



Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council
HARBOR TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING SUMMARY
DECEMBER 7, 2022

HTAC Voting Members Present			
Representative	Organization	Representative	Organization
Ed Anderson	City of Superior/Citizen Rep	Sam Lobby	St Louis River Alliance
Dan Belden	WLSSD	LTJG Joe McGinnis	USCG/Marine Safety Unit
Natalie Chin	Wi Sea Grant	Al Mosol	USACE
Marshall Elder	Midwest Energy Resources	Patrick Phenow	Mn DOT
Ken Gerasimos	Great Lakes Fleet/Key Lakes	Kelsey Prihoda	MN Sea Grant (<i>alternate</i>)
Gary Glass	Izaak Walton League	Dena Ryan/B Pickard	WI DOT – NW Region
Barb Huberty	MPCA	Matt Steiger	WI DNR (<i>alternate</i>)
Joel Johnson	Lakehead Boat Basin, Inc.	Jeff Stollenwerk	Duluth Seaway Port Authority
Brandon Kohlts	WLSSD (<i>alternate</i>)	Lou Weichseldorfer	CN
Shawn Krizaj	City of Duluth Fire Dept		
HTAC Voting Members Absent * Excused			
Representative	Organization	Representative	Organization
Cliff Bentley	MnDNR	Dan Hartman	DECC
Cameron Bertsch*	Douglas County	Jason Laumann	NWRPC
Brian Boder	St Louis Cnty Public Works	Robb McGhie	Perkins Specialized Transp Contract
Steven Brossart*	US Army Corps of Engineers	Ed Montgomery	Sea Service, LLC
Natalie Chin	WI Sea Grant	Nick Patterson	JF Brennan Co, Inc
CMDR Jarrod Dewitz	USCG/Marine Safety Unit Duluth	Jason Reeves	Compass Minerals
John Downing	MN Sea Grant	Steve Robertson	City of Duluth
Matti Erpestad	Recreation-Non-Motorized	Jason Serck	City of Superior
Cherie Hagen	WI DNR		
Others Present			
Representative	Organization	Representative	Organization
Dan Breneman	MPCA	Sean Murphy	USCG MSU Duluth
Ron Chicka	MIC Director	Barb Peterson	MIC Admin Asst
Kate Ferguson	Duluth Seaway Port Authority	John Ramos	Duluth Monitor
Brian Foster	Foster Trucking	Pat Rogers	Lake Superior College
Ben Gates	USCG/MSU	Danial Rust	UWS
Mike Halsted	DOT	Ricky Sarran	MIC
Jayson Hron	Duluth Seaway Port Authority	Ted Smith	Marine Tech
Jim Jones	Foster Trucking	Richard Stewart	Retired/Consultant UWS
Seth Johnson	AMI Consulting	Bob Sullivan	MARAD
Kris Liljeblad	MIC	Maren Webb	MnDOT Dist 1
Joe McGinnis	USCG/MSU	Mike Wenholz	WisDNR
		Marie Zhuikov	WI Sea Grant

* Excused Absence



Introduction

- Chair Ed Anderson asked Barb Peterson to call the attendance roll. Attendance is shown on the first page of this summary. There were about an equal number of attendees in person and online virtually via Teams.
- Sept 7, 2022 Meeting Summary
Motion for Approval: Dena Ryan
Second: Barb Huberty
- Agenda Items:
Kris said that the two presentation items for the day focused on the education of the harbor workforce. The President of Lake Superior College is in attendance to present on a proposed Maritime Center of Excellence and representatives of UWS will present on the effect of reduced ice coverage on Great Lakes shipping.

HTAC Sub-Committee Updates, *Kris Liljeblad (MIC)*

- Navigation Subcommittee, *Joe McGinnis (US Coast Guard)*
Lt. McGinnis was in attendance but did not have a subcommittee report.
- Dredging Subcommittee, *Nick Patterson (JF Brennan)*
Kris reported that the Dredging Subcommittee met on November 30th at the Port Authority office. Two key items are under consideration, dredging disposal sites for the next five years or so and environmental windows. A follow up meeting is being scheduled to precede the next HTAC meeting.

Maritime Center of Excellence Proposal – Patricia Rogers, PhD, President of Lake Superior College

Dr. Rogers indicated that the subject proposal was prepared in conjunction with St. Paul College and Minnesota State Southeast. The only other Center of Excellence in the middle of the country is in Green Bay. There was collaboration with the Port Authority, APEX, Sea Grant, local high schools, and other entities to identify workforce development needs covering the range of stackable credentials from high school through college. They identified all their educational offerings and how they relate to needed certifications and degree programs. They expect to announce soon whether their proposal will be selected for funding, however they intend to move ahead regardless with a focus on the skills required by the maritime industry including skills such as carpentry and welding. Ken Gerasimos commented that we tend to lose track of people below the captain at the top, but the Port is light on able-bodied seamen and efforts to train more people are needed.

Model Analysis of the Effect of Reduced Ice Coverage on Great Lakes Maritime Transportation

– Daniel Rust, PhD and Richard Stewart, PhD University of Wisconsin Superior presented results of modeling analysis completed with funding from Wisconsin Sea Grant.

The presenters explained that the modeling analysis were completed in Summer 2022 to assess potential effects of warmer temperatures in our region on the Great Lakes shipping industry. The reduced ice coverage and a second Poe-sized lock which were assumed could enable an extended shipping season. Modeling was conducted for representative vessels and cargoes which showed an extended season would require more mariners, fewer vessels, and changes in



maintenance and repair crewing. While this could reduce the cost of shipping, it would reduce buffer stock and related costs, and revenue to ports.

Roundtable

- Barb Huberty reported that 63.8% of actions were completed in the harbor in 2022 with more going on into the new year, focused on Erie Pier, Cross City Trail, Spirit Lake, and Munger Landing. They finished the in-water work at Perch Lake and will be installing culverts there next year to wrap up. Dates are set for March 8-11 in 2023.
- Mike Halsted indicated that the Harbors Advisory Council had made a Harbor Management Award.
- Sean Krijaz announced that the City of Duluth had received a grant to upgrade their fire supply code to 5" with St. Louis County. While their boats are out of the water now, they will be coordinating with the newly elected Sheriff in coming weeks. There will be cruise ships in the port next year and they will be docking instead of anchoring offshore.

Adjourn

- Chair Anderson adjourned the meeting at 11:45 am.