

MEETING MINUTES

STATE OF WASHINGTON ~ BOARD OF PILOTAGE COMMISSIONERS

November 18, 2014

Present:

Chairman: Harry Dudley

Commissioners: Dale Jensen, Elsie Hulsizer, Chuck Adams, Ned Kiley, Grant Stewart
Don Mayer, Ed Marmol

Assistant Attorney General: Guy Bowman, Tad Robinson O'Neill, Jana Hartman

Administration: Shawna Erickson, Peggy Larson

Jonathan Ward, Scott Coleman, Larry Emerson, Walt Tabler: Puget Sound Pilots

Mike Moore, Jordan Royer: Pacific Merchant Shipping Association

Gary Nelson: Port of Grays Harbor (*by telephone*)

Brian Jensen: Puget Sound Pilot Candidate

Bari Bookout: Port of Seattle

Lou Paulsen: Port of Tacoma

Paul Tramm, Jim Tynan: USCG Sector Puget Sound

Katelyn Kinn: Puget Soundkeeper Alliance

Rebecca Ponzio: Washington Environmental Council

Rod Myers: Pilot Applicant

Melissa Mager, Loren Lee, Dick McCurdy, Del Kelly: Public

PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing of the Board of Pilotage Commissioners was convened at 9:35 a.m. by Chairman Harry Dudley in the Alki Conference Room at 2901 Third Avenue, Seattle, Washington.

WAC 363-116-300: PILOTAGE RATES FOR THE PUGET SOUND PILOTAGE DISTRICT. RCW 88.16.035(1)(e) requires the Board of Pilotage Commissioners to annually fix pilotage tariffs. Financial data presented prior to this tariff hearing includes the PSP 5-year Capital Spending Plan, the 2013 audited financial statement in addition to some current-year unaudited data. The filed rule as proposed by the Puget Sound Pilots, Pacific Merchant Shipping Association, the Port of Tacoma and the Port of Seattle (aka the "P4") reflects their joint agreement based on the following set of interdependent economic provisions as stated in their letter of request dated September 17, 2014:

- Increase the Boarding Charge from \$53 to \$348, concurrent with a change in the name associated with this charge to "Pilot Boat Fee"; the revised figure being fairly representative of the actual cost of services;
- Apply an across-the-board decrease of 6.52% to the rates listed in the LOA rate schedule for Zone II to Zone VI inclusive; and
- Apply an across-the-board decrease of 6.52% for all Tonnage Charges greater than 20,000 gt.
- The expiration date of this tariff is June 30, 2015.

Oral testimony in support of the proposal was presented by Captain Mike Moore on behalf of the Pacific Merchant Shipping Association, Lou Paulsen on behalf of the Port of Tacoma, Bari Bookout on behalf of the Port of Seattle, Walt Tabler and Captain Jonathan Ward for Puget Sound Pilots and Gary Nelson for the Port of Grays Harbor. There were no comments or proposals in opposition to the proposal. The public hearing was closed by Chairman Dudley at 9:40 a.m.

REGULAR MEETING

The regular meeting of the Board of Pilotage Commissioners was convened at 9:40 a.m. by Chairman Harry Dudley in the Alki Conference Room, 2901 Third Avenue, Seattle, Washington.

Consideration of Preceding Hearing: WAC 363-116-300. All written and oral testimony was reviewed and considered by the Board. Motion: Jensen/Adams – file a new Puget Sound Pilotage District tariff as jointly proposed and outlined above – Carried. The effective period of the new tariff is from 0001 hours on January 1, 2015 through 2400 hours on June 30, 2015. (9:55 a.m.)

Minutes. The October 16, 2014 Minutes stand approved as written.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion and Possible Resolution Concerning Setting the Number of Pilots in the Puget Sound Pilotage District as provided in WAC 363-116-065. Since the licensing of Captain Scott Coleman on 8/27/14 which brought the number of active licenses to the set number of 55, there have been two retirements – Captains Dick McCurdy and Chris Larson – and one new license issued to Captain Jamie Galvin, bringing the current number of licensees to 54. A joint agreement has been submitted to the Board, dated November 11, 2014 between PMSA and PSP stating: *Given the recent reduction in the number of ship calls and pilotage assignments and the other factors listed in the above referenced WAC, PMSA and PSP jointly request the Board to reduce the number of authorized pilot licenses to 54.* Motion: Adams/Jensen – set the number of pilots in the Puget Sound Pilotage District at 54 – Carried.

NEW BUSINESS

BPC Staff Report.

- Discussions are underway with Portland and San Francisco regarding the development of a possible multi-state pool of pilot incident investigators.
- Commissioner Elsie Hulsizer’s term expires on 12-26-14 after having served two terms since September of 2007. She represents the marine water environment.
- Captain Galvin completed the *PPU Training Section of his Training Program* and successfully demonstrated his proficiency on a PPU. He was licensed on November 11, 2014.
- Staff met recently with Lynne Griffith to discuss how her role as the new Assistant Secretary for Marine Transportation relates to her statutory position as Chairman of our Board.
- Month-end spreadsheets of PS pilot data were distributed.

Review and Consideration of Licensure of PSPD Pilot Trainee: Captain Brian R. Jensen. On behalf of the Trainee Evaluation Committee (TEC) Commissioner Mayer reported that after a thorough review of Captain Jensen’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 November 18, 2014. Motion: Mayer/Adams – in addition to the TEC’s unanimous recommendation, the Board finds Captain Brian Jensen suitable for licensing – Carried. Motion: Mayer/Kiley – approve the “Portable Pilot Unit (PPU) Training Addendum” to his Training Program Agreement by including a new “*Section 4 – PPU Training*”, naming Captains Marmol and Mayer as Board-designated representatives of the TEC, and offering Captain Jensen a one-time additional training stipend of up to \$2,400 – Carried. Motion: Mayer/Jensen – empower Chairman Dudley to issue Washington state pilot license #193 to Captain Jensen upon satisfactory completion of PPU Training and at such time as an opening occurs in the PSPD; meanwhile Captain Jensen will be offered a post-training program – Carried.

Approval of Pilot License Upgrade Program. Captain Scott Anacker is nearing completion of his third license year. Motion: Mayer/Hulsizer - approve the license upgrade program for Captain Anacker as drafted by the TEC - Carried.

A CLOSED SESSION was called from 10:40 to 12:10 p.m. to discuss matters of litigation. In attendance were Commissioners Dudley, Jensen, Hulsizer, Adams, Kiley, Stewart, Mayer and Marmol; Tad Robinson O’Neill, Jana Hartman and Guy Bowman; Shawna Erickson and Peggy Larson. Regular session was convened by the Chairman immediately following closed session.

Pilot’s Report of Marine Safety Occurrence: *LAPPONIAN REEFER, 10-8-14*

Bellingham Cold Storage	The vessel was loaded to a draft that did not allow sufficient under keel clearance during departure or transit. The pilots and captain determined the job to be unsafe as loaded.	Navigational Safety Concern	<u>Motion:</u> Marmol/Kiley File as a Marine Safety Occurrence – Carried.
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Pilot’s Report of Marine Safety Occurrence: *TOKYO EXPRESS, 10-17-14*

Dungeness by Buoy S	The vessel launched a rescue boat to a small boat in distress. The vessel was cleared to continue on to Tacoma.	Navigational Safety Concern	<u>Motion:</u> Marmol/Adams File as a Marine Safety Occurrence – Carried.
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Pilot's Report of Marine Safety Occurrence: STAR LOUISIANA, 10-23-14

Doffle-meyer Point	The vessel was not responding to the course to round Dofflemeyer Pt. The trainee and pilot were required to stop the engine and back out to the center of the channel. The pilot believed the problem to be a stalled (Becker) rudder.	To be determined	Continue discussion at the next Board meeting at the request of Grieg Star and upon receipt of a report from them.
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Committee Reports.

Trainee Evaluation Committee:

- The TEC met on November 14.
- Training Program progress was reviewed for all current trainees: Captains Surface, Jensen, Lowe, Carstensen, Kelleher, Henderson, Furst & Rounds, having face-to-face sessions with most.
- A Train-the-Trainer Class is anticipated for newly licensed pilots since the last class was given.
- Captain Ryan White will begin actively piloting in Grays Harbor on January 2, 2015.

Legislative/WAC Committee: Commissioner Adams reported ongoing topics of work.

Tariff Policy Committee: The Committee is at rest.

Exam Committee: The next pilot examination will be held in early October, rather than May, of 2015.

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.

Legal Update. Previously discussed in Closed Session.

Confirmation of Next Regular Meeting Dates. The next regular meeting date is set for December 16, following a 9:30 a.m. public hearing, at 2901 3rd Avenue, Seattle. Motion: Mayer/Kiley – file the 2015 Board meeting schedule with the Code Reviser, setting them on the third Thursday of every month with a couple of exceptions – Carried.

Review of Pilot/Trainee Physical Examination Reports. Motion: Kiley/Marmol - accept the physicians' reports for Captains L.P. Emerson, F.E. Engstrom, J.B. Harris and E.M. vonBrandenfels for annual pilot license renewal – Carried. Captain J.K. Ward remains unfit for duty.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Dudley adjourned the regular session Board meeting at 2:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Larson, Executive Director

Harry H. Dudley, Chairman

Dale R. Jensen, Vice Chairman

Commissioner Elsie J. Hulsizer

Commissioner Charles F. Adams

Commissioner Edmund I. Kiley

Absent

Commissioner Philip Morrell

Commissioner J. Grant Stewart

Commissioner Donald W. Mayer

Commissioner Edmund Marmol