Draft
Harbor Safety Committee of the Humboldt Bay Area
0900 hours September 17, 2026 – Hybrid In-Person Meeting @ Woodley Island Marina Conference Room &
Via ZOOM Video Conference Call

Attendees	
Capt. Leroy Zerlang (Zerlang & Zerlang Brusco Tug)	**Chris Mikkelsen (Humboldt Bay Harbor District)**
Cory Mooers (Humboldt Bay Harbor District)	**Denise Guerra (Humboldt Bay Harbor District)**
Jenny Lewis (City of Eureka Public Marina)	**Deputy Karl Norton (HCSO)**
Jon Victoria (CDFW OSPR)	**Kent Hubert (HASA)**
Jonathan Bishop (Coastal Commission)	**Scott Miller (USCG MSD Sector Humboldt Bay)**
Jake McMaster (Commercial Fishing)	**Gus Bannan (USCG SWD)**
Tyler Felt (Emergency Operations, Trinidad Rancheria)	**Mike Cipra (Humboldt Bay Harbor District)**
Reuben Macaspac (CDFW OSPR)	**Harrison Ibach (Commercial Fishing)**
Ross McDonald (Sause Bros)	**Sergeant Travis Rogers (HCSO)**
Jennifer Kalt (Humboldt Waterkeeper)	**Peter Mull (USACE)**
Ted Hernandez (Wiyot Tribe)	**Jeff Dayton (CDFW)**
Kevin Cliborn (Chevron)	**Andrew Manning (Humboldt Bar Pilots)**
Jason Gosh (Cal Poly Humboldt)	**Jim Haussener (San Francisco Harbor Safety Committee)**

Chair Leroy Zerlang called the meeting to order at 0902 hours.

1. **Welcome / Call to Order**
    a. **Committee and Meeting Attendee Introductions were made. Pledge of Allegiance. Roll Call.**
    b. **Comments by Chairperson:** None
    c. **Swearing-in of Members:** Captain Leroy Zerlang and Captain Nick Preston were sworn in.

2. **Public Comment**: None

3. **Consent Calendar:** Approval of minutes from the January 15, 2026, March 19, 2026, May 28, 2026, and July 16, 2026, meetings. Ross McDonald moved to approve the minutes. Deputy Karl Norton seconded. A voice vote was called. Minutes were approved unanimously.

4. **USCG Reports:**
    a. **USCG Nuisance/Abatement Report:** On August 6th, a notification was received of a commercial fishing vessel approximately 14 nautical miles west of Fort Bragg. Upon investigation, there was a loss of propulsion due to a failed fuel pump.

5. **US Army Corps of Engineers Report:** Peter Mull reported that they are waiting for the return of the Bayport dredge sometime in November. Captain Andrew Manning reported that the North Bay Condition Survey at Buoy number 10 and Light 11 is showing that ¾ to possibly the whole section of the lower half of that channel is not to project depth, which is 38 feet. It is hopeful that the dredge in November will take care of this.

6. **Port/ Harbor/ Marina Reports:**
    a. **Trinidad Harbor:** Tyler Felt reported that on September 2nd, the floating dock broke free. The crew was able to get it repaired the next day. The 3rd annual Ner-Er-Nerh Days event will take place from 11:00-4:00 on September 26.
    b. **City of Eureka Public Marina:** Jenny Lewis reported that they are still on track for dredging in the Spring. There were some minor repairs done to the fuel dock.
    c. **Port of Humboldt Bay / Woodley Island Marina:** Cory Mooers reported that the fire boat is back in the water, but not in service yet. Chris Mikkelsen reported that the Notice of Preparation and Project Description will be re-released for the Humboldt Heavy Lift Marine Terminal as proposed.

7. **OSPR Reports:** The Harbor Safety Committee West Coast Summit is scheduled for September 30, 2026, at the Port of

San Francisco.

a. **Membership Update:** Four members have been reappointed. All other memberships are current.

8. **Member Reports**
   a. **NOAA Report:** None
   b. **Local Law Enforcement Report:** Deputy Karl Norton reported that members of Special Services of the Sheriff's Office and Humboldt Bay Fire participated in training out near King Salmon.
   c. **Coastal Commission Report:** The Coastal Commission renewed their Interagency Agreement with OSPR for continued representation as an agency representative on the Harbor Safety Committee.
   d. **Bar Pilot Report:** Captain Andrew Manning reported that the dredging in the bar entrance looks good. On August 21, the Crystal Symphony was the largest ship to call in Humboldt Bay. Princess Suiha and Ocean Pegasus arrived in early September, and both ships departed with a full load of wood chips.
   e. **Tank Barge Report:** None
   f. **Dry Cargo Report:** None
   g. **Tug Report:** None
   h. **Tribal / Non-Profit Environmental Report:** None
   i. **Commercial Fishing Report**: Harrison Ibach reported that there are a handful of Albacore boats still out fishing. Domoic acid testing will begin shortly in preparation for crab season. It was also reported that squid boats from out of the area have showed up in Fort Bragg, which is where the main spots of squid have been found, and they are delivering here in Eureka.
   j. **Recreational Fishing / Boater Safety Report:** Kent Hulbert reported that there is not a lot of activity due to the high fuel prices.

9. **Subcommittee Reports:** None

10. **Work Group Reports**
    a. **Harbor Safety Plan Update:** Jonathan Bishop reported that the group is working on syncing up the Humboldt Bay Harbor Safety Plan with the plans from the other California Harbor Safety Committees.

11. **Unfinished Business:** None

12. **New Business:** Jason Gosch, Campus Recreation Associate Director at Cal Poly, reported on Cal Poly seeking a Limited Operator of Uninspected Passenger Vessels (OUPV) License to operate their sailing program.

13. **Action Items:** Chris Mikkelsen reported on the Humboldt Harbor Safety Plan and adopting it as submitted with the recommended changes. Jonathan Bishop moved to approve the Plan. Ross McDonald seconded. A voice vote was called. The Plan was approved unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 1010 hours.

The next Harbor Safety meeting is scheduled for November 19, 2026.

Denise Guerra
Port of Humboldt Bay