USPS Board of Directors
Lake Buena Vista, Fla.
1 Feb. 2011

Called to order at 0810

Attendees:

C/C Frank Dvorak, SN
V/C John T. Alter, SN
V/C Robert J. Sweet, SN
V/C Robert A. Baldridge, SN
V/C Richard M. Peoples, SN
P/C/C Creighton C. Maynard Jr., SN

Guests present:

R/C Jean L. Hamilton, SN
Mary Catherine Berube
Tom Kemp
Ray Tsuneyoshi

Action items approved:

Ratification of electronic votes:

Upon motion to ratify the electronic votes on matters shown below made on 1 Feb. 2011, which was thereafter seconded, discussed and voted upon by the Board of Directors, United States Power Squadrons, each was approved and ratified.

1) To award 2011 USPS honorary memberships to the following:

Mal Blann         Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons
Virgil Chambers  National Safe Boating Council
Ken Forster      National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Jim Graybeal     National Association of State Boating Law Administrators
Jeff Hoedt       United States Coast Guard
John Malatak     USCG
Dusty McCoy      Brunswick Corp.
Fred Messmann    NSBC
Capt. Mark Rizzo USCG
Jim Vass         United States Coast Guard Auxiliary
Wayne Weeks      National Weather Service
Ruth Wood        BoatU.S.
2. To award the USPS Ship’s Bell to Barry and Lita Smith-Mines, publisher and editor, *Boating Times Long Island*, for publishing articles promoting USPS and District 3.

**Motions:**

Upon motions to approve, which motions were seconded, discussed and voted upon by the Board of Directors, United States Power Squadrons, each of the following was approved:

1) A motion to update the USPS corporate resolution authorizing specific individuals to execute financial transactions on behalf of USPS, effective at 4 p.m. 5 Feb 2011.

2) A motion to retroactively approve removing the restriction that events nominated for the USPS Safety Award to not have to occur in U.S. waters.

3) A motion authorizing the national educational officer to determine case by case whether boating course material is approved by USPS.

4) A motion to present a special chief commander’s award to Charles Kendall, SN, Old Colony/12, in recognition of his 50 years of service to USPS.

5) A motion to approve provisional squadron status for Hawaii Provisional Squadron.

**Discussions:**

1) Mary Catherine Berube reported that SueLee Waller was promoted from the USPS headquarters accounting department to headquarters outreach coordinator.

2) Berube reported title changes for The Ensign staff that more accurately reflect their responsibilities. Yvonne Hill is the publications director, and Kelly Anderson is the senior editor.

3) Berube reported that she would work with the Educational Department to move the ABC3 website to a new server host.

4) Berube reported that Carlin Hertz, USCG Non-Profit Grants Coordinator, made a site visit to USPS Headquarters on 26 Jan. 2011. Mr. Hertz stated that the USCG Office of Boating Safety is developing a grant training program for nonprofits.

5) Tom Kemp reported that Ship’s Store year-to-date sales totaled $9,100. He anticipated approximately $22,500 in Ship’s Store sales during the 2011 Annual Meeting. Total Ship’s Store inventory on hand was $61,667.
6) Kemp reported that a group from Brazil is interested in purchasing ABC3 materials. He is acquiring a quote on translating the materials into Portuguese.

7) Kemp discussed creating an official USPS’ 100th anniversary logo. V/C Baldridge proposed designating the year 2014 “The Year of The Ensign.” The idea is to encourage all members to display the ensign. He will contact the Flag and Etiquette Committee to design a 100th anniversary ensign.

8) Kemp reported purchasing a third BullEx Fire Extinguisher system due to the demand from districts and squadrons for the units. One system will be maintained on the West Coast to hold down shipping costs.

9) Kemp updated the Board of Directors on the Wake Technical Community College program. Raleigh Sail and Power Squadron is scheduled to teach Engine Maintenance and Advanced Piloting in the Spring 2011 course curriculum.

10) Kemp reported that the first Brunswick/USPS display was shipped to a Marine Max dealer in Conn.

11) Kemp shared a draft copy of a new member benefits flyer.

12) Ray Tsuneyoshi reported on his attendance at the National Boating Safety Advisory Council meeting on 14 – 16 Jan. 2011, in Orlando, Fla. He reported that the council discussed propeller injuries and noted that the largest percentage of injuries reported were on houseboats. The council also discussed proposing mandatory lifejacket wear on open boats (including sail- and powerboats) less than 18 feet, paddle craft and personal watercraft. He noted that the council supports hands-on training.

13) C/C Frank A. Dvorak, SN, reported that NASBLA would present an award to Dusty McCoy, CEO, Brunswick, Corp., during the 2011 Annual Meeting, in recognition of Brunswick Corporation’s efforts toward promoting boating safety.

14) C/C Dvorak reported that he, V/C Alter and V/C Sweet met with top leadership of the USCG Auxiliary to discuss areas of potential collaboration. The chief stated that the Auxiliary is interested in the USPS On-the-Water Training Program and is considering purchasing USPS courses and seminars.

15) C/C Dvorak reported that he would request feedback from members attending 2011 District Spring Conferences on (1) mandatory lifejacket wear for boats under 18 feet, and (2) federally mandated education to replace the individual state mandates. Tom Kemp and Ray Tsuneyoshi will develop an online questionnaire to send to all members with a valid e-mail address.
16) V/C John T. Alter, SN, reported that the Government and Partner Relations Committee is following legislation on E-10 and E-15 ethanol for recreational marine use, water runoff related to washing boats, and a mandate that would require EPIRBS on boats traveling offshore more than three miles.

17) V/C Alter reported interest in developing new squadrons in Eureka, Calif., Joplin, Mo., and Oswego, N.Y.

18) V/C Alter reported that the Cooperative Charting Committee is considering reinstating the national geodetic marker program where USPS will track the credits and maintain the database.

19) The BOD discussed squadrons teaching non-USPS courses to the public. V/C Sweet and V/C Alter will discuss current bylaws requirements during the district commander and district executive officers meeting.

20) V/C Sweet reported that the WaterSmart from the Start and Small Boat Safety Skills grants are complete.

21) V/C Sweet reported that the BOC Committee will conduct an On-the-Water Training Seminar in Tybee Light, Ga., in March 2011 and one additional student data training seminar, which will complete the second year of the On-the-Water Training Grant.

22) V/C Sweet reported that USPS submitted five grant proposals to the USCG in 2011: Practical On-the-Water Training Rollout - $700,394 over three years; Template for On-the-Water Training - $67,745; Safety Equipment Checklist - $94,671; Partnering for Safe Boating -$128,585, and Advanced Risk Analysis Consortium - $143,878 over two years.

23) V/C Sweet reported that he would request two grants from the Educational Fund, the first to upgrade software for online courses, and the second to investigate course management systems.

24) V/C Sweet reported that he presented a Marine Radar Seminar during the 2011 Trawler Fest in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., which was sponsored by PassageMaker. He reported that PassageMaker announced a partnership with USPS where USPS members will teach Piloting and Seamanship during Trawler Fest events.

25) V/C Sweet reported that squadrons can now post advanced courses as well as seminars and boating classes via the online HQ800 course reporting system.

26) V/C Robert M. Baldridge, SN, reported the Very Important Member pins will be mailed to squadron commanders following the 2011 Annual Meeting. The percentage will be based on 80 percent of new members gained in 2010.

27) V/C Baldridge reported that the Membership Committee is suggesting a goal of 1 percent membership growth in 2011.
28) V/C Baldridge reported that the Affinity marketing program offers 11 member benefits, which brings the total number of member benefits to 20. More than 1,000 members have signed up for the Sears and long-term care products to date.

29) V/C Baldridge reported that the first District Executive Officer training program will be held during the 2011 Annual Meeting. To date, 360 members completed the District Administrative Officer training program, of which 53 percent were currently district or squadron administrative officers.

30) V/C Baldridge reported that current membership statistics show 1,048 less members than one year ago. He said that to break even with 31 May 2010 statistics, USPS must have a net growth of 1,615 members by 31 May 2011.

31) The BOD discussed offering six months trial membership to veterans transitioning from military to civilian life. V/C Baldridge will ask the Membership Committee to study the concept.

32) V/C Baldridge discussed a proposal from the Membership Committee for fundraising ideas to offset expenses for members representing USPS at the 2013 Scout Jamboree.

33) R/C Jean L. Hamilton, SN, reported that 8,797 merit marks were distributed electronically in 2010, at a savings of approximately $10,000.

34) R/C Hamilton reported that on 15 Jan. 2011 all USPS members with a valid e-mail were automatically enrolled on SailAngle.com, with an opt-out feature. Of the 17,577 members who were enrolled, 109 have chosen to opt out to date.

35) R/C Hamilton reported that the IT Committee is working to integrate the HQ800 and membership systems.

36) R/C Hamilton reported that her goals include: 1) hiring a professional firm to design the USPS website; 2) moving some IT responsibilities from the volunteer side to professional staff, and 3) developing tools to help squadron secretaries.

37) V/C Dick Peoples, SN, reported that the 2010 audited financial was not complete. He noted that unaudited figures show that revenue was $139,800 less than budgeted, while expenses were $296,263 below budget.

38) V/C Peoples reported that effective 1 Jan. 2011 Cyber member renewal dues are $72 for a single member and $108 for a family unit.

39) V/C Peoples reiterated the importance of districts and squadrons filing an annual electronic notice, IRS Form 990-N, or risk losing tax-exempt status. He noted that one squadron has been contacted by the IRS for non-compliance and is at risk of losing its tax-exempt status and being assessed penalties.
40) V/C Peoples reported that the national law officer is reviewing a trust agreement where Sarasota Power Squadron is the recipient of a significant donation. It was noted that the BOD must approve all donations to districts or squadrons of $10,000 or more.

41) V/C Peoples reported that there are currently 2,945 life members and that it costs USPS $30 per life member each year. He stated that it may be necessary in the future to consider charging life members a maintenance fee.

42) P/C/C Creighton C. Maynard Jr., SN, reported on his attendance at the United Safe Boating Institute meeting on 21 Jan. 2011. The committee discussed the Vessel Safety Data collection grant, which was awarded to USBI by the USCG in 2010. The purpose of the grant is to consider the following questions: 1) is there a need for boating safety education as might be indicated by data collection in various areas of the country, areas of interest and coastal and inland waterways, 2) what would the pilot program show as a correlation between pass and fail in captured VSC inspection data and reported injuries and deaths, and 3) how and who would collect the data via VSC submissions?

Adjourned 1410.