

MEETING MINUTES
STATE OF WASHINGTON ~ BOARD OF PILOTAGE COMMISSIONERS
June 22, 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), Dale Jensen (Ecology), Andrew Drennen (U.S. Shipping), Timothy J. Farrell (Public)

Administration: Jaimie Bever, Bettina Maki, Jolene Hamel

Assistant Attorney General: Albert Wang

Ivan Carlson and Sandy Bendixen: Puget Sound Pilots

Larry Emerson: Retired Puget Sound Pilot

Mike Folkers: Port of Grays Harbor

Mike Moore and Jordan Royer: Pacific Merchant Shipping Association

Lou Paulsen: The Northwest Seaport Alliance

Laird Hail: USCG

Vince Addington: General Steamship

Ann LaRue: Utilities and Transportation Commission

Michael Ross: Westwood Shipping Lines

Nhi Irwin: Department of Ecology

Michael Haglund: Public

BPC Staff Report.

- The Office of the Washington State Auditor has concluded their routine accountability audit of the BPC for fiscal years 2016-2020. The Board received the Auditor's exit letter for review. There were no findings or exit items to report. BPC Executive Director Jaimie Bever thanked Training Program Coordinator Jolene Hamel for great record keeping and organization, and Program Analyst Bettina Maki, who as audit liaison worked diligently to provide clarity and transparency in BPC processes. The next audit will be conducted in 2025.
- The Board reviewed the proposed BPC office reopening plan, which is scheduled to go into effect on August 16 with a hybrid schedule of some in-office and some telework. The plan will be evaluated in 3 months' time to make sure all business needs are being met. A question was raised about in-person meeting plans and mask wearing mandates in state office buildings – both of which we are pending direction from the Governor's Office. The BPC anticipates being able to offer in-person meetings with a virtual component in the future.
- Jaimie Bever attended both the Puget Sound and Grays Harbor Safety Committee meetings since the last Board meeting along with a stirring and inspiring Juneteenth virtual meeting hosted by WSDOT, which Bettina Maki also attended. Commissioner Kirtley inquired if the Juneteenth Celebration was recorded with the ability to share with the Board. Staff will look into this request.
- The 2020 Annual Report draft will be presented in July for Board and stakeholder comment. The final draft will be presented for Board adoption at the August meeting and submitted to the Legislature shortly thereafter.
- Bettina Maki presented and answered questions on the 2020 rest rule exemptions chart provided to the Board, which will become a Pilot Safety Committee report in future meetings.

BPC Chair Report.

- The Department of Ecology has appointed a replacement for Commissioner Dale Jensen, who announced his retirement for August 2021. Nhi Irwin, Statewide Resources Section Manager, will begin her appointment on August 1. She has been with Ecology for 14 years and is very connected in the spills/maritime industry both within Puget Sound and British Columbia.
- A replacement for the Foreign Shipping seat recently vacated by Rik Krombeen has not yet been appointed by the Governor's Office.

- Chair Tonn and Jaimie Bever met with the Port of Grays Harbor to discuss a new trainee and possibly establishing a committee dedicated to Grays Harbor pilotage, similar to the Board's past Grays Harbor Advisory Committee. More information about that effort is forthcoming.
- Chair Tonn reported that she sent a comment letter of support for MITAGS on behalf of the BPC regarding the USCG's proposed expansion project.

Activity Reports. Mike Moore representing Pacific Merchant Shipping Association (PMSA), Captain Ivan Carlson representing Puget Sound Pilots (PSP), Lou Paulsen representing the Northwest Seaport Alliance (NWSA), 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.

NEW BUSINESS

Meeting Minutes.

Motion: Jensen/Farrell – approve the May 25, 2021 meeting minutes as drafted – Carried.

Committee Actions.

Trainee Evaluation Committee (TEC)

- **Approval of Pilot License Upgrade Programs: Captains Myers, M Hannuksela & McGourty.** The TEC met yesterday and reviewed the upgrade program letters. The group revised the first-year language to put in a proviso regarding not completing vessel simulator training within the first year due to COVID travel restrictions.
Motion: Scragg/Anthony – approve the pilot license upgrade program for Captains Myers, M. Hannuksela & McGourty as drafted – Carried.
- **PPU Request for Captain Ryan Gartner.** Trainee Gartner is on track for licensing in either August or September.
Motion: Scragg/Anthony – Approve the PPU training for Captain Gartner and provide an additional one-time stipend for the training up to \$2,400 – Carried.
- The TEC reviewed all the training programs and comments. There are currently 10 trainees in Puget Sound, none in Grays Harbor. There were no interventions since the last TEC meeting.
- Jaimie Bever led a robust discussion regarding enterprise risk management as it relates to the BPC's Pilot Training Program. Jaimie will capture the brainstorm in juxtaposition to previous risks identified and the group will continue identifying programmatic risks as an ongoing discussion at committee meetings.
- The TEC also discussed resumption of in-person committee meetings. Due to the late cruise season schedule, there was consensus that the committee would continue using Teams until October to best accommodate the pilots on the TEC.
- Captain Don Mayer, PSP Retiree, has officially retired from the TEC. TEC Chair John Scragg thanked him for his long and invaluable service with the TEC. Chair Tonn echoed that sentiment.

Exam Committee

Approval of Final Ranked List from the 2021 Marine Pilot Exam. The Simulator Evaluation Reviews were completed resulting in one change to a candidate's score. The final ranked list was presented to the Board. It was noted that #3 on the list has requested to have his name withheld due to potential employment conflicts as he awaits being called into the training program. It was noted that the individual review and notification letters would be sent out via email following the Board meeting as well as posting the list onto the website.

Motion: Scragg/Jensen – approve the final ranked list from the 2021 Marine Pilot Exam as presented – Carried.

- The Exam Committee and the Board thanked everyone involved and offered congratulations to the mariners who made the list. Commissioner Farrell remarked that as a relative newcomer to the Board, he felt the exam process that he had witnessed was very well done and very well documented, and he offered thanks and congratulations to all involved.

Pilot's Report of Marine Safety Occurrence: JOHN MIDGETT, 05/18/2021

Underway in NB traffic lanes, north of buoy SF	Steering malfunction on the stbd steering system. Vessel made way using port steering system.	<u>Motion:</u> Farrell/Anthony File as a Marine Safety Occurrence – Carried.
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Pilot's Report of Marine Safety Occurrence: TIANPING, 05/18/2021

Underway, 1nm north of Point Wilson	Engine alarms sounded, VTS advised to turn ship around off Port Townsend and head to deeper water while awaiting tug escort. Escorted to anchor in PA.	<u>Motion:</u> Farrell/Anthony File as a Marine Safety Occurrence – Carried.
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Pilot's Report of Incident: MOHAWK, 05/21/2021

Underway outside of Pilot Station	Propulsion issue just after pilot disembarked. Pilot reboarded and a tow plan was initiated without issue.	<u>Motion:</u> Farrell/Hamilton File as a Marine Safety Occurrence – Carried.
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Pilot's Report of Incident: CAPE ORLANDO, 05/27/2021

Underway near buoy 34/32 in Grays Harbor	Electrical generator system needed repair while transiting outbound. A tug was called for escort and anchoring successful.	<u>Motion:</u> Drennen/Anthony File as a Marine Safety Occurrence – Carried.
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Consideration of Request for Vessel Exemption:

Motor Yacht AURORA – 120', 414gt, Cayman Islands registry, Captain Gallagher.

Motion: Kirtley/Hamilton – grant an annual exemption with the following condition imposed: Must have either a Delta Marine Captain or Pilot for Duwamish Waterway – Carried.

Motor Yacht ST. EVAL – 114', 218gt, Grand Cayman registry, Captain Milla.

Motion: Farrell/Anthony – concur with Chair Tonn's granting of an interim annual exemption with the following condition imposed: No Deception Pass – Carried.

Motor Yacht MARAMA– 124', 456gt, Cook Islands registry, Captains Lawrence and Lloyd.

Motion: Farrell/Anthony– grant annual renewal exemption with the following condition imposed: No Deception Pass – Carried.

Motor Yacht ASPEN ALTERNATIVE – 164', 459gt, Cayman Islands registry, Captain Stein.

Motion: Farrell/Drennen– concur with Chair Tonn's granting of an interim 3-month exemption with the following conditions imposed: No Deception Pass, no Locks and must have pilot orientation cruise – Carried.

Motor Yacht GRYFALCON – 78', 54gt, United Kingdom registry, Captain Russell.

Motion: Scragg/Farrell – concur with Chair Tonn's granting of an interim annual exemption with the following conditions imposed: No Deception Pass, no Locks, no Duwamish waterway and must have pilot orientation cruise – Carried.

Motor Yacht KAPOWAI – 66', 117gt, New Zealand registry, Captain S Johnson.

Motion: Anthony/Farrell– concur with Chair Tonn's granting of an interim 3-month exemption with the following conditions imposed: No Deception Pass, no Locks, no Duwamish waterway and must have pilot orientation cruise – Carried.

Motor Yacht TESS – 120', 244gt, Grand Cayman registry, Captain Milla.

Motion: Farrell/Drennen – grant an annual renewal exemption with the following condition imposed: No Deception Pass – Carried.

Motor Yacht ARCTIC PRIDE – 123', 297gt, Jamaica registry, Captain Seethoff.

Motion: Anthony/Farrell – grant an annual renewal exemption with the following condition imposed: No Deception Pass – Carried.

Sailing Yacht NOMAD – 78', 101gt, Marshall Islands registry, Captain Hammer.

Motion: Hamilton/Drennen – grant a 3-month exemption with the following conditions imposed: No Deception Pass, no Locks, no Duwamish waterway and must have pilot orientation cruise – Carried.

Motor Yacht TRITON – 143', 527gt, Marshall Islands registry, Captain Pilek.

Motion: Farrell/Anthony – grant an annual renewal exemption with the following condition imposed: No Deception Pass – Carried.

Motor Yacht CHEEMAUN– 70', 130gt, Cayman Islands registry, Captains Sanson & Puffett.

Motion: Farrell/Scragg – concur with Chair Tonn's granting of an interim annual exemption with the following condition imposed: must have pilot orientation cruise when Captain Sanson leaves vessel which needs to include the Locks – Carried.

Sailing Yacht PALIADOR – 98', 123gt, Cayman Islands registry, Captain Forderer.

Motion: Anthony/Farrell – concur with Chair Tonn's granting of an interim annual exemption with the following conditions imposed: No Deception Pass or Locks and must have pilot orientation cruise – Carried.

Review of Pilot/Trainee Physical Examination Reports.

Motion: Jensen/Farrell – approve the physician report for Captain S.T. Coleman for his annual pilot license renewal – Carried.

Office of Equity – Washington State's Five-Year Equity Plan Update from BPC Special Meeting.

On June 8, 2021, the BPC called a Special Meeting for a conversation led by Dr. Karen Johnson ("Dr. J"), Director of the Washington State Office of Equity, regarding anti-racist journeys and the unique challenges within the maritime industry. Attendees of the meeting included Board members, BPC Joint Diversity Committee members, pilots, and stakeholders. The BPC thanks all who attended and shared their perspectives, which will be considered as a part of the state's 5-year equity strategic plan. Commissioner Jensen offered his appreciation for being part of the conversation.

Committee Updates.

BPC/PSP Joint Diversity Committee (JDC)

- JDC Co-Chair Sheri Tonn reported that the JDC met on Friday, May 28. They discussed the 2021 Marine Pilot Exam and worked on the BPC's Diversity Action Plan for the 2020 Annual Report. A short meeting is planned on July 16 to wrap up the plan to be ready for the report draft.
- Membership was also a topic at the May meeting. Captain Eric vonBrandenfels has asked to step down from co-chairing the Committee but will gladly stay as a member. Commissioner Farrell reported that he felt that Captain vonBrandenfels asking to step aside as co-chair was more of a mechanism to broaden the work of diversity in maritime. The small slivers of groups all working towards inclusion need to come together, especially as pilotage is at one extreme end of the industry. Chair Tonn offered that the current charter for the committee requires joint representation from PSP and BPC with the focus specifically on pilotage. Further discussion is forthcoming.
- The Board received the most recent approved meeting minutes from the JDC.

Oil Transportation Safety Committee (OTSC)

- The OTSC met on June 3. The agenda included a general check-in, update on the vessel synopsis, and discussion regarding enterprise risk management, similar to the TEC.
- The Board received the most recent approved meeting minutes from the OTC.
- The Board also received the updated May data for the Changes in Vessel Traffic Trends Synopsis from Ecology.
- The next meeting is confirmed for August 30.

Pilot Safety Committee (PSC)

- The PSC met on June 9 and discussed the ongoing COVID situation, pilot ladder safety form initiation, rest rule exceptions, and maximum assignment duration, especially of night assignments where there is greater risk from fatigue.
- The group reviewed a matrix created by BPC Program Analyst Bettina Maki updating the recommendations made during Dr. Czeisler's presentation in December 2017 and the progress to date in the area of fatigue management, in order to focus on future work and priorities.
- The Board received the most recent approved meeting minutes from the PSC.
- The next meeting will be toward the end of July. However, a date has not been set.

Confirmation of Next Regular Meeting Dates. Chair Tonn reviewed the calendar for upcoming Board meetings, as the Board will be meeting outside its regularly scheduled third Thursdays throughout cruise season.

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 2:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jaimie C. Bever, Executive Director

Sheri J. Tonn, Chair

Eleanor Kirtley, Vice Chair

Commissioner Timothy J. Farrell

Commissioner Andrew Drennen

Vacant Foreign Shipping Seat

Commissioner John Scragg

Commissioner Michael Anthony

Commissioner Jason R. Hamilton

Commissioner Dale Jensen