

# MOBILE MARITIME COMMITTEE

## MEETING MINUTES

**Date:** April 11, 2001; 1000-1130      **Location:** International Trade Center, Killian Room

**Chair:** Jeff Mynatt (Strachan Shipping)      **Vice-Chair:** CAPT Dave Carey (Harbormaster)

### AGENDA:

Old Business	Navigation Subcommittee Report
Port Safety Issues	Theodore Subcommittee Report
Mobile Fire & Rescue Brief	
Waterfront Projects Presentation (Thompson Engineering)	

**WATERFRONT PROJECTS PRESENTATION:** Representatives from Thompson Engineering provided an overview of their ongoing projects in the Port of Mobile and Theodore. Major projects included:

- Mobile Landing (future maritime center & passenger ferry landing) on Mobile River between Cooper Riverside Park and the fire station.
- COFLEXIP pipe manufacturing facility on the north side of Theodore Industrial Canal
- BREDERO pipe coating facility on the south side of Theodore Industrial Canal
- Middle Bay Lighthouse repair pro-bono work

Other projects included work at:

- |                                       |                         |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| - Austal                              | - Atlantic Marine       |
| - Tuscaloosa Steel DRI                | - Alabama Bulk Terminal |
| - McDuffie Coal Terminal              | - ChipCo                |
| - Alabama State Docks/Port of Alabama | - Coastal Fuels         |
| - Bender Shipbuilding                 |                         |

**Old Business:** The letter to NOAA to conduct a hydrographic survey & not show the fish haven marked on chart 11376 at Latitude 30° 7.5' N, Longitude 088° 8.0' W on the new edition chart was jointly signed by Captain Kichner, Captain Mareno, Captain Carey, and Jeff Mynatt, and sent to NOAA, Office of Coast Survey in Silver Spring, MD for action.

**Port Safety:** The Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) removed an old submerged dredge pipeline from the northeast slope of the Theodore Turning Basin on 7-8 April 2001. The pipeline removed was 500 feet long with a 36 inch diameter. ACOE was not present at this meeting, however, these were the particulars given to MSO Mobile by ACOE.

With more facilities, businesses, and vessel traffic coming to Theodore, the Mobile Bar Pilots, Harbormaster, and other waterway users are requesting the possibility of a lighted navigation aid in the vicinity of the northeast corner of the Turning Basin. MMC members that participated in the recent WAMS study indicated that this was not brought up when the workgroup met, but conceded that it is certainly an issue that should be in the WAMS report.

**Port Safety continued:** Concerning reported depths at terminal berths, dock managers need to be very attentive to the available depths they are reporting. On several occasions, loaded vessels have been touching the bottom or have been “grounded” at the berth.

Captain Carey announced that vessels are not to shift on the River Berths without a Harbor Pilot, especially during high water periods. Vessels at river berths that cannot stay alongside due to river current need to make arrangements for tug assistance to hold them. Call Captain Carey with any concerns.

As Atlantic Marine receives more mobile drill rigs for repairs, deep draft traffic delays (up to 10 hours) will occur.

**LST-325 Task Force:** Captain Pierce is looking for participation on the task force from anyone interested in providing assistance. The task force is trying to make Mobile the official homeport. Industries are hesitant to provide donations until it is definitely known that the LST-325 will stay in Mobile. Another issue is determining a permanent place to moor. Current suggestions include south of the fire station or next to the USS ALABAMA on the Mobile River. For the LST Convention in September 2001, the plan is to moor the LST-325 at Cooper Riverside Park. The LST-325 currently drafts 11’3”.

**Mobile Fire & Rescue Brief:** Chief Dean addressed the committee to consider what the impact on marine fire fighting capabilities in the Port of Mobile would be if Station No. 2 and the fireboat on the Mobile River was removed. Currently, there are no savings on fire insurance premiums to businesses in the port because of the presence of the fire station and fire boat. Chief Dean asked if waterfront facilities even include the fireboat in any fire fighting plans. All committee members are asked to provide any information to Chief Dean concerning support for the fire station and fire boat, which interestingly enough, is 3 years older than the LST-325.

A comment was made that it is “better to have it and not need it, then to need it and not have it.”

No formal Subcommittee reports.

The next meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday** (not Wednesday this time), **June 12, 2001 from 1030 to 1200** in the Killian Room at the International Trade Center.

This meeting was adjourned at 1130. The meeting minutes, as well as other information, are also posted on MSO Mobile’s web site at [www.uscg.mil/d8/mso/mobile](http://www.uscg.mil/d8/mso/mobile).

Thank you for your participation. Any questions or concerns can be addressed to Jeff Mynatt at (334) 433-5401 or Capt Carey at (334) 441-7250.

For Coast Guard issues please contact Marine Safety Office Mobile at (334) 441-5121.