

MEETING MINUTES

STATE OF WASHINGTON ~ BOARD OF PILOTAGE COMMISSIONERS

May 3, 2012

Present:

Vice Chairman: Norm Davis

Commissioners: Ned Kiley, Elsie Hulsizer, Pat Hannigan, Don Mayer, Phil Morrell, Grant Stewart

Administration: Shawna Erickson, Peggy Larson

Captain Andy Coe and Mr. Walt Tabler: Puget Sound Pilots

Mike Moore, Jordan Royer: Pacific Merchant Shipping Association

Gary Nelson: Port of Grays Harbor (*by telephone until noon*)

Julie Blanchfield, Matt Denning: USCG Sector Puget Sound

Del Kelly: Retired Puget Sound Pilot

Steve Kimmel: Foss Maritime

Loren Lee, Severin Knutsen, Aaron Nystrom, Scott Coleman, E.A. Furst, Chad Clapp: Public

REGULAR MEETING

The regular meeting of the Board of Pilotage Commissioners was convened at 9:35 a.m. by Vice Chairman Norm Davis in the Alki Conference Room at 2901 Third Avenue, Seattle, Washington.

Minutes. The March 27, 2012 Minutes stand approved as written with one correction to the Puget Sound Pilotage District Activity Report.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion and Resolution Concerning Setting the Number of Pilots in the Puget Sound Pilotage District as provided in WAC 363-116-065. The number of pilots in the PSPD is 52, set by the Board on September 30, 2010. Currently there are 52 active licenses. PSP proposes raising the number to 53 and PMSA is cautiously assessing current trends and feels that later in the summer will be more telling. There is one mandatory retirement in July and there is one trainee very close to completing his training program who will be considered for licensure in June. Discussion today, again covered various issues like vessel traffic history and projections, work load, fatigue management, retirement projections, bridge time, compensatory time, reduced job time for second pilots, efficiency of dispatch, time lost to illness, and the progression of pilot trainees. Letters and statistical data from both PSP and PMSA detailed their positions regarding these matters. Lacking the urgency to move forward, this item will remain on the next meeting agenda.

Consideration of Adoption of Board "Information Bulletin 12-01". Motion: Hulsizer/X - adopt the Information Bulletin 12-01 as drafted – Failed for lack of a second. This will carry over to the next meeting agenda.

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of Pilot License Upgrade Program for Captain Edmund Marmol. Captain Marmol is nearing completion of his fifth limited license year. Motion: Hannigan/Kiley - approve the license upgrade program for Captain Marmol as presented - Carried.

Proposed Rule-Making: CR-101 WAC 363-116-360 Exempt Vessels. The public comment period is presently open for receiving suggested modifications to this rule beyond making the necessary legislative amendment to increase the tonnage limitation from 500 gross tons to 750 gross tons. This change will go into effect on June 7, 2012. It was suggested by Commissioner Hulsizer that smaller vessels, under 50 feet, be charged a lower fee. Other comments are encouraged in order to develop draft language for filing with the CR-102 in preparation for a public hearing.

Consideration of Requests for Vessel Exemption:

Motor Yacht LEGACY – 164', 492 gross tons, Cayman Islands registry, Captain Kerry Piesch.

Motion: Hulsizer/Hannigan – concur with Chair's granting of a one-year exemption renewal – Carried.

Motor Yacht ISLANDER – 85', 155 gross tons, Cayman Islands registry, Captain Eric Puijman.

Motion: Hulsizer/Hannigan – grant a one-year exemption renewal – Carried.

Motor Yacht *EVVIVA* – 164’, 492 gross tons, Cayman Islands registry, Capts Joe Trailer, Nick Bengé.
Motion: Hulsizer/Hannigan – grant a one-year exemption renewal – Carried.

Motor Yacht *SIN OR SWIM* – 116’, 248 gross tons, St. Vincent registry, Capt Stephanus Du Plessis.
Motion: Hulsizer/Hannigan – concur with Chair’s granting of a one-year exemption – Carried.

Pilot’s Report of Incident: PS Pilot Jim Kearns – *TUG LEGEND*, 4-9-12

Departing Dakota Shipyard in Anacortes	Portside bow of vessel lightly touched a piling while backing out of the slip. No damage to vessel or piling.	<u>Motion:</u> Morrell/Kiley File as correspondence - Carried.
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Pilot’s Report of Incident: PS Pilot Dave Sanders – *MT ENERGY CENTURY*, 4-9-12

Southbound in Rosario Straits off Davidson Rock	While letting go the tug from the centerline bit on the stern of the load tanker, the line parted and the chock detached from the deck. Steve Kimmel, Foss Maritime gave a detailed description of the event. It appeared the chock tension was rated incorrectly. Damage, but no injuries.	<u>Motion:</u> Kiley/Morrell File as an Incident with damage and no pilot error- Carried.
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Pilot’s Report of Marine Safety Occurrence: *HOEGH TRITON*, 3-24-12

Blair Turning Basin, Tacoma	Engine failure due to a starting air distributor valve malfunction resulted in taking the vessel back to the dock for repairs. COPT put a hold on the vessel.	Navigational Safety Concern	<u>Motion:</u> Mayer/Hulsizer File as a Marine Safety Occurrence – Carried.
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Pilot’s Report of Marine Safety Occurrence: *ASIAN KING*, 4-9-12

Between Robinson Pt and Dash Pt, Tacoma	A sticking fuel valve necessitated an engine shut-down. Problem was fixed and vessel proceeded to Port Angeles.	Navigational Safety Concern	<u>Motion:</u> Mayer/Kiley File as a Marine Safety Occurrence – Carried.
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Committee Reports.

Trainee Evaluation Committee:

- Pilot trainee orientation was held on April 30 for Captains Coryell and Brouillard who begin training on May 1. The trainee waiting list from the 2008 pilot exam is now exhausted.
- The TEC met on May 1.
- Captains Anthony, Engstrom, Carley and Lowery were invited to attend this TEC meeting to review each of their programs individually and then exchange feedback collectively.
- Captain Ninburg’s request for clarification regarding exam qualifying criteria was addressed by the TEC and reported back to the Board.
- Pilot aspirant Aaron Nystrom, in attendance today, addressed the Board with similar questions regarding exam qualifying criteria.

Pilot Exam Committee: The Exam Committee has met and declared an Apparent Successful Contractor as well as completed negotiations on a contract with that ASC. Details of the contract need to be discussed with the Board in a closed session before announcing the ASC and approving a contract.

Activity Reports. Gary Nelson, representing Port of Grays Harbor, reported that for the month of April there were 7 ship arrivals for 16 jobs; YTD through April there were 27 arrivals for 61 jobs; the forecast for the year is 90 arrivals instead of the budgeted 116; Captain Cooke is on duty in May; Captain D’Angelo is scheduled to attend a simulator training class in October near New Orleans; and there is a Harbor Safety Committee meeting scheduled for next week.

Captain Andy Coe, representing Puget Sound Pilots, reported there were (unofficially) 605 assignments in April for a YTD total of 2401 compared to 2358 in 2011 – this is a 1.8% increase; 29 comp days were accrued and 35 used during April - decreasing the total by 16 to 3,104; 4 pilots were in training this month in Port Revel and 6 others in Florida; and a sheet of various current news snippets was provided.

Captain Mike Moore, representing Pacific Merchant Shipping Association, reported that YTD through April vessel arrivals are up by 11 – bulk/container vessels down 7, car carriers up 24, tankers & ATB’s down 6. Status of state legislation, new sports arena location, changes related to the grand alliance moving to Tacoma, port competitiveness and waterway capacity were among several items presented. Several news articles were handed out.

Correspondence Review. Dr. Jonathan Gamson has been approved and added to the list of Board-designated physicians. He practices in Mount Vernon and his appointment is responsive to those pilots living in the north end of the district who requested this addition.

BPC Staff Report. A Q&A session regarding the PSP 2011 Audited Financial Statement will be set for a Board meeting in late summer/early fall. In accordance with a recent state legislative mandate, the Board's biennial budget was cut by 4% effective immediately. Shawna has prepared and distributed the monthly piloting activity reports for March – April data is not yet available.

Commissioner Comments. At his request, Commissioner Hannigan was given consensus approval to write a paper for distribution/posting regarding the aspects and expectations of a simulator evaluation exercise. It was felt that it would have value for the exam applicants as well as the Board.

Confirmation of Next Regular Meeting Dates. The next regular meeting scheduled for Thursday, June 14, 2012 is rescheduled to June 21, at 9:30 a.m. The meeting will be held in the Alki Conference Room, 5th floor, 2901 3rd Avenue, Seattle.

Review of Pilot/Trainee Physical Examination Reports. Motion: Hulsizer/Hannigan - accept the physicians' reports for Captains V.O. Engstrom, B.S. Knowles, P.M. Hannigan, J.E. Kalvoy, F.A. Coe, R.F. McCurdy and S.E. Mork for annual pilot license renewal and affirm Chairman Dudley's review and acceptance of Captain T.D. Coryell's exam on 4-17-12 for initial training licensure - Carried.

A CLOSED SESSION was called from 12:45 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. to discuss financial details of the contract negotiated with the declared Apparent Successful Contractor (pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(d). In attendance were Vice Chairman Davis, Commissioners, Kiley, Hannigan, Mayer, Morrell, Stewart and Hulsizer; Shawna Erickson and Peggy Larson. Regular session was reconvened by the Vice Chairman immediately following closed session.

Pilot Exam Committee (cont'd). The Apparent Successful Contractor was determined by the Exam Committee to be Progeny Systems Corporation of Manassas, Virginia. Contract negotiations followed and have concluded. Motion: Hannigan/Mayer – approve the proposed contract between the Board and Progeny Systems Corporation – Carried. Motion: Hannigan/Kiley – designate the Exam Committee to create an application package to be available immediately after formal published notice of the exam – Carried. Motion: Hannigan/Morrell – set the examination application fee at \$400 (no change from last exam) – Carried. A tentative date for the 2012 exam will be no earlier than October 19th. Once the date is set, it will be formally published no less than four months prior to the exam. Both the written examination and simulator evaluation will be held in Seattle.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Vice Chairman Davis adjourned the regular session Board meeting at 1:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Larson, Executive Director

Absent

Harry H. Dudley, Chairman

Norman W. Davis, Acting Vice Chairman

Commissioner Elsie J. Hulsizer

Absent

Commissioner Charles F. Adams

Commissioner Edmund I. Kiley

Commissioner Patrick M. Hannigan

Commissioner Donald W. Mayer

Commissioner Philip Morrell

Commissioner J. Grant Stewart