

MEETING MINUTES
STATE OF WASHINGTON ~ BOARD OF PILOTAGE COMMISSIONERS
August 17, 2021

Regular Meeting – Call to Order

The regular meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m. by Chair Sheri Tonn via Microsoft Teams.

Present via Conference Call or Microsoft Teams:

Chair: Sheri Tonn

Vice Chair: Eleanor Kirtley (Marine Environment)

Commissioners: Jason R. Hamilton (Public), John Scragg (Pilot), Mike Anthony (Pilot),
Nhi Irwin (Ecology), Timothy J. Farrell (Public), Michael Ross (Foreign Shipping)

Administration: Jaimie Bever, Bettina Maki, Jolene Hamel

Assistant Attorney General: Albert Wang

Ivan Carlson and Sandy Bendixen: Puget Sound Pilots

Mike Folkers: Port of Grays Harbor

Mike Moore and Jordan Royer: Pacific Merchant Shipping Association

Lou Paulsen: The Northwest Seaport Alliance

Laird Hail and Nate Menafee: USCG

Vince Addington: General Steamship

Ann LaRue: Utilities and Transportation Commission

Monique Webber: Pacific Yacht Management

Michael Haglund: Public

Joel Morton: Kirby Offshore Marine

Phillip Nelson: Council of Marine Carriers, BC Canada

Verner Wilson: Friends of the Earth U.S.

Lovel Pratt: Friends of the San Juans

Kelli Goodwin: Port of Seattle

BPC Staff Report.

- The BPC's Reopening Plan has been revised to take into account the challenges presented by the delta variant of COVID-19. The BPC office will be staffed Monday-Friday, however only one employee will be allowed in the office at a time. The Board reviewed the proposed revised staffing schedule. There were no concerns with that approach.
- The understanding at this time and based on direction from the state, is that BPC staff and the Board fall into the state workers category that are required to receive vaccines by October 18, 2021, under the new directive by Governor Inslee. BPC staff will set up a time with each Board member to review and record vaccine verification.
- BPC staff provided a visual of the 2021-2023 budget allotments. Staff is also working on a supplemental budget request for FY 2022, which is due September 13, 2021. A brief Q&A between staff and the Board followed.
- Department of Ecology has announced that Carlos Clements will be replacing Dale Jensen as the Spills Program Manager and will be starting at the end of August. The BPC welcomes Carlos and hopes he will attend a meeting soon to introduce himself and share his background and experience with the Board.
- BPC Training Program Coordinator Jolene Hamel has received a state-issued cell phone for all BPC business.
- Former Commissioner Sara Thompson will be out on leave from September 2021 through January 2022. Brian Kirk will be filling in for her on both the OTSC and the TEC. Board member Nhi Irwin will step in for Sara on the JDC.
- The Board received Q2 data for the Port of Grays Harbor.

BPC Chair Report.

- Chair Tonn welcomed new Board member Nhi Irwin, Department of Ecology, who was appointed to fill the Ecology seat vacated by Dale Jensen. Commissioner Irwin shared information regarding her background, highlighting her fifteen years in Ecology's Spill Program, and her excitement to be on the Board.
- This month is very likely Commissioner John Scragg's last Board meeting. He spent a little time reflecting on work with the BPC. He will be staying on both the TEC and the PSC for the foreseeable future. Commissioner Scragg expressed his appreciation for being on the Board. He

gave a special thanks to Chair Tonn for her leadership and to BPC staff for their support and professionalism. Chair Tonn thanked him for his years of service to the Board and the state of Washington. Commissioner Farrell added his appreciation for Commissioner Scragg’s patience, knowledge, and willingness to share information, as well as his level-headed approach. Captain Sandy Bendixen will be replacing Commissioner Scragg in one of the two pilot representative seats in September.

- Chair Tonn thanked the U.S. Coast Guard for the recent meeting to continue discussions regarding first class federal pilotage in Puget Sound.

Activity Reports. Mike Moore representing Pacific Merchant Shipping Association (PMSA), Lou Paulsen representing the Northwest Seaport Alliance (NWSA), Captain Ivan Carlson representing Puget Sound Pilots (PSP), Laird Hail representing the United States Coast Guard (USCG), and Mike Folkers representing the Port of Grays Harbor (PGH), offered current and projected statistical data as well as updates on current maritime issues and activities.

OLD BUSINESS

Vessel Exemption Appeal - M/Y WOFANU. The Board reviewed an appeal from the captain of Motor Yacht WOFANU regarding the vessel exemption previously granted by the Board with the condition of a pilot orientation cruise. Chair Tonn asked if there was a motion to reconsider the exemption condition.

Motion: Farrell/no second – Reconsider the pilotage exemption condition of a pilot orientation cruise. Motion fails.

NEW BUSINESS

Meeting Minutes.

Motion: Farrell/Kirtley – approve the July 22, 2021 Meeting Minutes with a minor correction – Carried.

Committee Actions.

Trainee Evaluation Committee (TEC)

- The TEC met yesterday and reviewed all the training programs and comments. There are currently 10 trainees in Puget Sound, and none in Grays Harbor. One trainee is close to licensure. The USCG stepped in to give a waiver on a final Spieden Channel trip that is currently closed to trainees due to COVID. Hopefully that trainee will be licensed in September. The other 9 trainees are progressing.
- Currently, trainees are required to get 12 trips/month under COVID-19 Emergency Rule. The TEC discussed trips per month required for stipend with the current conditions of 10 trainees, along with industry changes and new rest rules. This will be a continued TEC agenda topic with more information coming to the Board in either September or October.
- One trainee was in quarantine for an exposure to COVID-19 and the TEC has waived his 12-trip requirement for the month of August.
- There has been some confusion on Hard-to-Get trips and the minimum/maximum trainees on board. The TEC will be sending out a letter to mitigate the confusion on this and rest rules.
- A working group consisting of 6 pilots has been pulled together to work on revamping the Conning Quiz process for the new trainees.
- Captain Bendixen gave an update on the first-class pilot federal requirement issues. She reported that she is hopeful that the work group, which has been on hiatus, will resume soon.

2020 BPC Annual Report. The Commissioners reviewed the final draft of the 2020 BPC Annual Report. Staff thanked Commissioner Kirtley for her thoughtful and thorough review and feedback.

Motion: Kirtley/Farrell– authorize Board staff to send the 2020 Annual Report to the Governor and the Legislature as required – Carried.

Pilot’s Report of Marine Safety Occurrence: MELINA, 07/18/2021

Underway in TSS SB SA Precautionary Area	Engine issue that required the vessel to stop. VTS required vessel to anchor in PA anchorage awaiting an inspection. Completed to anchor without incident.	<u>Motion:</u> Farrell/Ross File as a Marine Safety Occurrence – Carried.
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Pilot's Report of Marine Safety Occurrence: RDO CONCERT, 07/27/2021

Northbound between Pt Robinson and Three Tree Point	Cylinder issue called for dead slow ahead. 2 Foss tugs, already in the area, pushed vessel to anchor without incident.	<u>Motion:</u> Farrell/Hamilton File as a Marine Safety Occurrence – Carried.
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Consideration of Request for Vessel Exemption:

Motor Yacht REVELRY – 175', 672gt, Cayman Islands registry, Captain Glutz.

Motion: Scragg/Anthony – grant a 3-month exemption with the following conditions imposed: Must have pilot orientation cruise through the Locks – Carried.

Review of Pilot/Trainee Physical Examination Reports.

Motion: Farrell/Anthony – approve the physician report for Captain P. V. Hunter for his annual pilot license renewal – Carried.

Chair Tonn read aloud emailed recommendations from Board Designated Physician Dr. Ann Jarris, Discovery Health MD, on pilots returning to duty after quarantining due to COVID-19 exposures. Dr. Jarris' email also included information about how the recommendations have worked well for the maritime industry.

Consideration of BPC Vessel Exemption Committee (VEC) Charter & Membership. The Board reviewed a draft charter for the new committee and provided feedback for improvement. Discussions included membership, committee work, and length of commitment for members. A clean copy incorporating the changes will be provided at the September meeting along with recommendations for membership. The Board is looking for representatives from both the large yacht/recreational boating community and the smaller recreational boating community. Recommendations from the committee may lead to legislation and/or rulemaking.

Motion: Farrell/Kirtley – approve the VEC Charter with discussed changes and review proposed membership at the next meeting – Carried.

Committee Updates.

BPC/PSP Joint Diversity Committee (JDC)

- The JDC worked on the Diversity Action Plan for the 2020 Annual Report and is planning on tackling a charter for the committee next. Membership and further industrial involvement for pathways to increase diversity were also discussed.
- Chair Tonn reported that the Women Offshore 2021 Conference will be held remotely again this year on November 5 and 12. The BPC is considering sponsorship of the conference. She encouraged commissioner attendance.
- Monique Webber, Pacific Yacht Management, asked if there was any follow up since the meeting with Dr. J (Dr. Karen Johnson, Director, Office of Equity). Jaimie reported that each office was tasked with submitting a baseline assessment, which BPC has done.

Oil Transportation Safety Committee (OTSC)

- On August 30 the Department of Ecology will present the OTSC with a first look at the scope of work for the Tug Escort Analysis followed by a public comment period. After revisions are made, the Board will receive the scope in November for review and approval.
- Ecology is doing an excellent job developing the Synopsis of Vessel Traffic Trends. The updated data slides for July were provided to the Board for review. There will be one more month of data collection and that will conclude the data collection timeframe.
- Ecology's Vessel Accidents Module for the Risk Model webinar is tomorrow. Links to register can be found on the BPC's website.
- OTSC Chair Jaimie Bever will provide an overview of ESHB 1578 for the Board at the next meeting.
- There was a request to have a map of each area included with the vessel slides.

Pilot Safety Committee (PSC)

- The PSC last met on July 28.
- The meeting included COVID updates, review of rest rule exemption reports, the pilot ladder reporting system that is currently in beta testing, and maximum assignment times. John Coyle

from Blue Water has been invited to share ideas on how to reduce assignment times that exceed 12 hours. Possible solutions will be discussed at the next meeting.

- Approved minutes for June meeting were provided to the Board.

Confirmation of Next Regular Meeting Dates. Chair Tonn reviewed the calendar for upcoming Board meetings, as the Board continues to meet outside its regularly scheduled third Thursdays through October.

Chair Tonn asked for public comment and received none. There being no further public business to come before the Board, Chair Tonn adjourned the meeting at 2:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jaimie C. Bever, Executive Director

Sheri J. Tonn, Chair

Eleanor Kirtley, Vice Chair

Commissioner Timothy J. Farrell

Commissioner Andrew Drennen

Commissioner Mike Ross

Commissioner John Scragg

Commissioner Michael Anthony

Commissioner Jason R. Hamilton

Commissioner Nhi Irwin