

## **September 11, 2018 IRCA Meeting Minutes**

Meeting was held at the Par-A-Dice Hotel in East Peoria, IL

Opening Remarks – Treasurer Darren Melvin called the meeting to order and welcomed all friends and members. A brief safety presentation was discussed in case of an emergency.

Introduction of Attendees

### **Captains Committee Report – Steve Douglas (Marquette Transportation)**

- The group was updated on some bridge closures for demolition and maintenance work being performed.
- An update was provided on the Shoaling around mile 87.2 on the Illinois River and Steve wanted to urge mariners to continue to communicate any issues.
- Steve asked the group to report any grounding to the USCG as required but then also send an email to either the IRCA Captain Committee Chair or to Mark Burton with USACE so the areas could be tracked and added to the dredge priority list as needed.
- The dredge priority list was recently updated with information provided by the membership. Please continue to communicate any issues.

**Chuck Shea – USACE Chicago**, Chuck updated the group on routine maintenance work being performed at the Fish Barriers in Romeoville.

Chuck provided information regarding the upcoming fish barrier work to replace the electrodes at the Demonstration Barrier and Barrier 2B. The work on the demonstration barrier is scheduled to start in Mid to Late November and finish up in December. They are planning to have ten (10) hour closures five days per week until the work is completed. The membership requested that mid-day openings be provided during the work to prevent vessel delays and backups at Lockport Lock. Chuck said he would pass the request up the chain of command. Work on Barrier 2B would take place in January/February timeline and possibly finish up in March. The work would involve raising the electrodes approx. 7 feet from the canal floor. This would still allow ~20 feet of water above the electrodes and as much as 14 feet during heavy draw downs. The plans were currently awaiting IDNR approval but they are expecting the timeline to remain on schedule. Again, the membership asked for mid-day openings during any work.

**CDR Zeita Merchant – USCG Chicago**, CDR Merchant discussed some AOR concerns with the group and also discussed the dredge work taking place near mile 215.0. She stated that they are working closely with the USACE regarding the upcoming Fish

Barrier work and she has heard our concerns about mid-day openings. CDR Merchant also notified the group that her AOR has issued their first Subchapter M Certificate of Inspection.

**LT John Ramos – USCG Chicago**, Lt Ramos updated the group on a couple of items. There will be a safety zone in place on September 29<sup>th</sup> at mile 263.5 (Morris Riverfront) between 7:25 and 8:30pm for a fireworks display. He also indicated they have been in contact with Illinois Department of Transportation regarding the mooring cell at mile 286 (I-80 in Joliet). IDOT is currently working on a plan and funding to remove and replace the cell that is laying on its side. Please urge mariners to use caution in the area and notify the USCG if the buoys marking the cell are missing.

**Matt Avery – USCG – Sangamon**, Matt updated the group on the status and future runs for the buoy tenders. He also informed the group that one buoy was added at the top of Marseilles Canal this Spring. Matt also pointed out that the tenders typically run up to Brandon Road Lock and turn around and may only go up to Lockport area once or twice a year but they would always make the run if they knew there was an issue. Please let him know if you have any issues from Joliet up.

**LCDR Kody Stitz – USCG Sector Upper**, LCDR Stitz introduced himself to the group and talked briefly about the transition into the Sub-M inspection regime. He indicated there has been some confusion but things are getting better and he expects them to continue to improve time. He mentioned a partnering meeting with USCG that should help to improve communications especially with the grounding discussed earlier. Kody also notified the group of a Sub-M meeting to be held on October 30<sup>th</sup> at Mel-Price Lock between 8:00am and 11:00am.

**Alan Guedesse – USCG Peoria**, Alan provided an update on the Pekin RR bridge situation. The shear fencing is now missing about two thirds of the overall length. He urged mariners to use caution in the area.

**Alex Grieves and Alice Grady, Spirit of Peoria** – Alex and Alice introduced themselves and gave a brief overview of their passenger boat operation. They were in attendance primarily to hear about the Illinois River Consolidated Lock Closures scheduled for 2019 thru 2023.

**Mike Walsh - USACE** – Mike gave the group a brief update on the status of the wickets at Peoria and LaGrange as well as the status of the maintenance crews. He then went into discussion about the Consolidated Closures. He indicated that the 2019 closures are confirmed with funding provided. They are looking at 120 days of restrictions (June thru Sept) at both Marseilles and Starved Rock with a 70 foot width restriction and daytime closures. There will also be a full 15 day closure during the restriction period. The closures in 2020 will be confirmed at some point in 2019 at which point the dates will also be confirmed.

**Chris Reger - USACE** – Chris updated the group on the status of dredge locations and also provided the 2018 dredge status update (attached).

**Aimee Andres – IRPT** – Aimee gave a brief update on the Inland Rivers, Ports, and Terminals activities and then reminded member companies about reporting the tonnage data to the USACE as required. She informed the group that tonnage volume is important when it comes to funding and we need to make sure everything is being reported. Ms. Andres also let the group know that the IRPT-Illinois River Basin meeting would be held immediately following the IRCA meeting and everyone was welcome to stay and participate.

**Members Discussion**

Mr. Melvin notified the group that the new IRCA website was under development and he was hoping to have it up and running by the November meeting.

Mr. Melvin reminded the group that there is currently a vacant board seat and any member company interested in having representation on the board should contact one of the current board members. The current board members are listed below:

Michael Blaske	Illinois Marine Towing	President
Jamie Long	Middle River Marine	Vice-President
Ronald Novak	ACL	Secretary
Darren Melvin	Hanson Material Service	Treasurer
Stephen Douglas	Marquette	Captain Committee Chair
Robert Todd Hudson	Leahy-Wolf	Director at Large
Vacant		Director at Large

Attendees: 32 total

Attachments:

Rock Island District – 2018 Dredge Schedule IWW

**ROCK ISLAND DISTRICT (MVR) - CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
2018 Dredging Schedule by Equipment - Illinois Waterway**

**6-Sep-18**

Pool	Dredge Cut Name	River Mile	Dredging Dates Start	Dredging Dates End	Depth & Est. Quantity	Equip.	Placement Site	Placement Type	Dredging Notice #	Job Order #	Cat <sup>v</sup>
LaGrange	Briggs Landing	83.6-84.0	deferred		39,621	CH	88.5 R	Bankline			R
LaGrange	Beardstown *	86.9-87.2	8/13/18		40,000	GM	88.5 R	Bankline			E
LaGrange	Anderson Lake Light	108.8-109.4	deferred		33,000	CH	108.5-111.0 R	Bankline			R
LaGrange	Grand Island Upper	113.1-113.5			14,000	GM	112.5-113.2R	Bankline			I
LaGrange	Grand Island Upper	113.0-114.0	deferred		82,520	CH	112.5-113.2 R	Bankline			R
LaGrange	Devils Upper	116.9-117.2	deferred		54,435	CH	115.3-117.5 L	Bankline			R
LaGrange	Havana upper/Quiver Island	120.5-121.3	deferred		64,000	CH	120.2-121.5 R	Bankline			R
LaGrange	Kingston Mines	146.3-146.9	Projected start date 9-10		37,288	CH	145.6 R	Bankline			R/I
LaGrange	Mackinaw River	147.6-147.9	Projected start date 9-13		17,259	CH	146.8-148.0 L	Bankline			R
LaGrange	Pekin Bend (wiggles)	150.4-150.8	deferred		60,000	CH	150.0-151.0 R	Bankline/Upland			R
LaGrange	Lick Creek	155.4-156.4	deferred		60,000	CH	154.8-155.4 L	Bankline			R
Peoria	Wesley Bend	159.0-159.6	undetermined		60,000	GM	164.2	None			R
Peoria	Blue Creek	172.5-173.3	undetermined		80,001	GM		None			R
Peoria	Hennepin Power	212.4-212.9	deferred		15,000	GM	214.7-215.8 R	Bankline			R
Peoria	Spring Valley upper/Huse Slough	219.2-220.3	deferred		30,000	CH	219.1-220.8 R	Bankline			R
Peoria	Clark Island upper	216.7-217.5	Projected start date 9-19		84,000	CH	216.4-217.3 R	Bankline			R/I
Peoria	Clark Island upper***	217.0-217.3	8/4/18	8/9/18	4,969	GM	217.5 R	Bankline			E
Peoria	Starved Rock Lower	230.3-230.9	Suspended for High water		17,000	GM	228.0 R	Upland			R
Starved Rk	Bulls Island Lower	240.1-240.7			25,000	GM	241.6 R	Bankline			R
Starved Rk	Bulls Island Upper **	241.5-241.6	6/13/18	7/12/18	10,926	GM	241.7 R	Upland			R
Starved Rk	Marselles Lower	244.2-244.3			6,000	GM	241.7 R	Bankline or Upland			R
Marselles	Dresden Lower **	271.0-271.3	5/7/18	6/8/18	8,415	GM	270.6 R	Bankline or Upland			R

\* Currently operating at this job. \*\* Dredging completed \*\*\* Dredging suspended. *Bankline placement requires OSIT approval. Marselles Pool requires additional*

USACE Rock Island Priorities Sept 2018

	Hydraulic Dredging	cubic yards estimate		Mechanical	cubic yards estimate
1	Kingston Mines	37,288		Beardstown	30,000
2	Mackinaw	17,259		Grand Island	17,000
3	SV Lower (Clark Island)	61064		Starved Rock Lower	20,000
4	Grand Island Head	82,520			
5	Devil's Elbow	54435			
6	Briggs Landing	39115			
7	Anderson Lake	32403			
8	Quiver Island	40227			
9	Huse Slough	49176			