



JMTX Harbor Safety Committee Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2009, 1400.  
JAXPORT PCOB 1<sup>st</sup> FI Conf Rm. Talleyrand Avenue, Jacksonville, FL

Minutes of the Meeting

Call to Order HSC Chair Mike Getchell welcomed everyone to the 2009 4<sup>th</sup> quarter Harbor Safety Committee meeting. Introductions were made of the 27 attendees.

**Waterway Notes** Mike Getchell gave an update of the following projects and developments

40 Ft Dredge Project The 40 ft dredge project was nearing its completion before the contractor, GLDD, takes a 90 day (approx) hiatus at the behest of the USACE due to funding issues. GLDD will conclude dredge ops January 1, 2010 and move to Port Canaveral, Boca Raton and Wilmington, NC. Jan 12, 2010. They are scheduled to return approximately April 15, 2010. The 40 ft project channel will conclude at Long Branch Range, leaving Terminal Channel the last stretch to be dredged this Spring.

PORTS Project At the behest of the St Johns Bar Pilots, Mike Getchell has taken point on the effort to bring a PORTS project to Jacksonville. The strategy behind the effort was to bring a benefit to not just the immediate port area but to all concerns from Palatka to the Jetties. Mike has been asked to do most of the legwork to bring the various agencies together to gain buy-in. Twenty-seven sensors in 15 locations is the present design of the system. An exciting addition to the project was a wave-height buoy to be deployed offshore. Capt Don Lewis explained the port security grant funding mechanism and urged members to contact their elected representatives to garner their support for the project.

Duval County Manatee Protection Plan Fourteen manatee deaths this year and surpassing the county's fatality trigger four out of the past five years, prompted a review of the county manatee protection plan by state and federal agencies. Construction permits are not being issued presently due to federal and state opposition. JMTX port stakeholder hard work paid great dividends with the Feds and the State in the review of the proposed revisions to the Duval County Manatee Protection Plan. State and Federal authorities were particularly impressed with the county's inclusion of the local maritime industry's efforts in mitigating manatee fatalities. This, coupled with revisions by the county has encouraged the state to evaluate each permit on a case by case basis.... an improvement over the moratorium in place a month ago. Dr Quinton White, of Jacksonville University's Marine Research Center, was present to thank JMTX for their contribution in the development of the Manatee Placard. This placard is to be disseminated to commercial maritime interests within the port in the hope that its content will be utilized in voyage planning. Dr. White delivered 1,000 placards to JMTX for distribution.

Jax Waterways Commission – Preserving of Recreational and Working Waterfronts Chapter 2005-157 of the Laws of Florida specifies that the future land use element for coastal counties “*must include, without limitation, regulatory incentives and criteria that encourage the preservation of recreational and commercial working waterfronts.*” This legislation did not pertain to commercial seaports. A sub-committee of the Jacksonville Waterways Commission was asked to provide

input to the City of Jacksonville's Planning Department with regard to policy to encourage the preservation of the Recreational and Working Waterfronts as it pertains to Duval County. JMTX was asked to participate to supply comment. Our focus was to see that policy set was not so restrictive that any available waterfront in the future would not be allowed to be zoned for commercial seaport use.

USCG 2010 WAMS  
(Waterways Analysis  
Management Study)

BOSN3 Steve McDonnell introduced Sector Jacksonville's 2010 Waterways Analysis Management Study. This effort takes place every 5 years and its objective is to determine the overall effectiveness of the Aids to Navigation as they relate to traffic patterns and waterway use. Its goals are also determine:

- Verification of the waterway being marked in accordance with the ACOE survey.
- Are the right aids being used and do they conform to system criteria as per CG policy? (size, type, lighted or unlighted, day beacons vice buoys etc.)
- ATON Reduction or should aids be added?
- Are all aids displaying an adequate signal? (contrast/background lighting)
- Are publications and charts up to date?
- Are the right CG resources available to maintain the waterway?

Much of the information required for a WAMS analysis already exists. Sector/Units already have a good working relationship with marine user groups. Sector/Unit will prepare a statement for the Local Notice to Mariners notifying the public that a WAMS study is being conducted. The notice will include waterway name and the Sector/Unit's point of contact. USCG reps may be reaching out to users over the next year for their input. For those that may have questions Mr. McDonnell provided his contact info: BOSN3 Steven McDonnell (904)-564-7565 or [steven.d.mcdonnell@uscg.mil](mailto:steven.d.mcdonnell@uscg.mil).

NOAA Navigation  
Manager Update

Capt Dave Elliot of NOAA's Office of Coast Survey made the trip from Charleston to solicit comment or answer questions regarding any chart product or areas in need of survey. He also mentioned that their newest product "Pocket Charts" was available, in a beta version, for download. The Pocket Chart is a special purpose chart for beginning recreational boaters. This inexpensive, introductory charting product has a miniature NOAA nautical chart on one side, and safety, boating, and educational information on the reverse side. Reverse-side information may include:

- Selected information from the United States Coast Pilot®
- Table 2 tide correctors
- Safety information from U.S. Coast Guard publications
- State rules and regulations (e.g., boating education regulations) and boat licensing requirements
- Nautical chart design and usage information
- U.S. Coast Guard navigation rules
- National Estuarine Research Reserve information
- Weather information and warnings

Just as with ENC's, NOAA incorporates the Pocket Chart with the most up-to-date information every time a chart changes.

Right Whale Season Kick-Off      An inaugural Right Whale Season Festival was held at Jax Beach last weekend. Capt. Lewis reported that acoustic buoys of the NE Fla/SE Ga coast have been receiving whale calls, so whales are in the area. Whales have yet to be sighted due to weather prohibitions for over flights. He cautioned that now that the season is underway, speed restrictions are mandatory and use of the recommended shipping lanes are strongly encouraged. He also mentioned that through AIS capability NOAA now has the means to monitor speed and use of the shipping lanes. Warning letters to last season's violators have been distributed. No news yet, of any new mother/calf pair sightings.

Old Business      Nustar Bunker Barge – Removed from agenda under chairman's prerogative.

New Business      None.

Adjourn      With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted:

Mike Getchell  
HSC Chair

**ATTENDEES**

Capt Mike Getchell	HSC Chair	Capt Don Lewis	JMTX
Capt. Richard Jacques	CST	Don Mathews	Sea Star
Wally Baines	McAllister	Greg Zeligman	Moran
Jack Bradshaw	Moran	Capt. Jay Winegeart	STJBPA
Greg Renfro	Chevron	Capt Fred Berley	Hornblower
Rob Niemeyer	NOAA/NWS	Lisa Holland	USACE
Doug Menefee	JAXPORT	Eric Heckel	APMT
Al Fletcher	USACE	Pete Cappoli	Moran Ship Ag
Mark Olenksi	Transmontaigne	Richard Bruce	AMS
Spotswood Watkins	Seabord/GIM	Capt Tony Hogg	Florida DMA
Capt Dave Elliot	NOAA	Capt Paul Westcott	MOBRO
Scott Skinner	JAXPORT	Jason Hodge	Hamburg Sud
David Kaufman	JAXPORT	Capt Dan Ramsey	Florida DMA
Allan D. Morris	USACE		