

## Charleston Area Harbor Safety Committee (HSC) Meeting Minutes

Thursday – July 27, 2023

**Roll Call & Call to Orders:** LT James Sullivan, USCG

Meeting was conducted via Zoom and in-person at 200 Ports Authority Drive in Mt. Pleasant, SC. Membership list/attendance collected. See Table 1. LT Sullivan completed a roll call and transitioned to opening remarks.

### Opening Comments:

**Opening Remarks:** Mr. George Detyens, Jr., KMD Marine

Mr. Detyens welcomed attendees and solicited topics for the upcoming National Harbor Safety Committee Conference in spring 2024.

*Note: The conference is anticipated to take place in Chicago, IL the week of March 18, 2024. Additional details pending.*

**Remarks:** Ms. Taylor Jackson, Maritime Association of South Carolina (MASC)

Ms. Jackson introduced herself as the new HSC Vice Chairperson and President/CEO of MASC. She then deferred any additional comments to Mr. Sean O'Toole. Mr. O'Toole advertised the Propeller Club Convention taking place in Charleston, September 26-29. The agenda will cover a variety of topics, including offshore wind energy, cyber, and women in transportation. Vice Admiral Peter Gautier (USCG) and Vice Admiral Joanna Nunan (USMS) are slated to speak. Sponsors are still being accepted.

**Remarks:** CAPT Frank DelRosso, USCG

CAPT DelRosso provided a recap of his Coast Guard career and detailed how important organizations like the Propeller Club and the Harbor Safety Committee are for maintaining the Maritime Transportation System (MTS).

### Committee Administration:

**HSC Minutes Confirmation & Voting Membership Turnover:** LT James Sullivan, HSC Executive Secretary

The April 2023 Meeting Minutes were motioned for confirmation. Motion seconded. All were in favor to confirm and finalize the April 27, 2023 Charleston Area HSC Meeting Minutes. LT Sullivan also referenced upcoming turnovers for 5 voting members in October. Members reaching the end of their term will be contacted shortly to verify continued participation. CAPT DelRosso and Mr. Bos Smith additionally highlighted the importance of further engagement with waterfront terminals. Mr. Cord Smythe and Mr. Smith indicated they would conduct outreach following the meeting.

**New Business:** N/A

## **Open Issues, Presentations, Proposals, Follow-Up:**

### **Ops/Nav Subcommittee Update:** Mr. Ryan Sellers, Moran Towing

Mr. Sellers referenced the jet ski public safety campaign discussed at the last HSC meeting, specifically addressing the new sign placed at Shipyard Creek by Wounded Nature. Mr. Whit Jones clarified the sign is to discourage recreational vessels from operating in the area, and not necessarily jet skis. Mr. Rudy Socha added that jet skiers are habitually cutting off traffic and riding bow wake. The sign will hopefully deter rec vessels from entering commercial work areas, but it may not address the jet ski issue. Mr. Bradley Kerr brought up a novel jet ski tracking system that Tidal Wave Sports intends to use to address safety concerns. This could possibly be a presentation for the next meeting. Mr. Socha referenced a previous event where the Coast Guard shut down a barge that was hosting “jet ski parties.” He followed up by asking if the Coast Guard could shut down a similar barge in the vicinity of Shipyard Creek. CDR Chris Nichols asserted the Coast Guard has the ability to limit commercial business operations, but only if specific conditions are met.

### **Southern AOR Subcommittee Update:** LT James Sullivan, HSC Executive Secretary

Since the last meeting on April 18<sup>th</sup>, the Chair position for the Southern AOR subcommittee was vacated. No immediate successor could be identified, which precluded another meeting scheduled for July. LT Sullivan asserted that he would be conducting outreach this quarter to figure out a path forward for the subcommittee.

### **CG Sector Charleston Command Center Overview:** ENS C.J. Morgan, CG Sector Charleston

ENS Morgan provided the committee with a comprehensive overview of the Sector Charleston Command Center (SCC), and how information is passed. CAPT DelRosso asked for the split between Prevention, Pollution and Response phone calls. ENS Morgan attested the majority of SCC phone calls are for Prevention. He also explained the SCC is not limited to 1 call at a time, and that multiple watch standers are able to absorb higher call volumes. Mr. Bos Smith asked if there was a SCC text line for mariners. ENS Morgan and LT Sullivan agreed to send out an MSIB outlining important USCG contact information, including the SCC text line. The Sector Facebook page will also be leveraged for future communications to the port.

### **Salvage and Marine Firefighting (SMFF) Exercise Hotwash :** CWO Mike Goglia, CG Sector Charleston

CWO Goglia conducted an After Action Report (AAR) review of the Port of Charleston SMFF exercise the took place in December, 2022. The AAR has gotten an enormous amount of national attention, he offered to send the report to anyone who has not seen it yet. The primary lessons learned include: a lack of clear operating guidelines; inadequate local firefighting capabilities; the need for improved communications, and; solidified contract agreements with local fire departments. CAPT DelRosso also added the need to address training gaps, specifically with Vessel Response Plan (VRP) activations. Several other committee members expressed an openness for passenger vessel fire safety training. CWO Goglia agreed to engage these members on the topic offline. Mr. John Cameron thanked CWO Goglia for his efforts, and highlighted the exercise as the largest and first official SMFF exercise in the country. He also pointed out that CG headquarters is the ultimate approval authority for the

SMFF plan, and confirmation of approval has yet to be received. Mr. Socha asked for clarification on the removal of derelict vessels that catch fire. CWO Goglia responded that the CG does not normally have authority to address this type of scenario; only if there is a pollution nexus. Mr. Joel Britt added that Hugh Leatherman Terminal is available for training purposes. CWO Goglia thanked Mr. Britt and highlighted the importance of the SMFF Subcommittee and distro list. The Subcommittee was recently awarded a grant to conduct an SMFF port impact study, and the contract will eventually be awarded a third party. Ms. Silvia Judy asked for clarification on how and if the Port of Charleston SMFF initiative will have an impact on IMO regulations. CWO Goglia explained the SMFF plan has SOLAS processes built in, specifically with VRP activation. The SMFF Subcommittee will help close the gap on role clarifications. CDR Nichols referenced NTSB investigations and final action memos. He then explained the CG has an IMO delegation directly responsible for communications to international regulatory bodies. Mr. Joe Abeyta concluded the discussion by referencing the DHS Annual Port Security Grant as an untapped resource the Port of Charleston can capitalize on.

**Announcements/General Comments:** N/A

**Closing:**

LT Sullivan thanked everyone for attending and concluded the meeting. The next HSC meeting will take place on October 26, 2023.

**Table 1**

Last Name	First Name	In Attendance	Email	Phone	Industry Entity Represented
Abeyta	Joseph	X	<a href="mailto:joe@allwatermarinegroup.com">joe@allwatermarinegroup.com</a>		Allwater Marine Services, TBUS
Ackerman	Billy	X	billya@amalie.com		AOCUSA - Charleston
Adams	Jordan				SJ Hamill Construction
Archer	Jon		<a href="mailto:jona@morantug.com">jona@morantug.com</a>	843-529-3000	Moran Towing – Charleston
Boyer	Chip				Vulcan Materials
Boyle	Tom		<a href="mailto:TBoyle@scspa.com">TBoyle@scspa.com</a>		SCPA
Britt	Joel	X	<a href="mailto:jbritt@scspa.com">jbritt@scspa.com</a>		SCPA
Brodie	Ryan		<a href="mailto:Ryan.C.Brodie@uscg.mil">Ryan.C.Brodie@uscg.mil</a>		USCG
Cameron	John	X	<a href="mailto:jcameron@charlestonpilots.com">jcameron@charlestonpilots.com</a>		Pilots Association
Campsen	Richard	X	<a href="mailto:richard@spiritlinecruises.com">richard@spiritlinecruises.com</a>	843-509-2390	Spirit Line Cruises
Chlum	Erin		<a href="mailto:erin.h.chlum@uscg.mil">erin.h.chlum@uscg.mil</a>		USCG
Clauhs	Robert				
Coker	Gene	X	<a href="mailto:gcoker@scspa.com">gcoker@scspa.com</a>		SCPA
Conner	Corey				USCG
Constanza	Michael				USACE
D'Amato	Carmine				ITS CONGLOBAL
David	George				US CBP
Davis	Justin				
Del Porto	Fowler				
DelRosso	Frank	X			USCG - COTP
Detyens	George				KMD Marine
Draftz	Randall		<a href="mailto:rdraftz@charlestonyachting.com">rdraftz@charlestonyachting.com</a>	843-557-6082	Charleston Yacht Club
Ferri	Paul				SC Stevedores Association
Fleming	Lee				CMMC LLC
Forbes	Robert				OOCL
Fulmer	Rob				Charleston Fire Dept.
Futch	Sean				SCDOT
Galloway	David				
Giggi	Greg	X			TowboatUS
Godowns	Andrew				SCDNR
Goglia	Mike	X			USCG
Greer	Luther		<a href="mailto:luther.m.greer@uscg.mil">luther.m.greer@uscg.mil</a>	843-720-3257	USCG Regional Exam Center
Haitz	Henry				
Hardwick	Margie				
Harmon	Chris				Odfjell Terminals
Hawkins	Rachel				ES Intergrated
Hedgpath	Mike				
Higman	Scott				Mediterranean Shipping Co.

Hills	Elizabeth		<a href="mailto:ehills@charlestonpilots.com">ehills@charlestonpilots.com</a>		Pilots Association
Hines	Julius				
Huggins	Jeremy	X	<a href="mailto:Jeremy.huggins@us.af.mil">Jeremy.huggins@us.af.mil</a>		628 Air Base Wing
Huit	John				GLDD
Jackson	Taylor	X			MASC
Jason	Judy				
Johnson	Jeremy				USACE
Johnson	Bryan	X			USCG
Jones	Ken	X			USCG
Judy	Silvia	X	<a href="mailto:silvia.judy@jas.com">silvia.judy@jas.com</a>		JAS Forwarding
Kerr	Bradley		<a href="mailto:bkerr@detyens.com">bkerr@detyens.com</a>		Detyen's Shipyard
Knight	Bill				
Kromer	Kenneth				SCPA
Krukowski	Adam	X	<a href="mailto:Adam.b.krukowski@uscg.mil">Adam.b.krukowski@uscg.mil</a>		USCG
Lawrence-Holman	Michelle				Service Transfer Inc
Lewis	Marish				USN
Madeleine	Frume	X	<a href="mailto:mf@koppurtrailers.com">mf@koppurtrailers.com</a>		
Mahney	Jim		<a href="mailto:james.v.mahney@uscg.mil">james.v.mahney@uscg.mil</a>		USCG
Mahoney	John				Moran Environmental
Marshall	Kirby				ATM Design Engineering
Martin	Chris				ECM Maritime Services
Masserman	Mark				SCPA
McDavid	Korey				
Meadows	Gardner				Heartland Credit Card Payment and Pay
Morgan	Christopher	X			USCG
Morrell	Chris				Charleston Police Dept.
Nichols	Chris	X			USCG
O'Toole	Sean	X			Hapag-Lloyd
Pecci	Jorge				
Pereria	Rhonda				CBP
Phinney	Sigriel				SLED
Posda	Jim				GEL
Preston	Randy	X			USCG
Ray	Aaron		<a href="mailto:Aaron.v.ray@uscg.mil">Aaron.v.ray@uscg.mil</a>		USCG
Riley	Kenneth				ILA 1422
Santos	Gary				Inchcape Shipping
Schreck	Gordon	X	<a href="mailto:Gordon.schreck.retired@wbd-us.com">Gordon.schreck.retired@wbd-us.com</a>		
Shores	Jules				
Sims	Micah				The Marino Group

Smith	Whit				Charleston Pilots
Smith	Bos		<a href="mailto:b.smith@stevens-towing.com">b.smith@stevens-towing.com</a>		Stevens Towing
Smythe	Cord	X			Carver Maritime
Socha	Rudy				
Stehmeyer	Ed				SCPA
Stratton	Gene		<a href="mailto:a.eugene.stratton@uscg.mil">a.eugene.stratton@uscg.mil</a>		USCG
Sullivan	James	X	<a href="mailto:James.p.sullivan2@uscg.mil">James.p.sullivan2@uscg.mil</a>	843-740-3184	USCG
Taylor	Tarvin				Tarvin Seafood
Thomas	Michael				DNR
Tomassini	Joe				
Torres	Valerie	X			MASC
Ward	Kyle				NOAA
Welker	Thomas				USCG
Westerling	Brian				
Whitehead	Shannon	X	<a href="mailto:swhitehead@tompsc.com">swhitehead@tompsc.com</a>		Tow of Mount Pleasant
Wunderley	Andrew				Charleston Watchkeeper