MEETING MINUTES

STATE OF WASHINGTON ~ BOARD OF PILOTAGE COMMISSIONERS

August 5, 2014

Present:
Chairman: Harry Dudley
Commissioners: Dale Jensen, Chuck Adams, Ned Kiley, Phil Morrell, Grant Stewart, Don Mayer and Ed Marmol
Administration: Shawna Erickson, Peggy Larson
Jonathan Ward, Eric vonBrandenfels, Walt Tabler: Puget Sound Pilots
Mike Moore, Jordan Royer: Pacific Merchant Shipping Association
Gary Nelson: Port of Grays Harbor
Scott Coleman: PS pilot candidate
Bari Bookout: Port of Seattle
Lou Paulsen: Port of Tacoma
Paul Tramm, Jim Tynan: VTS, USCG Sector Puget Sound
James Thompson: Washington Public Ports Association
Chris Wilke: Puget Soundkeeper Alliance
Deirdre Coleman, Loren Lee: Public

REGULAR MEETING

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

Minutes. The June 19, 2014 Minutes stand approved as written.

OLD BUSINESS

Pilot's Report of Incident: GH Pilot D'Angelo, Trainee Surface – CSAV RIO ILLAPEL, 12-5-13

Terminals 2 Aberdeen
Update: The Board issued a formal letter dated July 10, 2014, notifying Captain D'Angelo of its proposed action based on the motion passed at the last Board meeting. He has 30 days in which to challenge the Board's intended requirement for him to develop a Lessons Learned Report and take one Puget Sound waterway trip specified by the TEC.

Commissioner Don Mayer, representing the TEC, stated he took a trip with Captain D'Angelo yesterday in the Blair Waterway to fulfill his waterway trip requirement. He also intends to develop the requested Lessons Learned Report.

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration of Request for Vessel Exemption:

Motor Yacht EL MIRAR II – 108’, 204 gt, British Virgin Islands registry, Captain John Wangelin
Motion: Marmol/Jensen - concur with Chair's granting of a three-month exemption – Carried.

Motor Yacht GALEOCERDO – 118’, 181 gt, Cayman Islands registry, Captains Luigi and Luca Merlo
Motion: Marmol/Jensen – concur with Chair’s granting of a one-year exemption – Carried.

Motor Yacht AMERICAN PRIDE – 123’, 298 gt, Jamaican registry, Captain Demian Thomas
Motion: Marmol/Mayer – grant a one-year exemption – Carried.

Pilot's Report of Marine Safety Occurrence: YM PLUM, 7-22-14

Inbound from the PA pilot station to Tacoma
Loss of steering on pump #1.
Navigational Safety Concern
Motion: Kiley/Adams File as a Marine Safety Occurrence – Carried.


Puget Sound near Buoy SF
Fuel spill near the area of the aft boiler caused a fire in the aft engine room. The vessel returned to Seattle for inspection and repairs before sailing the next day.
Motion: Mayer/Morrell File as a Marine Safety Occurrence – Carried.

Pilot's Report of Incident Marine Safety Occurrence: PS Pilot Anacker – HORIZON PACIFIC, 7-20-14

APM Sitcum Waterway, Tacoma
A dock-side line handler got his fingers pinched on the bow line while preparing the vessel to undock.
Motion: Mayer/Marmol File as a Marine Safety Occurrence – Carried with a vote of six in favor and Commissioner Adams opposed.
Approval of Pilot License Upgrade Programs: Captains Moreno, Kearns, Carley and Coryell. Captain Moreno is nearing completion of his fifth license year, Captain Kearns his third license year, Captain Carley his second license year and Captain Coryell his first license year. Motion: Mayer/Kiley - approve the license upgrade programs for these four pilots as drafted by the TEC - Carried.

Review and Consideration of Licensure of PSPD Pilot Trainee: Captain Scott T. Coleman. On behalf of the Trainee Evaluation Committee (TEC) Commissioner Mayer reported that after a thorough review of Captain Coleman's complete Training Program the TEC unanimously reports that he has successfully completed the first three shipboard sections of his Training Program Agreement, as detailed in its letter to the Board dated August 1, 2014. Further they recommend that his Training Program Agreement be amended to include a new “Section 4 – PPU Training”: Motion: Mayer/Kiley - the TEC unanimously recommends that Captain Scott Coleman is suitable for licensing and that he be issued Washington state pilot license #191 upon satisfactory completion of PPU Training – Motion to Amend: Mayer/Marmol – approve the “Portable Pilot Unit (PPU) Training Addendum” to his Training Program Agreement, naming Captains Marmol and Mayer as Board-designated representatives of the TEC, and offering Captain Coleman a one-time additional training stipend of $2,400 – both motions carried. His licensure will increase the number of licensed pilots in the PSPD to the set number of 55.

Comparison of Puget Sound Pilots’ Year-end Projections to Actual – 2013 Income and Expenses. Shawna Erickson presented her comparative revenue and expense worksheet for the 2013 calendar year using data reported by PSP. Projected data on 12/3/13 was compared to actual data reported on 12/31/13. In that short 28-day period, PSP overestimated pilot revenue by $53,220 and tariff transportation received was under estimated by $3,485. The number of assignments in 2013 (7,819) was 50 assignments (4.5%) more than 2012 (7,769).

2014 Annual Tariff Hearings Preparation. GHPD – The Grays Harbor Pilots’ 5-Year Capital Spending Plan, audited 2013 Financial Statement and best available 2014 financial data will be reviewed at the next Board meeting on September 18, 2014. A letter dated July 31, 2014, from the Port of Grays Harbor (PGH) to the Board was presented detailing their request for rule amendments to the Grays Harbor Pilotage District tariff which was approved by the Grays Harbor Port Commission on July 8, 2014. Motion: Adams/Stewart - file a CR-102 reflecting an effective tariff increase of 5.3%, or $357 per pilotage job, as specified in the 7-31-14 PGH letter, to be heard at a public hearing set for 9:30 a.m. on October 16th – Carried.

Proposed Rule Making – Revisions to WAC 363-116-082: Limitations on New Pilots. A CR-102 was filed on August 4, 2014 announcing a public hearing on September 18, 2014 to consider modifications to license limitations and upgrade requirements for a new pilot in the Grays Harbor Pilotage District.

Committee Reports.

Trainee Evaluation Committee:
- The TEC met on August 1.
- Training Program progress was reviewed for all current trainees, Captains White, Surface, Coleman, Galvin, Jensen, Lowe, Carstensen, Kelleher, Henderson and Furst. Captain Coleman appeared before the committee for a final review of his Training Program.
- Motion: Mayer/Marmol – amend Captain White’s Training Program to include, as a substitution for anchoring jobs if they don’t become available, a requirement to take all available trips in and out of Grays Harbor as evaluation trips during the remainder of August – Carried.
- Analysis of projected PS pilots’ retirements indicates a need to start an additional trainee. Motion: Mayer/Kiley – invite Captain Christopher Rounds to begin training on October 1st - Carried.
- Motion: Mayer/Marmol – set the next Puget Sound and Grays Harbor pilot exam for on or about the first week of May, 2015 – Carried.
- Motion: Mayer/Kiley – amend all current trainees’ training programs who have not yet completed their Duwamish River trip requirements to read “stern first light or loaded” vessels in order to create more training opportunities – Carried.
- Motion: Mayer/Kiley – due to Captain Lichty’s past piloting experience in Puget Sound, lift the six-month restriction on his ability to evaluate trainees – Carried.
Motion: Mayer/Marmol – amend the Training Trip Report Form to include “Turning Basin” as an additional check box under the question “Where did the trainee have the con?” – Carried.

Legislative/WAC Committee: A reminder was received regarding the September deadline for proposed agency request legislation. Nothing for the 2015 Legislative Session is being considered at this time.

Tariff Policy Committee: The stakeholders involved in the activities of the committee will meet tomorrow to continue their work on tariff reform.

Activity Reports. Gary Nelson, representing Port of Grays Harbor, Captain Jonathan Ward, representing Puget Sound Pilots, and Captain Mike Moore, representing Pacific Merchant Shipping Association, offered current and projected statistical data as well as updates on current maritime events. Walt Tabler presented an analysis of the impact of the agreed upon tariff restructure on 2013 and 2014 revenue. Bari Bookout presented an alternative view of the data. The proposed revision was formulated using 2013 data to create a revenue neutral scenario for adjustment to the 2015 tariff.

Correspondence Review. Gary Nelson shared a letter he wrote to the USCG stating the Port of Grays Harbor’s position to not support the proposed removal of “Lighted Whistle Buoy GH. The Oregon Board of Maritime Pilots has asked our Board to consider pursuing a joint RFP, under an Intergovernmental Agreement, to contract for shared maritime incident investigation services across WA, OR and Northern California. Chairman Dudley will pursue this further.

Legal Update. The Captain Sweeney jury trial is scheduled to begin in King County Superior Court tomorrow, August 6, 2014.

BPC Staff Report. The last pilot licensed from the 2005 Exam just completed his final set of license upgrade requirements leaving just the 2008 and 2012 Examinees with under five years’ experience. The 2015-17 budget preparation is underway. Month-end spreadsheets of PS pilot data were distributed.

Confirmation of Next Regular Meeting Dates. The next four regular meeting dates were set as follows: September 18, October 16, November 18 and December 16, commencing at 9:30 a.m., at 2901 3rd Avenue, Seattle. The September, October and November meetings will all be preceded by public hearings. There was a general consensus to resume our Thursday meeting schedule during 2015. Motion: Adams/Jensen – file a CR-102 for a public hearing to amend WAC 363-116-010: Time and Place of Meeting to consider setting our monthly Board meetings on every third Thursday instead of every second Thursday – Carried.


There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Dudley adjourned the regular session Board meeting at 1:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Larson, Executive Director

Absent

Commissioner Elsie J. Hulsizer

Commissioner Edmund I. Kiley

Commissioner J. Grant Stewart

Commissioner Edmund Marmol