

MEETING MINUTES

STATE OF WASHINGTON ~ BOARD OF PILOTAGE COMMISSIONERS March 15, 2018

REGULAR MEETING - Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Board of Pilotage Commissioners was convened at 10:05 a.m. by Chair Sheri Tonn in the Agate Conference Room, 2901 Third Avenue, Seattle, Washington.

Present:

Chair: Sheri Tonn

Commissioners: Chuck Adams, Mike Anthony, Eleanor Kirtley, John Scragg, Grant Stewart, and Sara Thompson

Assistant Attorney General: Albert Wang

Administration: Jaimie Bever, Shawna Erickson, Jolene Hamel

Linda Styrk, Ivan Carlson, and Scott Coleman: Puget Sound Pilots

Peter Giese and Richard McCurdy: Retired Puget Sound Pilots

Gary Nelson: Port of Grays Harbor (via phone)

Mike Moore: Pacific Merchant Shipping Association

The Board welcomed back Commissioner Sara Thompson, who had been on family leave since November 2017.

Minutes. Motion: Kirtley/Anthony – approve the February 15, 2018 Minutes as written – Carried with abstentions from Commissioners Adams and Thompson.

BPC Staff Report.

- Board staff has been working on updating the website, making sure that the information is up to date and easily accessible. Meeting materials will now be posted on the website. In order for materials to be available prior to a meeting, Board staff must receive submissions by close of business on the Tuesday prior to the Board meeting. Otherwise, they will not be posted until after the Board meeting.
- After receiving feedback from the pilots regarding the need for identification showing state licensure, BPC will continue to provide ID cards. They will be printed in-house and will not provide access to the Port Angeles pilot station. Existing cards can continue to be used beyond their expiration date, however, Staff will replace the expired cards upon request.

BPC Chair Report.

- Chair Tonn and Jaimie Bever attended the CalMaritime Women in Maritime Leadership Conference March 2-3 and moderated the panel “Piloting – It’s for you!”. The panel was well received and there was a large audience made up of many cadets. Eric vonBrandenfels did a great job of representing Puget Sound. Both Sea Sisters and Women Offshore were well represented at the conference. The conference was both inspirational and motivational. Many of the young women present were interested in becoming pilots. BPC Staff will be looking at adding FAQs regarding pilotage to the website, based on feedback received from pilot aspirants at the conference. Chair Tonn also mentioned that the keynote speaker of conference, former Navy aviator, Vice Admiral Robin Braun, gave an impactful opening speech and recommended her for anyone looking for a motivational speaker.
- Chair Tonn and Jaimie Bever also spent the morning prior to the conference meeting with the Executive Director, Assistant Director, Board President, and Staff of the San Francisco Board of Pilot Commissioners. They will be holding their exam in late spring of 2019.

Activity Reports. Mike Moore representing Pacific Merchant Shipping Association (PMSA); Linda Styrk and Captain Ivan Carlson representing Puget Sound Pilots (PSP); and Gary Nelson representing the Port of Grays Harbor offered current and projected statistical data as well as updates on current maritime activities.

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration of Pilot License Upgrade Program for Captain Dan Brouillard. Captain Brouillard is going to be completing his final upgrade year before becoming unlimited. The upgrade program for 5th year of active piloting was revised to include a Tacoma Blair trip, which must be inbound to the Blair Waterway from Stream. Captain Scragg added that this requirement would add a necessary challenge to the pilot that could be very beneficial.

Motion: Scragg/Kirtley – approve license upgrade program for Captain Brouillard as drafted by the TEC – Carried.

Approval of Training Program: Captains David Melin, Matt Miller and Trevor Bozina. After significant review of the Training Program Agreement at the TEC meeting on March 13th, it was decided that some changes were needed before the program could be finalized for the 3 trainees beginning the program May 1st. Three changes were proposed: one to the stipend policy (further described in the Policy Statement under consideration in the TEC report), one to the hard-to-get trip policy (TEC will assign different groups to certain hard-to-get trips to avoid everyone going at once and to share the “stick time” on board), and one regarding when trainees can start the Training Phase (allowing trainees to begin the Training Phase during the Observation Phase as long as the trainees have completed 54 Observation trips, and all of the Observation trips associated with the specific route they want to train on). The final versions of the programs must be received by Captains Melin, Miller, and Bozina by April 9th. An amendment to the training agreement will be provided to the trainees who are currently in the Observation Phase of the Training Program.

Motion: Adams/Stewart – Approve the Training Program Agreement in principal, authorize Chair Tonn to approve the final version once completed and reviewed by AAG Albert Wang, and provide the final version to the Board at the April 19th meeting – Carried.

2018 Legislative Session Update. Substitute Senate Bill 6519 concerning pilotage tariffs is scheduled to be signed by Governor Inslee in Olympia today at 1:30pm. The Utilities and Transportation Commission will be scheduling a meeting soon to begin the process of moving the rate setting responsibility to them. Engrossed Second Senate Bill 6269 concerning oil transportation safety also passed through the Legislature. Per Commissioner Thompson, it is a large and complex bill that the Department of Ecology is still working to interpret. The Board's role in the portion of the bill regarding vessel safety will be further explored, with details being provided to the Board at the April 19th meeting. Regarding insurance, Chair Tonn and Jaimie Bever are back to investigating private liability insurance options and have an exploratory meeting this afternoon with a maritime insurance company. In addition, the Board will be exploring legislative action for the next session with the intent of including any language revisions in the Governor's budget submittal due in September.

Review of BPC Investigation Procedures. The Board reviewed existing investigative procedures. Chair Tonn acknowledged that the previous pilot investigators have provided excellent reports in the past. However, review of current policies and practices is necessary, especially in the event of a major incident. The Board would like to gather a pool of investigators that could be called upon. Commissioner Anthony suggested that the Board review the Parties of Interest document from the Coast Guard and volunteered to work on this issue along with Commissioner Stewart and Commissioner Adams. They will attempt to have a phone meeting prior to the next Board meeting.

Consideration of Request for Vessel Exemption:

Motor Yacht *CIELO MARE*– 127', 247 gt, Marshall Islands registry, Captain Jose Angulo.

Motion: Adams/Kirtley – Grant an annual exemption renewal – Carried.

Motion: Thompson/Adams – All vessels requesting a pilotage exemption after April 2, 2018 must provide a Certificate of Financial Responsibility to Board Staff as a part of the petition package – Carried.

Committee Reports.

Trainee Evaluation Committee (TEC):

- The TEC met on March 13, 2018. Training Program progress was reviewed for all current trainees: Kridler, Bendixen, Grieser, McGrath, Ninburg and Seamans. There were no significant issues to report.

- Captains Melin, Miller and Bozina have accepted invitations to the PS Training Program and will start training on May 1, 2018. Captains Siddell and Velarde have declined training in Grays Harbor and will remain on the list for Puget Sound. The TEC is recommending an August invitation letter for a November start for those remaining on the list.
- The TEC has begun the process of modifying the exam eligibility requirements to incorporate an ATB category. They recommend that the minimum size of ATB be a combination of tug and barge at 10,000 GRT. A CR 101 will be filed to make the changes to WAC 363-116-0751. WAC wording, via a CR 102, will be considered by the Board at the April 19th meeting. The TEC will also be looking at defining the ATBs.
- The Board reviewed a draft revised policy statement concerning stipends, which further defines the parameters in which a trainee is eligible for a stipend in the Training Program. AAG, Albert Wang, will review the policy as drafted and a final will be considered at the April 19th meeting.
- Going forward, pilots who have taken 3 manned model shiphandling classes (once every 5 years=15 years), can choose to take either manned model or simulator for subsequent certification renewals.

Legislative/WAC Committee:

- No updates reported.

BPC/PSP Joint Diversity Committee (JDC):

- The JDC met on March 8th, 2018. The Sharing Knowledge guest speaker was Sarah Scherer from Seattle Maritime Academy and the Maritime Youth Collaborative. Handouts from her presentation were available. She left the committee inspired for youth and the future of Maritime.
- Sheila LaFleur, a maritime recruiter, who spoke on one of the panels at the Women in Leadership conference, is putting together some ideas for working with the Board on exam recruiting.
- Grays Harbor recently provided one page summary sheet of salary and benefits. Puget Sound Pilots will be working on one as well. This information will help with recruiting efforts.
- Efforts continue to look at exam costs for applicants. Chair Tonn reminded everyone that aside from the exam cost, extra simulator time, travel, and reference materials all add up.

Exam Committee:

- The Board reviewed a draft exam calendar. Jaimie Bever reminded Commissioners that with the exam late in the year there is likely to be some overlap with the Thanksgiving holiday week and that there may need to be some special meetings in November to get the exam finalized.
- The RFP deadline is tomorrow March 16, 2018.

Fatigue Management Committee:

- The first meeting of this committee was held March 6th. The group committed to meeting 4-6 times and reviewed/prioritized the recommendations from Dr. Czeisler presented to the Board at the December 2017 meeting.
- A drop box site has been set up to best access the fatigue management documents. If any Commissioners would like access, Staff can provide it.
- The next meeting has been set for April 17, 2018 from 1:30-3:30pm.
- Meeting minutes were taken and have been distributed to the committee. Committee Chair Morrell has not yet had a chance to review them so they will not be distributed until the April meeting.
- The Board's RCW will need to be revised upon conclusion of the committee's work.

Review of Pilot/Trainee Physical Examination Reports.

Motion: Scragg/Stewart - approve the physicians' reports for Captains R.L. D'Angelo, E.C. Lichty, S.D. Semler and D.E. Brusco for annual pilot license renewal, Captain J.A. Hannuksela as Fit for Duty, and Captain J.M. Miller for initial trainee licensing – Carried.

Confirmation of Next Regular Meeting Dates. The next regular meeting dates are set for:

- April 19 – Meeting will be held on 4th floor in Rainier Conference Room, Commissioner Kirtley will not be present at this meeting.
- May 17

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chair Tonn adjourned the regular session Board meeting at 12:25 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

A Closed Session of the Board of Pilotage Commissioners was convened from 12:55 p.m. to 1:05 p.m. in the Agate Conference Room, 2901 Third Avenue, Seattle, Washington to discuss matters relative to the training program. In attendance were Commissioners Tonn, Adams, Anthony, Kirtley, Scragg, Stewart and Thompson, Assistant Attorney General Albert Wang; and BPC staff Shawna Erickson, Jolene Hamel, and Jaimie Bever.

Respectfully submitted,

Jaimie C. Bever, Executive Director

Sheri J. Tonn, Chair

Commissioner Charles F. Adams

Commissioner J. Grant Stewart

Commissioner Michael Anthony

Commissioner Sara Thompson

Absent

Edmund I. Kiley, Vice Chair

Absent

Commissioner Philip Morrell

Commissioner John Scragg

Commissioner Eleanor Kirtley