information on anchorage plan. Vallier: fueled Super Servant 3 and all went well. Guerrero: fueling in bad weather and/or Tsunami the three main concerns are (1) bunkers (2) anchorages (3) marinas; questioned how we can better prepare to mitigate risk, desire to use HSC input for layout of framework and protocols. In regards to perceived radiological threat, vessels within 50 miles from radiation source in Japan incoming vessels to our Port, the Coast Guard does have protocols and

works with CBP. Reports that counterparts up and down the coast are not seeing anything significant. Trust that CG is working to safeguard people and Ports. Guyer: mentioned that he received Gale Wind Warning and forwarded to other marinas and would like warnings at lower threshold Commander Michael Dolan: HP uses small craft advisory to identify trigger points and write out heavy weather plans; they don't want to set wrong limits. Blachfield: reports that Crescent City saw good presentation for safe mooring and she has good contact in Los Angeles Goben: would like to get contact information from Robin Blanchard so he can invite them to give a presentation at a HSC meeting. Guerrero: asks if anyone had damage due to Tsunami effects over 3-5 days Guyer: reports that at Mission Bay the bay barges broke loose and were damaged also noticed a series of up and down and important that we don't become complacent. Goben: has heard many Tsunami warnings in San Diego but only noticed anything the last few times. Dolan: Showed pictures/visual aids of Tsunami effects in Oceanside; they lost buoys due to currents Twito: reported that they saw significant pull out of water approximately 200 yards wide in 20 minute cycles and tides reversing. Bartsch: reported that the pilots saw similar effects; could not control Dole ship while on approach to the berth at Tenth Ave. Marine Terminal – had to pull out. Also, the Pilot boat at Shelter Island saw changes happen quickly; pulled cleats out of docks; saw 6-7 knots of current at police dock Cummings: could have issues with passenger boarding bridge is did not plan for effects of Tsunami over time Goben: Hornblower whale watching excursions saw sperm whales Prescott: noted that Tsunami was a 3 day, or more, event Guyer: concurred and mentioned again that this was an extended event and that safety concerns should extend as well; important that we stay alert and aware of effects over time Bartsch: Instead of coming in at 6:30 AM, the Carnival Spirit stayed offshore until 10-11:00 AM which is when the Tsunami actually hit Vallier: reported the same with taking his fuel barge off berth early and coming back around 10:00 AM Blanchfield: were very lucky compared to Crescent City and Santa Cruz Goben: important to note that this is an event over time Brooks: may be good idea to change definition of Tsunami...not a wave but an event over time Julie Thomas: it's an education process to learn about wave and how dissipates Marks: could see wave changes Saturday afternoon; 4-5 years ago saw TV warning of Tsunami but gave no direction on how to proceed

VII. Timothy McCrink – California Geological Survey

This week is Tsunami Awareness Week: discussed seismic shaking maps, ground failure maps, Tsunami Indication map for San Diego, installation of Tsunami evacuation signs; working with NOAA to establish better guidelines of notification although modeling is imperfect and there is much uncertainty. Working on offshore safety zones for boats and trying to document how 911 responses transpired in order to devise guidelines for how best to get message out; appears a Tsunami that initiates in Alaska would hit us harder and faster. More information at www.Tsunami.ca.gov

VIII. OSPR Update – Mr. Jack Prescott:

Success with increasing alternates to committee; important that all member contact information is updated and correct; Jon Victoria my supervisor will be an alternate for me along with Dennis Chastain. HSP is current with the updated member roster. The BMP(Best Marine Practises) working group; needs to be called back to order to prior to our next HSC meeting to work on fleshing out the “heavy weather” section in the plan; At our May meeting CDR Michael Dolan will be recognized for his contributions to the committee in his role with the Coast Guard.

IX. Sub-Committee Reports – A. Education – Jessica Thomas (nothing to report) B. Navigational Safety and Pilotage – Capt. Bill Bartsch (nothing to report)

Goben – if anyone would like a new sub-committee or an issue to assign to existing, please send him an email request in it will be formally considered at May meeting

X. Public Comment: Guyer: Committee being formed at Port Tenant Association against the ban of copper bottom boats; Goben: test vessel for experimental paints; Dolan: Regional Water Quality Association voting for permit for firework discharges Guyer: adding barges for fireworks-no proof on adverse effects to environment or clean water

XI. Staff and liaison Announcements: Debra Marks: navigation safety – on hold to review charter

XII. Next Meeting: May 25, 2011

XIII. Adjourn