

Memorandum

Date: 20 February 2018

From: HSC Board

To: HSC

Subj: February 20 HSC Meeting minutes

The meeting was called to order at 1300 by Richard Dybevik. See attendance list.

The agenda includes:

Approval of minutes from January 2018: Minutes approved by vote.

Rocky Richards submitted resignation to HSC Board. By vote, letter of resignation accepted. Chair sought someone to fill vacant position. No nominations were obtained. Chair leaves Board at six members until next meeting when new nominations will be sought.

Guest Speaker:

Chair introduces Julie Thomas, of Scripts and NOAA Coastal Buoy program. They are based in LaJolla, CA. Major funders are ACOE, States and Navy.

Program has buoys around the nation. Buoys are used for a number of uses primarily based on who is paying for the buoy.

Buoys transmit to uridium and ashore. Data comes back to Scripts and then to NOAA Data Buoy Center and NWS. Actually NOAA does not operate the buoys but Scripts does. NOAA publishes the data. Lots of industry partners as well such as Chevron, JPS, Andeavor, and Spacex).

In local area, Julie showed location of buoys both active and non-active. Buoy network is very strong. Reedsport and Umpqua River are buoy stations for potential renewable energy project sites for looking at future projects. HSC members spoke to the location of existing buoys. Since the buoys are placed for specific purposes, their locations are based on desired data and generally for a specific period of time. The further offshore buoys (>4 miles) are not suited for local fishing. To keep the Lakeside buoy, which is the only buoy near shore, would take about \$130K per year in funding the installation and \$35K each year after. Julie offers her phone number to call when buoys are not reporting. Last weekend, none of the buoys were reporting (comment by HSC users). Julie indicates that typically when this occurs, it is a computer or data glitch and not the buoys all out at once.

Julie states that Scripts does a lot of work to ensure data is accurate and consistent. Data is tracked and if the sensors are not reporting properly, they are brought ashore for calibration. NWS states that the Umpqua buoys data is conflicted by local conditions. Buoy movement, waves and such impact the signal. Most currents given are surface level currents and not deep currents.

There is a lot of built in robustness in cloud and shorebased computing capability and backup. Members can go back and look at historical data as well. Reliability is about 98%.

Some buoys have “bungee cord” on bottom connection to allow them to measure close in the surf zone which cords are able to stretch 5 times their length. Most of these close in systems are funded by ACOE for break water and dredging projects.

New buoys are coated to increase their life span.

Buoy data is accessed about 8 million times per month.

Julie is working on a Port of Long Beach project and bringing in 1100 foot long tankers into port. South swell is not blocked by the coastal islands. The oil tankers are concerned about under keel clearance coming into port. Port is dredged to 70 feet with ships of 65 foot draft coming in. Currently ships are being lightered offshore because of the lack of water depth. For every degree of ship movement (pitch) they lose 6 feet of clearance. Working with JPS, the pilots, and others are being notified of the wave status. Tesoro has funded two buoys in addition to existing. All are wave data buoys. The data is going to Rotterdam for inclusion in studies and the material sent back to the pilots. Agencies have now allowed up to 68 foot of draft due to the data collected. Goal is to move to 69 feet of draft. SOCALMAREX monitors the data with USCG at the Marine Exchange/VTS location.

Julie opens for questions.

1. When do they get Port Orford buoy back. Answer: NWS states it is a NOAA buoy and they are the determining factor. Buoy is fixed and awaiting a window for the USCG to reinstall.

Harbor Safety Plan:

Chair asks who had read the Harbor Safety Plan draft? Chair asks for discussion. Chair asks for motion to accept the plan. All approved plan as written with George Wales minor corrections.

Chair needs to find out how they will have the HSP available to the public. Chair asks who in the Port can have a meeting regarding supporting the website and email. Port of Coos Bay is included in the discussion.

Follow up:

Another body was found in the water and HSC wants to know how to get notified of missing persons so that they can help.

Chair states LCDR Ben Crowell and Deputy Strain are working on how to get notified of situations where the HSC can assist. LCDR Crowell will work to establish a local

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network in advising Terminal Managers and specific others of ongoing cases. This will not be a wide based notification but set to certain persons.

HSC member wants to be notified of emergencies and where they can assist law enforcement. Crowell believes the process he is working on would be just for missing persons and limited in scope. The criminal issues need to be reviewed prior to moving forward with any HSC notifications.

New Business:

1. HSC member spoke to buoys in Lakeside and/or Reedsport and maintenance and longevity. Julie will call and see if they can be extended.
2. El Conquistador status? The question comes up who is watching the mooring lines and whether the vessel will be a future problem. General understanding is the vessel is up for sale. The vessel has a list which has been reported to the USCG. There is no fuel onboard. Intention of the owner is reportedly to take the vessel to Mexico. Owner lives in Florence, OR. Vessel is over 300 gross tons and, due to USCG rules, must be towed out because they are non compliant with federal regulations. OR Department of State Lands is participating and asks for options to get rid of the vessel. USCG seeks a towing plan and when last drydocking was held prior to release of the vessel. State has spoken with dock lessor who subleases to vessel. Agencies want to access the vessel but do not believe they have authority. State might be able to work with owner and/or lessee to start cooperating. Owners phone numbers do not all work (5 reported).

March 20 at 1300 is the next HSC meeting. Meeting adjourned at 1406.

Sincerely,

Richard