

Cook Inlet Harbor Safety Committee
Meeting Summary
November 7, 2018
CISPRI Conference Room
Nikiski, Alaska

Attendees:

Committee Members:

Louis Audette, Tug and Barger Operators – Primary
Bryan Baker, Small Passenger Vessel Operators - Primary
Jeff Brue, Tanker Operators - Primary
Steve Catalano, CIRCAC – Primary
Sven Christensen, Harbor Tug Operators – Alternate
Mark DeVries, LNG - Primary
Pete Garay, SWAPA – Primary
Luke Hasenbank, Ship Agents - Primary
Bryan Hawkins, Port of Homer – Primary
Brad Kroon, Harbor Tug Operators – Primary
Paul Mehler III, Marine Oil Terminal Operators – Primary
Todd Paxton, Response Organization – Alternate
Chris Peterson, Tanker Operators - Alternate
Stephen Ribuffo, Port of Alaska – Primary
Frank Smith, Dry Cargo Ship Operators - Primary
Mark Tornai, Recreational Boaters – Primary

Managing Board:

Mike Munger, Secretary/Treasurer
Mark Nielsen, Member

Ex Officio:

LT Bart Buesseler, NOAA
CDR Justin Jacobs, USCG
Lisa Krebs-Barsis, ADEC
CAPT Sean MacKenzie, USCG
LT David Parker, USCG
Captain Brian Crisp, Nikiski Fire Department

Other:

James Bond, ALAMAR
Randy Borland, CISPRI
Mark Curtis, Crowley
Casey Desiderio, Marathon
Terry Dolan, Matanuska-Susitna Borough
Therese Dolan, Port Mackenzie
Jason Edmison, Matanuska-Susitna Borough
Angelina Fuschetto, Crowley
Matthew Hight, OSG
Greg Lebeau, Witt O’Biens
Bradford Marino, OSG
Brent Mellen, USCG
Sara Nichols, Nuka Research
David Ridge, Crowley
Tim Robertson, Nuka Research
Tom Rueter, Alaska Maritime
Kevin Schroder, Crowley
Josh Westen, SWAPA

The seventh meeting of the Cook Inlet Harbor Safety Committee (HSC) was called to order at 8:00AM by Chairman Ribuffo.

Approval of Agenda

Motion Kroon, Brue to approve the Agenda.	Motion passes with no objection.
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Approval of April Meeting Summary

Motion Smith, Paxton to approve the meeting summary of April 26, 2018. Motion passes with no objection.
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U.S. Coast Guard Report to the Committee

CAPT MacKenzie (USCG) thanked the HSC for lending support to the passage of SB92. He also thanked Cook Inlet Spill Prevention and Response Inc. CISPRI and Marathon for

donating the meeting place and lunch, respectively. LT Parker (USCG) reported that there were no major incidents in Cook Inlet in the last six months. [USCG Cook Inlet Activity Summary.pdf](#)

Managing Board Report

Mr. Munger, Board Secretary/Treasurer, thanked the members who have followed through with their annual contributions and reported that the Board is planning a full day meeting for 4 December, to deliberate the changes in the Charter with regard to contribution requirements. It was suggested that credit card capabilities would improve responses to contributions and the Managing Board will look into these options.

Harbor Safety Plan Workgroup Report

Chairman Catalano thanked the members of the Workgroup who were able to attend the 17 October Meeting and gave the group an overview of the edits made during the process. [Harbor Safety Plan Edit Review.pdf](#)

The group approved of the edits as noted and specified that the Ice Guidelines change too much to be attached to the Harbor Safety Plan, but that the reader should be directed to the HSC Website for access the current Ice Guidelines, and that an action box be created in Section C.11 to include a link to the Sea Ice Observers Guide. CIRCAC will continue to facilitate access to Ice Cameras for the pilots and will pursue gaining possible access for others to use as well.

The Workgroup will put the document out with the proposed changes for a 30-day public review period, then bring it back to the Committee for formal approval.

Navigation Workgroup Report

Chairman Garay expressed his thanks to Brian Hawkins and Paul Mehler for taking the lead on two important sub-workgroups since the last HSC meeting. The Pebble Mine Amakadori Port Proposal was reviewed by workgroup members and the group recommended that the Committee, as a whole, request environmental studies and ship simulations. The Winter Ice Guidelines were reviewed by workgroup members and important changes were introduced that will enhance safety. Garay thanked the USCG for the open discussion of ice inspections.

Pebble Mine Sub-group

Mr. Hawkins reported that his group met in Homer on May 28, 2018, and formulated two recommendations to the Committee, as outlined in the [meeting materials](#).

Motion Hawkins, Audette to direct the Committee Chair to send a letter to the COTP profiling the Workgroup's findings and recommendations as a collective voice of the CIHSC. Voice Vote, Unanimous. Motion passes

Motion Catalano, Mehler to courtesy copy the Corps of Engineers and the Alaska Departments of Environmental Conservation and Division of Natural Resources. Motion Passes by non-objection.

Break 9:06 – 9:22

Winter Ice Guidelines Sub-group

Captain Mehler reported that his workgroup was formed at the last HSC meeting in April and met in August. They concluded that the Ice Guidelines process could be improved. In order to highlight actual risks and eliminate complacency brought on by milder winters, the workgroup proposed breaking down the winter operations geographically rather than by phases. [Ice Guidelines Meeting Presentation.pdf](#)

Members of the USCG thanked the workgroup for all their efforts and announced that they are committed to seeing the Ice Guidelines function as proposed. They further announced that the COTP is ready to sign them, following Committee approval.

In the interest of having more time to review the proposed guidelines, the group requested they be sent via email, and an email vote be conducted ASAP. [Proposed 2018-2019 Ice Guidelines.pdf](#)

UPDATE: A copy of the proposed guidelines were circulated to Committee Members on 8 November, 2018. On 9 November, votes were tallied as 17, Yes and 2, No Response. On 13 November, the official 2018-2019 Cook Inlet Ice Guidelines were published by the USCG and posted on the CIHSC Website.

Salvage Workgroup Report

Due to the hurricane season on the East Coast, Chairman Duke was unavailable to give a report.

Marine Firefighting Workgroup Report

Captain Crisp reported that as the newly appointed Chairman of the workgroup, he has struggled with getting workgroup members to engage. Upon review of the Marine Firefighting section of the Cook Inlet Sub Area Plan, he reported that he has found a number of areas that need addressed and/or updated. USCG acknowledged that a lot of the info brought over from the old DEC plan is outdated and proposed a USCG contact for Captain Crisp to meet with to get organized. USCG welcomes the Workgroup's input and appreciates the help to focus on updating the plan. Nuka Research will coordinate a meeting for Captain Crisp and USCG.

Harbor Safety Plan Review Period

The group discussed the correct process for Harbor Safety Plan edits and approval and concluded that the Chair of the HSP Workgroup is the arbiter of the plan and any review that takes place. This process is laid out in the Letter of Promulgation and will be carried

forth by Chairman Catalano as the edits are made. A 30-day public review of the Harbor Safety Plan, with proposed edits, will be conducted prior to the next HSC meeting.

Round Table Committee Presentation

Mr. Robertson observed that the HSC Body is functioning as it should and expressed his appreciation for the work they are doing. He requested that the group feed Nuka Research any relevant information to be disseminated to the public via the website and encouraged them to respond when meeting polls are sent out so that the Workgroup meetings can be productive.

Mr. Paxton announced that he has drafted a letter to the USCG regarding Alternative Planning Criteria (APC) and the bypass of CISPRI, suggesting a policy change that if an APC is changed it should be geographically specific. He may be asking for support from CIRCAC and the HSC.

Mr. Baker noted that SeaTow should be added to the Harbor Safety Plan under Emergency Contact Information.

Captain Mehler announced that Andeavor became Marathon in October and noted that this will be a positive change for Alaska. As a part of this change, a new Port Captain was hired (Casey Deisdero). He further lauded the benefits of the most recent Ship Simulator Training held at AVTEC.

Mr. Hawkins stated that the Port of Homer has an agreement with the Corps of Engineers to perform a study for a large vessel harbor. This will be a 6-month study, and hopefully promote a way forward to implement the next generation of harbors in Alaska.

Captain DeVries stated that though BP is no longer part of the AKLNG Project, the industry needs to maintain connection with the CIHSC. He will be evaluating BP involvement and may or may not re-apply for his expiring seat. He endorsed the credit card payment option and offered to chase down a BP's 2018 contribution in the meantime.

Captain Kroon thanked the workgroup chairs for their efforts in getting the members together and function as they should and gave kudos to the simulator training at AVTEC.

Mr. Catalano echoed Mr. Robertson's statement regarding the functionality of the HSC. CIRCAC's Pipeline Risk Assessment is moving into its final phase. He everyone to utilize the AVTEC simulator and thanked Marathon for the recent training there.

Mr. Tornai reported that there is a plan in place for the decommission of the Drift River Terminal beginning in the first Quarter of 2019.

Chairman Ribuffo announced that the Port of Alaska renovations have begun. There is a lot demolition ahead, but it is exciting to be off and running.

Review Action Items and Set Next Meeting

- Managing Board will consider the idea of accepting credit card payments for contributions;

- Nuka Research will circulate the proposed Ice Guidelines to the Committee Members and conduct an email vote for approval and a quick turn-around to the COTP;
- Nuka Research will facilitate a meeting between MFF Chair and USCG;
- Nuka Research will draft a letter to COTP (cc: ADEC, ADNR, Corps of Engineers) on CIHSC letterhead based on the recommendations of the Navigation/Pebble Mine Workgroup. This letter will be reviewed by the Workgroup and signed by Chairman Ribuffo;
- Harbor Safety Plan Workgroup will add a link to the Sea Ice Observer's Guide to Section C.11 of the Harbor Safety Plan (HSP);
- Harbor Safety Plan Workgroup and Nuka Research will implement the edits to the HSP and circulate it for a 30-day public review period;
- Mr. Robertson will continue to pursue funding initiative with the adhoc Maritime Safety Committee group.

A next meeting date will be at the call of the Chairman sometime in the spring of 2019.

**Motion Catalano, Mehler to adjourn. Motion passes with non-objection.
Meeting adjourned at 10:45AM**