

South Texas Waterways Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

13:30, 21 October 2021

Meeting was held virtually via ZOOM

A. Call to order/opening remarks by chairman

At 1331 Chairman of STWAC, Xavier Valverde, called the meeting to order. A quorum was reached.

B. Administration

The July 15, 2021 meeting minutes were approved.

C. Coast Guard Remarks

CDR Doug Salik, U.S. Coast Guard Sector/ Air Station Corpus Christi Sector Prevention Department Head, made remarks thanking STWAC for the hard work in reviewing the PAWSA and sound recommendations made to the Captain of the Port. The effort, discussion, and actions help to reduce risk to the port.

D. Presentations

1. CCSC Incidents and STWAC

- The Chairperson shared STWAC accomplishments over his tenure.
- The Chairperson highlighted the importance of Coast Pilot 5 and need for continuous update.
- The Chairperson encouraged members to bring issues to the Steering Group members to be discussed during future meetings.

E. Committee Reports

1. Vessel Movement Committee

- Overall ship movement continued to grow from 2020 levels including an increase of 24 VLCCs, 60 Suez-Max classed vessels, and a doubling of LNGC. The Port saw a decrease in Aframax and Panamax classed vessels.

2. Waterway Optimization/Dredging Committee

- Nothing to Report.

3. WSA Advisory Committee

- Nothing to Report.

4. Marine Firefighting Committee

- Committee met September 9, 2021 and reviewed Shipboard Marine Firefighting Seminar, survey results, circulated an executive summary, received update from Council of Governments on Marine Firefighting Certifications, and the Port hosted the Texas Commission of Fire Protection.
- Implemented the first Marine Fire Tabletop Series.

5. Gangway Safety and Waterway Rescue Ad Hoc Committee

- Nothing to Report.

6. Nominations Ad-Hoc Committee – Mark McGinnis

- Ad-Hoc Committee organized nominations for 6 Industry term positions and the chairperson.

F. Old Business

1. 2021 Brown Water/Blue Water Symposium

- Symposium postponed to 2022 due to COVID concerns.

G. New Business

1. Consideration and action on new memberships

- Brandi Rogers, Hunter Myres, Nick Bassett, Paul Dittman, James Scott, David Clenney, Tom McWhorter, and Trace Holland approved for STWAC membership.

2. Status of PAWSA Mitigation recommendations

- Trim and tug escorts at Ingleside approved at Pilot commission meetings.

3. Consideration and action on STWAC Chairperson nominations and election

- Brandi Rogers and Russel Pickering were nominated for STWAC Chairperson.
- Russel Pickering elected as the STWAC Chairperson.

4. Consideration and action on disestablishment of the Nominations Ad-Hoc Committee

- Nomination Ad-Hoc Committee disestablished.

H. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned by Mr. Valverde.

Meeting Schedule of the Full Committee

January 20, 2022

April 21, 2022

July 21, 2022

October 20, 2022