

MEETING MINUTES
STATE OF WASHINGTON ~ BOARD OF PILOTAGE COMMISSIONERS
July 20, 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), Michael Ross (Foreign Shipping)

Administration: Jaimie Bever, Bettina Maki, Jolene Hamel

Assistant Attorney General: Albert Wang

Ivan Carlson and Sandy Bendixen: Puget Sound Pilots

Larry Emerson and John Harris: Retired 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

Nhi Irwin: Department of Ecology

Michael Haglund: Public

Knut Hildebrand: Public

BPC Staff Report.

- The summer edition of the BPC Pilotage Quarterly was distributed earlier this month, highlighting the BPC's work towards Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion with the state's Office of Equity.
- BPC staff is working with BPC's new budget analyst at DES on the 2021/2023 biennium budget allotments.
- Training Program Coordinator Jolene Hamel will be getting a state-issued cell phone for all BPC business. BPC staff will provide that number as soon as it is available.
- Bettina Maki presented and answered questions on the Q2 data provided to the Board.

BPC Chair Report.

- Chair Tonn welcomed Captain Mike Ross, Westwood Shipping, who was appointed by the Governor to the Foreign Shipping seat, vacated by Captain Rik Krombeen, Holland America Group. Commissioner Ross shared information regarding his background, highlighting his extensive maritime experience, which will be a great asset to the Board.
- Commissioner Dale Jensen reflected on his time spent working with the BPC. He acknowledged the many changes the BPC has undergone over the years. He also mentioned that the amount of work produced by the BPC Chair and staff were remarkable considering the limited resources. Chair Tonn again offered her thanks for his many years of service to the Board and the state of Washington. This meeting will be his last with the BPC, as he is retiring from the Department of Ecology in August.
- Chair Tonn recognized and thanked Vice Chair Eleanor Kirtley for stepping in while she was out of the country.

Pilot's Report of Marine Safety Occurrence and Vessel Exemption Request Concerning

M/Y WOFANU. The BPC received an MSO concerning M/Y *WOFANU*, which was followed by a pilotage exemption request from the vessel's captain. Chair Tonn denied a request for an interim exemption believing it was a matter for the full Board to discuss. The vessel previously held exemptions in 2016, 2017, and 2018, but did not renew exemptions in 2019 or 2020. The Board heard details from both the MSO as reported by Pilot Commissioner Mike Anthony and from the owner/operator of *WOFANU*, who joined the meeting by phone. A discussion and Q&A between the Board and the vessel's captain followed.

Rosario Strait, Southbound	Controlled close quarter crossing with foreign flagged motor yacht <i>WOFANU</i> . The vessel appeared to be wandering while crossing and did not have a pilotage exemption. Pilot notified VTS.	<u>Motion:</u> Anthony/Drennen File as a Marine Safety Occurrence – Carried.
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Motor Yacht *WOFANU* – 47’, German registry, Captain Knut Hildebrand.

Motion: Farrell/Drennen – grant annual exemption with an amendment from Commission Kirtley to include the following condition: Pilot Orientation Required – Carried.

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

NEW BUSINESS

Meeting Minutes.

Motion: Hamilton/Jensen – approve the June 22, 2021, Meeting Minutes as drafted with one minor spelling 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. There were no interventions. TEC Chair Scragg encouraged the Commissioners to review the trainee documents that Jolene Hamel sends out to them monthly. Captains Holland and Cassee attended the meeting to discuss their experiences in the Observation Phase and transition to the Training Phase.
- Currently, trainees are only required to get 12 trips/month under COVID Emergency Rule. The TEC discussed trips/month required for stipend with the current conditions of 10 trainees, along with industry changes and new rest rules. This will be a continued future TEC agenda topic.
- The group also discussed the timing of when to invite trainees to both Grays Harbor and Puget Sound pilot training programs from the 2021 Exam pilot candidates list.
- Grays Harbor is currently authorized for 3 pilots, but they only have one active pilot at this time. They would like to start the invitation process as soon as possible. The Port is working on Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), which are needed before invitations can be distributed. Puget Sound is currently authorized for 56 pilots and there are positions available, but with 10 trainees already in the program, invitations are not expected until early next year.
Motion: Scragg/Farrell – Approve the TEC to start the invitation process for Grays Harbor subject to delivery of written SOP’s from the Port to the BPC – Carried.
- Current TEC member Sara Thompson, Department of Ecology, will be on maternity leave from September 2021 to January 2022. She has requested Ecology team member Brian Kirk to assume her duties on the TEC in her absence. Brian is already known to the BPC for his committee work on the OTSC. His CV was provided to the Board.
Motion: Scragg/Farrell – Approve Brian Kirk to the TEC to replace Sara Thompson during her maternity leave – Carried.

Pilot’s Report of Marine Safety Occurrence: *MSC AMS, 06/28/2021*

Underway in PA at Pilot Boarding Grounds	Multiple malfunctions/deficiencies upon pilot boarding, including inadequate pilot ladder. VTS authorized proceeding to anchorage in Holmes Harbor without tug. Passage completed without incident.	<u>Motion:</u> Farrell/Jensen File as a Marine Safety Occurrence – Carried.
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Consideration of Request for Vessel Exemption:

Motor Yacht *GAYLE FORCE* – 96’, 190gt, Marshall Islands registry, Captain Whittaker.

Motion: Farrell/Drennen – concur with Chair Tonn’s granting of an interim annual exemption with the following conditions imposed: No Deception Pass and no Locks – Carried.

Motor Yacht *MISS ANNA* – 112’, 222gt, Marshall Islands registry, Captain Van der Wel.

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 CV-9 – 140’, 97gt, Cayman Islands registry, Captains Johnson and Barnett.

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

Motor Yacht MOUSETRAP – 110’, 240gt, Cayman Islands registry, Captain Labro.

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

Motor Yacht GRAN FINALE – 157’, 451gt, St Vincent & Grenadines registry, Captains Gorman & Kay.

Motion: Anthony/Drennen – grant an annual exemption with the following conditions imposed: must have pilot orientation cruise – Carried.

Motor Yacht COMPASS ROSE– 158’, 621gt, Jamaica registry, Captain DeMello.

Motion: Farrell/Ross – 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 ALTAIR R – 87’, 114gt, British Virgin Islands registry, Captain Schonken.

Motion: Anthony/Drennen – grant an annual renewal exemption with the following conditions imposed: No Deception Pass, no Locks and must have pilot orientation cruise – Carried.

The Board discussed potential legislative action to expand the Board’s ability to penalize vessels for entering Washington’s inland waters without a pilotage exemption. Because the window to develop legislation for the upcoming 2022 session is too short, the Board will explore developing a vessel exemption committee of Board members and stakeholders to consider language and any other issues involving the vessel exemption process for the following legislative session. Chair Tonn asked individuals who were interested in being on the committee to contact BPC staff. A committee charter and roster will be developed for consideration at the August BPC meeting.

Review of Pilot/Trainee Physical Examination Reports.

Motion: Anthony/Farrell – approve the physician reports for Captains C. F. Rounds, L. A. Seymour, J. D. Henderson, A. B. Seamans, B. W. Bouma, and W. J. Sliker for their annual pilot license renewals – Carried.

Motion: Farrell/Hamilton – authorize Board staff to send a letter to one of the above pilots to recommend a physical follow-up EKG as written in the physician’s report – Carried.

Discussion of Draft 2020 BPC Annual Report. Jaimie Bever led the Commissioners through the draft 2020 BPC Annual Report and advised which pieces still needed to be completed. Draft copies have been shared with Commissioners and select stakeholders. BPC staff requested comments on the draft by August 6 to be included in the final copy for a motion at the August Board Meeting. Commissioner Kirtley noted that the acronym SILA needed to be described in full at least once before reduced to its acronym. Chair Tonn recommended viewing the charts in black and white to assure that the data is clear.

Committee Updates.

BPC/PSP Joint Diversity Committee (JDC)

- The JDC met on Friday, July 16 to discuss the Diversity Action Plan for the 2020 Annual Report. Commissioner Farrell made excellent suggestions last year, which were captured in this version of the report.
- Membership and further industrial involvement for pathways to increase diversity were also discussed.

Oil Transportation Safety Committee (OTSC)

- The OTSC last met on June 3, and has another meeting scheduled for August 30.
- The Board received the updated June data for the Changes in Vessel Traffic Trends Synopsis from Ecology.
- Jaimie Bever has joined Ecology’s Steering Committee for the Tug Escort Analysis portion of the ESHB 1578 deliverables.

Pilot Safety Committee (PSC)

- The PSC last met on June 9, and has the next meeting scheduled for July 28.

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 September.

Chair Tonn asked for public comment and received one comment on cruise ship resumption that did not follow the mandatory sanctuary at Swishers Bank. There being no further public business to come before the Board, Chair Tonn adjourned the meeting at 3:00 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 Dale Jensen