LONE STAR HARBOR SAFETY COMMITTEE
Full Managing Board Meeting
Meeting Agenda
May 2, 2025 0900
Coast Guard Sector Houston – Galveston

A. Opening Remarks by Acting Committee Chair - Nathan Hough

1) Meeting will be livestreamed by James Prazak to assist other Harbor Safety Committee's

B. Safety Briefing - LCDR. Alex Mostrom

1) No scheduled drills

C. Invocation - Darren Shelton

D. Welcoming Remarks by Sector Commander - Captain Nicole Rodriguez

1) This committee is an amazing symphony
2) We are thankful for all of the hard work that our partners do.

E. Confirmation of Committee Quorum - Kathleen Sanders

1) A quorum was established.

F. Approval of Minutes – February 7, 2025 meeting

1) First: D. Shelton
2) Second: D. Foret

G. US Customs & Border Protection

1) Not present – No report

H. Subcommittee Reports and Working Group Updates:

1) Navigation Operations Subcommittee and Working Groups - Capt. David Foret

a) Increased currents at Bolivar / GIWW / Current meters, TXDOT
b) Working Groups

- Marine Casualties/Loss of propulsion, Loss of steering
- Safe Access Group; Ship Pilot Ladders
- Texas International Terminal: approach, assist vessel, Pelican Island bridge

c) Temporary current meters have been approved for Bolivar. We are working with USACE and USGS for installing a permanent station on Bolivar peninsula at Sievers cove.
d) Presentation at the International Boating Water Safety Summit on the Lonestar Harbor Safety Committee.

e) NavOps is currently reviewing the revised barge fleeting operations plan out in Freeport as well as Bolivar. These are in partnership with GICA.
f) TXIT Guidance document was developed by NavOps and submitted..
g) We are working with A&M Galveston as well as SCI utilizing what was already developed for TXIT that will be able to be tweaked and effective for other studies.
h) The subcommittee is working on the various Industry Guidelines for CDR. Mostrom.

2) Waterways Utilization Subcommittee and Working Groups - JJ Plunkett

a) Heavy Weather w/g - James Prazak

- National Weather Service attended our last meeting and did a workshop on flood inundation mapping showing flood innovation.
- Next meeting will be in June and will be a pre-hurricane season session.
- Microsoft Forms will be used as the primary tool for collecting information from port communities. There will be two forms: Pre-storm form and Post-storm form. The goal is to streamline communication, reduce the burden of paperwork (e.g., scanning forms), and improve situational awareness and response time.

b) Technology w/g - Mike Warner

- Microsoft Forms will be used as the primary tool for collecting information from port communities. There will be two forms: Pre-storm form and Post-storm form. The goal is to streamline communication, reduce the burden of paperwork (e.g., scanning forms), and improve situational awareness and response time.
- Lynchburg Ferry Project is fully-funded Target completion date is August
- A letter was submitted to Lone Star requesting use of Texas A&M's facility to install a second (redundant) meter at Pelican Island.

c) Facility w/g - John Taylor / Captain Matt Glass
d) Anchorage w/g - Mark Nokelby
e) COC w/g - Jeff Milstein / Denise Schaefer

- The Certificate of Compliance (COC) language is included in the 2025 Coast Guard Authorization Act.
- Still under development regarding inspection program details and how detentions may affect fleets.
- Document envisioned as a 5-year certificate with no interim or cargo limitations.

f) Seafarers - David Clark

- The team is preparing for tomorrow's annual gala, themed "Havana Nights." Attendees are encouraged to be ready for dancing and celebration.
- A recent MSIB (Marine Safety Information Bulletin) addressing Super Access issues has helped resolve challenges at a few more difficult facilities. While most facilities remain easy to access, the update has improved access at the more problematic ones, which is a positive development.

g) Next meeting will be in June and will be a pre-hurricane season session.

3) Dredging & Marine Construction Subcommittee - Jim Elliott

a) Ryan thanked James and WGMA for hosting the Dredging and Construction Subcommittee meeting on February 20at the WGMA office.
b) U.S.A.C.E. update - Andrew Cook

- Review of the report out
- Funding uncertainty remains until mid-May. That will determine FY25 and FY26 contract planning.
- Six letters of support submitted for advanced maintenance proposals.

- Emphasis on collaboration: stakeholders should align their dock needs with scheduled dredging to maximize efficiency.

c) Project 11 update - Leia Wilson/Jose Tapia

- Review of presentation provided
- Dredging expected to finish by end of June 2025.
- Marsh and containment work (placement, shaping, and protection) projected to complete by the end of the year.

4) Maritime Education, Training and Outreach Subcommittee - Adam Reeves

a) Recreational Boater w/g - David Clark

- National Safe Boating Week is coming up. Don't forget to wear your lifejacket to work on Friday the 16th.
- Texas House Bill 4538 was introduced March 12, and it reallocates a portion of vessel registration to help with the derelict boats. So it's going to it's also going to punish the owners who abandon the derelict vessel and make them responsible for paying to remove them.

b) Fishing Vessel w/g - Todd Whitecotton

- No report

5) Freeport Subcommittee - Kody Andrews

a) A small project was completed with the Velasco Drainage District on the western end of Surfside. The drainage system, which flows into the channel, was previously too narrow and causing drainage issues. It was significantly widened (~120 feet wide, 200 feet deep), improving flow-right next to a public park. After the modification (around spring break), strong water surges were observed when ships passed, creating a safety concern, especially for wade fishers using the area.
b) A swift response was coordinated between The City of Surfside Village, Brazoria County, Port of Freeport, Pilots and stakeholders. As a result, Warning signs were posted within a week to alert the public of potential dangers from water surges.
c) Next Meeting is scheduled for July 2 at the Port Admin Building in Freeport.
d) This was highlighted as a positive example of stakeholder collaboration and rapid safety response.

6) GalTex Subcommittee – Darren Shelton

a) Second subcommittee meeting held earlier this week at Port of Galveston's Cruise Terminal 28 (previous meeting was in late February at Texas A&M Galveston).
b) The group initially debated location and ended up in a room commonly used by CBP to process cruise passengers for contraband—not recommended for future visits.
c) Our next gal tech subcommittee will be late summer. TBD on the location, but we're happy that's going so well.

I. Remarks by USCG Sector Houston-Galveston Personnel

1) Waterways Management and ATON - LCDR Alex Mostrom / LTJG Nelson

a) Fleet Week Houston is officially scheduled for November 5–12 (dates updated from earlier posts). The Coast Guard will have three vessels participating. Expect many sailors and maritime-related events to promote and celebrate Houston's maritime community.
b) The Homeport site has been shut down.

2) Vessel Traffic Service - Albert Hernandez/Randy Scott

a) The overall storm communication and support conditions remain largely unchanged. The process includes pre-storm messaging issued ideally 72 hours or more before the storm to prepare stakeholders. Follow-up updates issued at 48, 24 hours, and 12 hours (Zulu time) before the storm.

3) Area Maritime Security Committee - Tyson Muniz/Keiton Moore

a) Cybersecurity - Keiton Moore

4) National Harbor Safety Committee - James Prazak

J. Old Business:
K. New Business:
L. Other Business

M. Roundtable Comments

1) LSHSC Managing Board – General Comments and Discussion
2) Public Attendees

N. Upcoming Schedule: (Check www.LoneStarHSC.org for details & updates)

1) COC working group - TBA
2) Waterway Utilization subcommittee - June 10
3) Dredging & Salvage subcommittee - June 10
4) Freeport subcommittee – Port Freeport - July 2
5) Maritime Education, Training, & Outreach (Virtual) - TBA
6) Navigation Operations subcommittee - June 10
7) Next LSHSC Full Committee – Houston Pilots offices - **8/1/2025**

O. Adjourn –

Lone Star 2025—future meetings 8/1/25, 11/7/25

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