

MEETING MINUTES

STATE OF WASHINGTON ~ BOARD OF PILOTAGE COMMISSIONERS

February 15, 2018

REGULAR MEETING - Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Board of Pilotage Commissioners was convened at 10:00 a.m. by Chair Sheri Tonn in the Agate Conference Room, 2901 Third Avenue, Seattle, Washington.

Present:

Chair: Sheri Tonn Vice Chair: Ned Kiley

Commissioners: Mike Anthony, Scott Ferguson, Eleanor Kirtley, Phil Morrell, John Scragg, and Grant Stewart

Assistant Attorney General: Albert Wang

Administration: Jaimie Bever, Shawna Erickson, Jolene Hamel

Eric vonBrandenfels, Linda Styrk, Ivan Carlson: Puget Sound Pilots

Gary Nelson: Port of Grays Harbor

Jordan Royer, Mike Moore: Pacific Merchant Shipping Association

Lou Paulsen: The Northwest Seaport Alliance

Mark Gleason: Gleason & Associates

Spencer Cohen: Community Attributes Inc.

Laird Hail: USCG-VTS

Rick LaBlond: Shell

Welcome. Chair Tonn welcomed new pilot Commissioners Captains John Scragg and Mike Anthony.

Minutes. Motion: Kiley/Stewart – approve the January 18, 2018 Minutes as written with the replacement of the word “gearing” to “adjusting” in the staff report – Carried.

BPC Staff Report.

- The Board reviewed the inaugural issue of the new BPC quarterly newsletter. Staff is looking for feedback and a new name before it is sent out to the public and added to the website.
- A Proclamation declaring January 30, 2018 as the 150th Anniversary of the Pilotage Act was signed by Governor Inslee and was awarded to Puget Sound Pilots at a reception in Olympia on January 23, 2018.
- The BPC office will be closed on Monday, February 19th in observation of Presidents Day.
- The BPC has a Linked-In page. Everyone was asked to find the page and connect to it, in order to help increase traffic.
- Shawna presented charts and graphs on traffic trends, vessel movements, and actual assignments versus target assignments.

BPC Chair Report.

- Chair Tonn and Jaimie Bever have made a number of visits to Olympia regarding legislation.
- Chair Tonn had an impromptu visit to the pilot station and highly recommended that all of the Commissioners visit it, if they have not.
- Chair Tonn and Jaimie Bever will be attending the Women in Maritime Leadership Chart Your Course Conference at CalMaritime on March 2nd & 3rd. While there, Chair Tonn will be moderating a panel entitled “Piloting: It’s for you!” which will feature pilots from Washington (Captain vonBrandenfels), Oregon, and San Francisco.

Activity Reports. Lou Paulsen representing The Northwest Seaport Alliance (NWSA); Mike Moore representing Pacific Merchant Shipping Association (PMSA); Eric vonBrandenfels and Linda Styrk 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

Presentation of Recommendations from the Pilotage Best Practices Review by Spencer Cohen, Community Attributes Inc., and Mark Gleason, Gleason & Associates.

Spencer Cohen and Mark Gleason presented their findings and recommendations from the Joint Transportation Committee’s Pilotage Best Practices Study to the Board. The Commissioners had several questions and comments for the consultants. Regarding finding #2 in the report, Commissioner Kiley contended that it did not reflect current practice or training program improvements in the last 10 years. Some Commissioners expressed disappointment that they were not interviewed directly by the consultants, particularly concerning the training program and tariff setting methodology. Commissioner Ferguson reiterated the importance of the rate setting responsibility of the Board in direct relation to the Board’s primary mission of safety. The full report is available on the Board’s website.

Consideration of Pilot License Upgrade Programs for Captains Dave Henderson and Chris Rounds. Captains Henderson and Rounds are nearing completion of their first license years.

Motion: Scragg/Anthony– approve license upgrade programs for Captains Henderson and Rounds as drafted by the TEC – Carried.

2018 Legislative Session Update. Regarding Substitute Senate Bill 6269 - Strengthening oil transportation safety, the role of the BPC, should this bill pass, would be to provide consultation only to the Department of Ecology. There is a hearing on this bill in the Senate this afternoon and Dale Jensen will be testifying. Commissioner Sara Thompson and Scott Ferguson will be in charge of the study. Chair Tonn was sad to report that House Bill 2843 & Senate Bill 6443 - Relating to joint self-insurance programs for property and liability risks did not make it through, although it had strong support. Jaimie Bever wanted pilots and shipping to know that BPC did everything they could to get the bill to pass. BPC will notify the pilots and will start looking at the alternative options again. Substitute Senate Bill 6519 - Revising the establishment of marine pilotage tariffs passed the Senate and is now in the House. There may be a hearing next week.

Consideration of Request for Vessel Exemption:

Motor Yacht *ARTIC PRIDE*– 123’, 297 gt, Jamaican registry, Captain Jon Seethoff

Motion: Kiley/Stewart – concur with Chair’s granting of an interim annual exemption – Carried.

The Board received an exemption request from a new build, Motor Yacht *TAHNA*. However, the vessel exceeded the maximum LOA by a couple feet. An exemption was not granted.

Pilot’s Report of Marine Safety Occurrence: *HELLESPONT PROMISE, 1-15-18*

Cherry Pt. South Dock to Vendovi Anchor	Vessel surged during the testing of the astern bell. No damage reported.	<u>Motion:</u> Kiley/Scragg - File as a Marine Safety Occurrence – Carried.
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Committee Reports.

Trainee Evaluation Committee (TEC):

- The TEC met on February 13, 2018. New trainee Captain Melin, starting May 1st, was in attendance as was Captain Bendixen to discuss their training programs.
- Training Program progress was reviewed for all current trainees: Kridler, Bendixen, Grieser, McGrath, Ninburg and Seamans.
- The TEC reviewed the request of Captain Stevens’ deferral request. Currently, Captains Melin and Miller have accepted spots in the PS Training program and there are two more invitation letters pending acceptances, one for Puget Sound and one for Grays Harbor.
- Captain Bendixen talked at length about her training program and provided ideas for improvement. The TEC is always looking for ways to improve the current training program. One of the improvements to date is the development of the Trainee Handbook.
- The Trainee Handbook Table of Contents was provided to the Board for review.
- The TEC received petition letters from two masters asking for revised exam qualification consideration for Articulated Tug and Barges (ATBs). After considerable discussion, the TEC recommended that the category requirements be revised.

- Motion: Kiley/Scragg – Begin the process of modifying the exam eligibility requirements to incorporate an ATB category with the following requirements: minimum size – 10,000 GT or more for the barge, Waters: ocean, near coastal or inland, Minimum Time: 1 year as Master, and 3 years as Mate, or a combination resulting in at least 1 year as Master – Carried.
- The TEC discussed the recommendations that were submitted to the JTC via the best practices study, specifically regarding finding #2 and the need for further clarification on how to improve.
Motion: Ferguson/Kirtley – Grant the BPC Staff the authority to develop a letter to the authors of the study requesting study research and detailed notes on finding #2 so that the TEC can better implement recommendation #2 – Carried.

Legislative/WAC Committee:

- No updates as Commissioner Adams was not in attendance.

BPC/PSP Joint Diversity Committee (JDC):

- The JDC met on January 30th, 2018 to review committee progress including outreach materials, making the exam process more accessible, and a proposal regarding diversity funding opportunities from Jake Beattie the Executive Director of Northwest Maritime Center.
- One of the highlights at each JDC meeting is a guest presenter to speak about their group and to explore collaboration, expanding the network to assist in reaching more exam candidates, and to help youth realize that the maritime industry is a lucrative and exciting opportunity in their own backyard. The target group for the March 8th meeting is the Maritime Youth Collaborative.
- The group worked on a brochure to target those ready to take the exam, another will target youth. The exam brochure is ready to go out and the committee will be working on distributing it.

Exam Committee:

- The Exam Committee has been appointed.
- The RFP has been issued. Proposals are due March 16, 2018.

Fatigue Management Committee:

- The membership roster was distributed. After some discussion Commissioner Stewart has asked to be removed with Commissioner Kirtley taking his place as a Board member. Mike Moore from PMSA will also be joining the committee.
- The first meeting has been set for March 6, 2018.

Review of Pilot/Trainee Physical Examination Reports.

Motion: Kiley/Morrell - approve the physicians' reports for Captains D.A. Sanders, E.C. Klapperich, and W.W. Lowery for annual pilot license renewal, Captain S.P. Bendixen for annual trainee license renewal and Captain D.W. Melin for new trainee licenses – Carried.

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

- March 15 – Commissioner Kiley will not be present at this meeting.
- April 19 – Conference Room TBD

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chair Tonn adjourned the regular session Board meeting at 12:50 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

A Closed Session of the Board of Pilotage Commissioners was convened from 12:50 p.m. to 1:20 p.m. in the Agate Conference Room, 2901 Third Avenue, Seattle, Washington to discuss matters relative to the pilot physicals. In attendance were Commissioners Tonn, Kiley, Anthony, Ferguson, Kirtley, Scragg, Morell and Stewart, Assistant Attorney General Albert Wang; and BPC staff Shawna Erickson, Jolene Hamel, and Jaimie Bever. Port of Grays Harbor Executive Director, Gary Nelson, was asked to attend the Closed Session briefly.

Respectfully submitted,

Jaimie C. Bever, Executive Director

Sheri J. Tonn, Chair

Commissioner Charles F. Adams

Commissioner J. Grant Stewart

Commissioner Michael Anthony

Commissioner Scott Ferguson

Edmund I. Kiley, Vice Chair

Commissioner Philip Morrell

Commissioner John Scragg

Commissioner Eleanor Kirtley