



HTAC Voting Members Present

Name	Organization	Sector Representing
Ed Anderson (<i>Vice Chair</i>)	MIC Policy Board	Regional
Cameron Bertsch	Douglas County	County
Steve Brossart	US Army Corps of Engineers	Federal
Natalie Chin	WI Sea Grant	State
Kyle Deming	City of Duluth	City
John Downing	MN Sea Grant	State
Marshall Elder	Midwest Energy Resources	Industry - Coal
Cheri Hagen	WI Department of Natural Resources	State
Anna Hess	MN Department of Natural Resources	State
Barb Huberty	MN Pollution Control Agency	State
Joel Johnson		Industry – Recreation
Jason Laumann	Northwest Regional Planning Commission	Regional
LCDR Abbie Lyons (<i>alternate</i>)	US Coast Guard Marine Safety Unit	Federal
Patrick Phenow	MN Department of Transportation	State
Dena Ryan	WI Department of Transportation	State
Jason Serck (<i>Chair</i>)	City of Superior	City
Ted Smith	Marine Tech	Industry – Harbor Engineering
Jeff Stollenwerk	Duluth Seaway Port Authority	Regional

HTAC Voting Members Absent

Name	Organization	Sector Representing
Dan Belden	Western Lake Superior Sanitary District	Regional
Brian Boder	St. Louis County	County
Gary Glass	Izaak Walton League	Citizen Group
Chad Hewitt		Industry – Ore Transport
Lance Hunt (<i>alternate</i>)		Industry – Ore Transport
Pete Kramer	Duluth Cargo Connect	Industry – General Cargo
Jonathon Lamb (<i>alternate</i>)	Duluth Cargo Connect	Industry – General Cargo
Bob Libby		Industry – Vessel Operations
Mike McCoshen	Hallett Dock Company	Industry – General Bulk
Ed Montgomery		Industry – Harbor Services
Dan Rau	Save Lake Superior Association	Citizen Group
Steven Robertson (<i>alternate</i>)	City of Duluth	City
CDR Francis Smith	US Coast Guard Marine Safety Unit	Federal
Vacant	US Fish and Wildlife Service	Federal
Vacant	Natural Resources Conservation Service	Federal
Vacant	St. Louis River Alliance	Citizen Group
Vacant		Industry - Grain



Others Present

Name	Organization	Name	Organization
Hannah Alstead	US Senator Smith	Jim Luke	USACE
Monica Anderson		George Meister	GEI Consultants
Melissa Bosman	USACE	Keiton Moore	US Coast Guard
Ron Chicka	MIC	Marsha Patelke	NRRI
Pat Collins	MN DNR	Madison Rodman	MN Sea Grant
Deb DeLuca	Duluth Seaway Port Authority	Dan Rust	UW-Superior
Eric Dott	Barr Engineering	Ricky Sarran	MIC
Kate Ferguson	Duluth Seaway Port Authority	Chad Scott	AMI Engineers
Ken Gerasimos	Key Lakes/Great Lakes Fleet	Melissa Sjolund	MN DNR
Josh Hachey	USACE	Matt Steiger	WI DNR
Mike Halstad	WisDOT	Lisa Stern	
Karina Heim	Lake Superior NERR	Marie Strum	USACE
Duane Hill	MnDOT	John Stockert	Key Lakes/Great Lakes Fleet
Jayson Hron	Duluth Seaway Port Authority	Mike Wenholz	MIC
Cindy Jarema	USACE	Natalie White	SEH
Seth Johnson	AMI Engineers	Kathleen Williams	US EPA - ORD
Allyz Kramer	SEH	Robert Zappia	US Coast Guard
Kris Liljebblad	City of Duluth	Marie Zhuikov	WI Sea Grant

In addition to the above, there were 10 people who called into the meeting. We do not have the names of those participants.

Introductions / Agenda Review / Committee Business

HTAC Chair Jason Serck called the meeting to order at approximately 9:10 AM. Ron Chicka and Mike Wenholz welcomed everyone to the first ever virtual HTAC quarterly meeting. There was a role call for HTAC voting members. All in attendance introduced themselves virtually.

Chair Serck asked if there were requested changes to the March 4, 2020 Meeting Summary. Hearing no requests, Chair Serck asked for a motion to approve.

- Ed Anderson moved to approve the 3/4/2020 HTAC Meeting Summary. Marshall Elder seconded the motion.
- There was no discussion.
- **The motion to approve carried unanimously.**

Shipping Updates in this COVID-19 Year, Kate Ferguson, Duluth Seaway Port Authority

- See the presentation
- Kate F gave a status of shipping tonnages through the Duluth-Superior harbor in 2020. She made comparisons/contrasts between tonnages in 2019 and 2020, and provided explanations for the



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differences, including those from COVID-19. Coal and iron ore tonnages are down significantly in 2020, while a “other” category was just slightly down. Kate explained how iron ore is rebounding as blast furnaces are restarted, and that due to strong wind mill parts shipments scheduled for the second half of 2020 the “other” category will be an increase over last year. Grain has higher tonnage than 2019 due to agricultural issues in 2019.

- While COVID-19 has delayed the arrival of Great Lakes cruise ships (“cruising”), Kate said Viking Cruises is scheduled to come to Duluth in 2022 with a new luxury vessel.
- Kate announced that Duluth Cargo Connect was named Heavy Lift Port Terminal Operator of the Year - an international award.
- Kate also provided updates on the intermodal terminal, their new office space, and an MRAD grant to repair a significant amount of dock wall and add 56,000 SF of warehouse.

HTAC Bylaws Update, Mike Wenzholz, MIC

- See the presentation
- Mike W gave a brief update reminder of the revisions made to the HTAC Bylaws. Most of the narrative revisions are grammatical or noncontroversial in nature. This includes proposed revisions to the eligible voting member list that are intended to provide 1) better overall representation while maintaining a good balance of harbor interests and 2) better opportunity and flexibility to ensure active HTAC partners can participate as voting members.
- Since a quorum was not present at the March HTAC meeting and the June HTAC meeting was cancelled the HTAC Bylaws Subcommittee finalized the revisions, and the MIC Board approved the revisions in June.

Shipping Channel Dredge Material Placement in 2020 and 2021, Melissa Bosman, USACE

- See the presentation
- Melissa B provided an overview of the importance of the port to the local economy and said the USACE dredges approximately 110,000 cubic yards of materials annually to maintain the federal navigation channels in the Duluth-Superior harbor. She also described the process and schedule for annual maintenance dredging.
- Melissa showed a map displaying all the locations receiving maintenance dredged material used for beneficial reuse.
- Melissa gave details of the two USACE maintenance dredge material placement locations for 2020. One is the north end of Minnesota Point and the other is Interstate Island.
- Minnesota Point will receive approximately 53,000 cubic yards for beach nourishment between August 7 and mid-September.
- Interstate Island will receive approximately 70,000 cubic yards for habitat restoration between mid-September and mid-November.
- No placement locations have been approved for 2021, although discussions are ongoing, and some locations have been proposed.

HTAC Dredging SC vs USACE Dredged Material Management Work Group, Mike Wenzholz (MIC) & Jim Luke (USACE)

- See the presentation



- Jim L described the USACE Dredged Material Management Work Group and its purpose. Mike W described the HTAC Dredging Subcommittee and its purpose.
- Mike and Jim discussed the significant overlap between these two groups and their intention to keep each focused on their purpose. USACE will continue to hold the Work Group meetings approximately monthly or as needed and focused only on determining placement options for USACE maintenance dredged materials. The HTAC Dredging Subcommittee will plan to meet twice per year and include topics other than those of the Work Group. Mike asked people to provide topic ideas as they come up with them and he will organize the Subcommittee meetings.

Paddle Safe Twin Ports Update, Madison Rodman, MN Sea Grant

- See the presentation
- Madison R gave an update of the status of the Paddle Safe Twin Ports initiative. This initiative has been worked on by the Harbor Safety Workgroup (a workgroup of the HTAC Navigation Subcommittee). She reminded everyone that a grant was secured by Minnesota Sea Grant and is being used primarily to fund a graphics and communications professional to incorporate the information and ideas generated during Workgroup meetings over the past year or two into clear paddler safety messaging in general, as well as specifically into a webpage that can be added to other local websites (such as the popular Park Point website), brochures, and possibly other media. The goal is to promote and increase safety and awareness for paddlers and other recreational users in the St. Louis River, Duluth-Superior harbor, and near-shore areas of Lake Superior.
- Madison shared the four signs, a map indicating the 10 locations the signs will be hung, and a graphic of the PaddleSafeTwinPorts.org website and described its contents.

Erie Pier Management Plan Rewrite Update, Jeff Stollenwerk (DSPA) & Mike Wenzholz (MIC)

- Jeff S and Mike W provided a short update on the status of the Erie Pier Management Plan (EPMP) rewrite. Two chapters are drafted and will be reviewed by the EPMP Committee and discussed at a Committee meeting later in September. Jeff and Mike summarized each chapter.
- The goal remains to complete the rewrite either in late 2020 or early 2021.

2020 SLRAOC Updates, Matt Steiger (WI DNR) & Melissa Sjolund (MN DNR)

- See the presentation
- Matt S provided an update of St Louis River Area of Concern (SLRAOC) work in 2020. He provided summaries on Piping Plover habitat creation on Wisconsin Point, sediment characterization work regarding North End sampling, Howards Bay remediation, Kingsbury Bay and Grassy Point habitat restoration, Interstate Island avian habitat restoration, and Azcon Slip remediation.
- Melissa S introduced the new Habitat Restoration Story Map that is part of the SLRAOC website. She described what it is and what information it contains. She shared screen shots of the website to display some content and maps, and to demonstrate how to navigate through the story map.

Roundtable

- Keiton Moore (US Coast Guard) announced the Duluth harbor “Dirty Dirty” security table top exercise on September 16. Contact Keiton if interested in participating.



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- Keiton Moore also mentioned there is going to be a Marine Transportation Safety Work Group meeting in October.
- Matt Steiger (WI DNR) mentioned some updates on local water trails.
- John Downing (MN Sea Grant) said they are planning to open the post for a Maritime Commerce position.
- John Downing also said MN Sea Grant has applied for a special grant to study tour ship/cruising in the area.

With no other items brought forward, Chair Serck adjourned the meeting at approximately 10:50 AM.