

MEETING MINUTES
STATE OF WASHINGTON ~ BOARD OF PILOTAGE COMMISSIONERS
October 19, 2023

REGULAR MEETING – Call to Order

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Pilotage Commissioners was convened at 11:00am by Chair Sheri Tonn in the Agate Conference Room, 2901 Third Avenue, Seattle, WA and online via Microsoft Teams. Chair Tonn thanked everyone for joining an hour later than usual to accommodate the Great Washington Shake Out Earthquake drill.

Present In person:

Chair: Sheri Tonn

Vice Chair: Eleanor Kirtley (Marine Environment)

Commissioners: Mike Anthony (Pilot)

Administration: Jaimie Bever, Bettina Maki, Jolene Hamel

Puget Sound Pilots: Charlie Costanzo, Severin Knutsen, Eric Klapperich

USCG: Laird Hail, John Robertson

Present via Teams:

Commissioners: Timothy J. Farrell (Public), Jason Hamilton (Public), Nhi Irwin (Ecology), Andrew Drennen (U.S. Shipping)

Puget Sound Pilots: Bill Sliker, Mark Bostick

Port of Grays Harbor: Mike Folkers

Pacific Merchant Shipping Association: Mike Moore, Jordan Royer

USCG: Kira Moody

Puget Sound Pilot Licensure Candidate: Stephen Scott

Puget Sound Pilot Training Candidate: Joel Michelson

BPC Staff Report.

- BPC Executive Director Jaimie Bever virtually attended the first annual Cal Maritime Pride in Maritime Summit, which was a hybrid event held earlier this week. The BPC looks forward to future summits and hopes to help publicize and possibly sponsor future events.
- Jaimie reported that the WA State Office of Equity will be holding their annual Equity Summit – We the People – on October 25 and 26.
- The Women Offshore Conference was one of the cover stories in our recent edition of the BPC Pilotage Quarterly. Both PSP and the BPC have sponsored the conference and both Executive Director Jaimie Bever, Training Program Manager Jolene Hamel, as well as Puget Sound Pilot Trevor Bozina will be heading to Texas A&M Galveston for the conference next week.
- In preparation for the Key Performance Indicators Workshop #3 in November, BPC Program Analyst Bettina Maki recapped the work done to date at Workshop #1 in March and Workshop #2 in April. The commissioners will be provided with the KPI Matrix document with the latest revisions from Workshop #2 and other information to help inform the November discussion. It was restated that while the authorized number of pilots is an element of the Pilot Training and Licensing KPI, the Workshop is not the mechanism to increase or decrease the number of pilots. If, or when, a hearing to set the number of pilots is opened, then the revised number will be incorporated into the KPI. Chair Tonn stated that she will be allowing the public to comment on the draft KPI documents prior to Board adoption. The KPIs will not be adopted at the November Board meeting, but at a later meeting. The workshop will take place from 1000-1200 with the Board meeting starting at 1200 and may run a bit longer than usual.

BPC Chair Report.

- BPC Chair Sheri Tonn reported that she is preparing for travel and that she will be attending the Women Offshore Conference virtually.
- Chair Tonn and Executive Director Bever met with UTC Chair David Danner for a pilotage tariff rate case briefing earlier this month.

Activity Reports. Laird Hail representing the United States Coast Guard (USCG), Eric Klapperich representing Puget Sound Pilots (PSP), Mike Folkers representing the Port of Grays Harbor (PGH), Mike Moore representing Pacific Merchant Shipping Association (PMSA), and Lindsay Wolpa representing

The Northwest Seaport Alliance (NWSA) offered current and projected statistical data as well as updates on current maritime issues and activities.

BPC Data Analyst Bettina Maki shared the Puget Sound Pilots Activity Report dashboard and was available for questions.

OLD BUSINESS

Pilot’s Report of Incident: NAVIOS CENTAURUS, 06/06/2023. Commissioner Anthony, member of the Commission Investigation Committee (CIC) stated that although the requested Global Diving report on the condition of the dock is still pending, there is enough information in the investigation report for the Board to take action. There were no questions.

Motion: Anthony/Kirtley – file the NAVIOS CENTAURUS Report as an incident with no pilot error – Carried.

Chair Tonn thanked Commissioners Anthony and Hamilton for their excellent work investigating, Captains Mann and Fleischfresser for filing reports, and Jennifer Maietta with the Port of Seattle for her assistance.

NEW BUSINESS

Pilot’s Report of Marine Safety Occurrence: OVERSEAS BOSTON, 09/26/2023

Moored, Cherry Point BP North Berth	Captain created hostile work environment, yelling at pilot for not getting the Captain’s tug of choice for the job. Captain eventually accepted that he would not be getting the tug he wanted and complied. The vessel made way to the Pilot Station without further incident.	<u>Motion:</u> Anthony/Farrell – File as a Marine Safety Occurrence – Carried.
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Pilot’s Report of Marine Safety Occurrence: AUTUMN SEA, 09/20/2023

Moored, Whatcom International Terminal, Bellingham	During a complicated mooring process, and with complex communication issues with Captain and crew, a near miss occurred with the anchor landing very near the tug.	<u>Motion:</u> Farrell/Anthony – File as a Marine Safety Occurrence – Carried
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Pilot’s Report of Marine Safety Occurrence: APL CHONGQUING, 10/10/2023

Underway, NE of Apple Cove Point	Upon requesting slowing to half ahead, Captain advised that a cylinder was overheating. VTS notified, ships engine stopped for repairs. Repairs did not go as speedily as predicted and vessel was ordered to return to Seattle anchorage with escort tug.	<u>Motion:</u> Farrell/Kirtley – File as a Marine Safety Occurrence – Carried.
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Pilot’s Report of Marine Safety Occurrence: STAR GALAXY, 09/23/2023

Underway, approaching Pier 86 in Seattle	Engine failed repeatedly upon order change. Tugs repositioned to tow vessel to anchor. During the anchoring process, the vessel indicated that the start air valve was faulty, and permission was granted to make repairs at anchor with one tug on standby.	<u>Motion:</u> Drennen/Anthony – File as a Marine Safety Occurrence – Carried.
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Meeting Minutes.

Motion: Kirtley/Hamilton – approve the September 21, 2023, Meeting Minutes as drafted – Carried.

Proposed 2024 Board Meeting Schedule.

After discussion on how to handle the regular scheduled Board meeting in April 2024 to best accommodate special meetings for the cut score of both the Exam and Simulator Evaluation, it was decided to move the regular meeting to Friday, April 12 to combine with the Exam Cut Score and the rest of the meetings will be held on the 3rd Thursday of each month, except December due to the holidays.

Motion: Anthony/Hamilton – approve moving the April 2024 Board meeting to Friday, April 12 – Carried.

Motion: Kirtley/Anthony – approve the 2024 Proposed Board Meeting Dates as drafted – Carried.

Committee Actions.

Trainee Evaluation Committee (TEC)

- **Consideration of Licensure of PSPD Pilot Candidate: Captain Stephen Scott.** On behalf of the Trainee Evaluation Committee (TEC), TEC Vice Chair Anthony stated that Captain Steve Scott has completed all sections of his Training Program Agreement including successful Portable Piloting Unit (PPU) training and completion of his federal licensing requirements. The Board has received his TPTR Summary and all training comments. Captain Scott started training in February 2022 and completed 319 trips.
Motion: Farrell/Drennen – issue Captain Stephen Scott state pilot license number 224 for the Puget Sound Pilotage District – Carried.
- **Pilot License Upgrade Program: Captains Mann & Riddle.** TEC Vice Chair Captain Anthony reported that the TEC reviewed the 2 upgrade letters for Captains Mann and Riddle.
Motion: Anthony/Hamilton – approve the pilot license upgrade program for Captains Mann & Riddle as recommended by the TEC – Carried.
- The TEC met yesterday and reviewed all trainee progress. With today's licensure, there are now 8 trainees in PS and zero trainees in GH. Two trainees came to the TEC yesterday to transition to Evaluation, which now makes 4 trainees in Evaluation, 1 in Training and 3 trainees in Observation. All are progressing well.
- TEC Vice Chair Anthony also reported that challenges continue at the REC and there has still been no follow up since the August meeting of the federal pilotage work group. The TEC and BPC will continue to reach out.

Vessel Exemption Committee (VEC)

- VEC Chair Mike Anthony presented the CR 102 for proposed recommended fee changes in 2024.
Motion: Anthony/Farrell – File the CR 102 as drafted and recommended by the VEC – Carried.
- Chair Anthony stated that there were no further committee updates.

Pilot/Trainee Physical Examination Reports.

Motion: Farrell/Anthony – approve the pilot physical examination reports for Captains J.E. Siddell, J.L. Carstensen, P.V. Hunter, M.N. Hannuksela, R.W. Leo, J.T. Galvin & J.T. Kearns for their annual pilot license renewals – Carried

Motion: Drennen/Farrell– approve the pre-licensing pilot physical examination report for Captain S.W. Scott – Carried.

Motion: Kirtley/Hamilton – approve the pilot physical examination report for Captain G.G. Fleischfresser for his annual trainee license – Carried.

Committee Updates.

Pilot Exam Committee (PEC)

- Training Program Manager Jolene Hamel highlighted the details of the outreach efforts since the application packet was released on October 16 for the Spring 2024 Marine Pilot Exam.
- Jolene also reported some of the anticipated aspirant responses, including doubling the study group since the 2018 exam, and shared information on the upcoming webinars that will be taking place in November: one webinar hosted by the BPC specific to exam processes and preparation, and the other hosted by PSP regarding pilot life.

Pilot Safety Committee (PSC)

- Commissioner Drennen reported on the PSC meeting that was held on October 12. During that meeting they approved the minutes from the previous meeting and those minutes were provided to the Board.
- Commissioner Drennen also shared the quarterly pilot ladder data and opened the floor for questions on the data.

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee (DEIC)

- Executive Director Bever reiterated the information on the Women Offshore Conference and stated it was not too late to register for the virtual sessions.

Oil Transportation Safety Committee (OTSC)

- OTSC Chair Jaimie Bever reported there will be a public workshop on October 31.

Public Comment. Chair Tonn asked for public comment, but no public comment was offered. Training Program Manager Jolene Hamel shared an email question from Mike Moore, PMSA asking for further clarification regarding the potential number of applicants for the upcoming 2024 Exam as well as the number of pilots that this licensure made.

Confirmation of Next Regular Meeting Dates. Chair Tonn reminded everyone of the upcoming meetings in November and December. All meetings continue to be hybrid, and all are invited and encouraged to come in person. She also reported that KPI Workshop #3 will be held at the November 16th meeting, from 10:00-12:00 with the Board Meeting starting at 12:00.

Adjourn. Meeting was adjourned by Chair Tonn at 12:35pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jaimie C. Bever, Executive Director

Sheri J. Tonn, Chair

Eleanor Kirtley, Vice Chair

Commissioner Timothy J. Farrell

Commissioner Andrew Drennen

Commissioner Richard Firth

Commissioner Sandy Bendixen

Commissioner Michael Anthony

Commissioner Jason R. Hamilton

Commissioner Nhi Irwin