

MEETING MINUTES

STATE OF WASHINGTON ~ BOARD OF PILOTAGE COMMISSIONERS

March 12, 2015

Present:

Chairman: Harry Dudley

Commissioners: Scott Ferguson, Sheri Tonn, Chuck Adams, Phil Morrell, Grant Stewart,
Don Mayer, Ed Marmol

Administration: Shawna Erickson, Peggy Larson

David Grobschmit, Scott Coleman, Jostein Kalvoy, Peter Giese, Walt Tabler: Puget Sound Pilots

Mike Moore, Jordan Royer: Pacific Merchant Shipping Association

Gary Nelson: Port of Grays Harbor

Bari Bookout: Port of Seattle

Lou Paulsen: Port of Tacoma

Jason Mihok: Clipper Navigation

Christian Julien: Pilot aspirant

Phil Hunter and Rod Myers: Pilot applicants

REGULAR MEETING

The regular meeting of the Board of Pilotage Commissioners was convened at 9:35 a.m. by Chairman Harry Dudley in the Alki Conference Room, 2901 Third Avenue, Seattle, Washington. Two new Commissioners were welcomed to the Board: Ms. Sheri Tonn as the environmental representative from Citizens for a Healthy Bay replacing outgoing Commissioner Elsie Hulsizer and Captain Scott Ferguson the designee from the Department of Ecology replacing outgoing Commissioner Alice Helker.

Minutes. The February 19, 2015 Minutes stand approved as written.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion and Consideration of *Statement of Policy Regarding Definition of Terms.* This item is deferred to the next meeting for a Q & A. The intended application of these terms will be clarified as well.

Discussion and Possible Resolution Concerning Setting the Number of Pilots in the Puget Sound Pilotage District as provided in WAC 363-116-065. The number of licensed pilots was reduced from 54 to 53 effective February 19th upon the surrender of one Puget Sound pilot's state license. This item will remain on the agenda for future reevaluation.

NEW BUSINESS

Annual Renewal of Vessel Exemptions:

Passenger Vessel *VICTORIA CLIPPER* – 127', 431 gross tons, The Netherland Antilles registry,

Passenger Vessel *VICTORIA CLIPPER IV* – 118', 478 gross tons, Bahamian registry,

Captains Scott Carden, David Carney, Cabell Carr, Robert Earle, David Mayden, Jason Mihok, Andrea Tiffany and William Tiffany.

Motion: Stewart/Mayer – continue annual exemption for both vessels beginning May 1, 2015 – Carried.

Consideration of Request for Vessel Exemption:

Motor Yacht *POLAR BEAR* – 93', 216 gt, New Zealand registry, Captain Jason Milton

Motion: Morrell/Adams - concur with Chair's granting of a one-year exemption – Carried.

Motor Yacht *LAGNIAPPE* – 136', 398 gt, Marshall Islands registry, Captain Barry Bramhill
More information is needed.

Approval of Pilot License Upgrade Programs. Captain Blair Bouma is nearing completion of his fourth license year, Captain Mike Anthony his third and Captain Brouillard his second. Motion: Mayer/Marmol - approve the license upgrade programs for these three captains as drafted by the TEC - Carried.

Pilot's Report of Incident: PS Pilot Coleman – AIVIQ, 3-9-15

Everett, Pier 3 South	While shifting from T-1N to T-3S the thrusters malfunctioned, resulting in cracked stringers due to the unexpected momentum of the approach to the dock.	Action was deferred until the Board hears from the master and/or Chouest.
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Pilot’s Report of Marine Safety Occurrence: *TWIN LUCK, 2-14-15*

P.A. Boarding Station	Radar malfunction.	Navigational Safety Concern	<u>Motion:</u> Ferguson/Adams File as a Marine Safety Occurrence – Carried.
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Pilot’s Report of Marine Safety Occurrence: *TENSEI MARU, 2-21-15*

Cow Point Turning Basin - GH	Suspected log/debris in propeller but confirmed nothing had made contact. Report also filed by the trainee on board.	Navigational Safety Concern	<u>Motion:</u> Ferguson/Adams File as a Marine Safety Occurrence – Carried.
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Pilot’s Report of Marine Safety Occurrence: *RIO de JANEIRO EXPRESS, 2-23-15*

Pierce County Terminal A	Radar malfunction.	Navigational Safety Concern	<u>Motion:</u> Ferguson/Adams File as a Marine Safety Occurrence – Carried.
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Pilot’s Report of Marine Safety Occurrence: *OVERSEAS JADEMAR, 2-24-15*

North of West Point in S/B TSS	This partially loaded tanker experienced a fuel pressure problem with the standby generator requiring CG notification and anchoring.	Navigational Safety Concern	<u>Motion:</u> Ferguson/Adams File as a Marine Safety Occurrence – Carried.
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2015 Annual Tariff Hearing Preparation – Puget Sound Pilotage District: In accordance with the timetable established for tariff document submission, the Puget Sound Pilots’ 5-Year Capital Spending Plan was reviewed. A lengthy presentation of the Audited 2014 Financial Statement was led by Walt Tabler, followed by a Q & A. A formal request for rule amendments dated March 12, 2015 was submitted jointly by the Port of Seattle, Port of Tacoma, Puget Sound Pilots and the Pacific Merchant Shipping Association and reads in part, as follows: The following tariff elements include potential changes in tonnage charges on certain assignments and possible adjustments to the lower and upper tiers of tonnage charges. It is intended that the following potential adjustments be considered with any mix of tariff elements (a) through (e) providing options to achieve the decision on element number (1):

- 1) An across-the-board change in all tariff charges excluding the Training Surcharge Category and the Transportation to Vessels on Puget Sound Category in the range of -12% to +12%; implemented as an across-the-board change or by any combination of the following elements:
 - a. A minimum tonnage charge of \$0 to \$1,800 applicable to Zone I assignments not including Zone I assignments involving a second pilot;
 - b. A minimum tonnage charge of \$0 to \$1,800 for Zone II and above assignments for vessels with less than 15,000 horsepower given the longer pilotage times involved;
 - c. A change in the bottom tier of Tonnage Charges 0 to 20,000 gross tons to increase the maximum for this tier from the current \$168 to achieve all or part of the Board’s general rate increase or decrease, shown as -12% to +50%;
 - d. A change in the top tier of Tonnage Charges 50,000 gross tons and up to potentially offset increases in other categories; and
 - e. Other adjustments in the tariff structure that could be made in addition, or as an alternative, to across-the-board charges, which are jointly raised by the parties in submissions subsequent to this filing.

Proposed new language inserted under the “Tonnage Charges” Category:

Notwithstanding the above tonnage charges, there shall be a minimum tonnage charge of \$0 to \$1,800 applied to:

- 1) All LOA Zone I assignments other than assignments of an additional pilot(s) on ship movements involving more than one pilot jointly piloting the vessel; and
- 2) All LOA Zone II and greater assignments for vessels rated at less than 15,000 horsepower or under tug escort.

Motion: Tonn/Stewart – accept the proposal for purposes of filing a CR-102 reflecting the adjustments to the current PSPD tariff as specified in the letter dated 3-12-15, for a public hearing set for 9:30 a.m. on May 14, 2015 - Carried. The effective period is intended to be July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016.

At Lou Paulsen’s suggestion, mocked up invoices will be presented next month in order to demonstrate what effects the various proposed elements could have on the tariff.

BPC Staff Report.

- Captain Jonathan Ward has completed his required familiarization trips and returned to active piloting on 2-23-15.
- Captain Bruce Michelson surrendered his state license on 2-19-15 after nearly 25 years of service as a Puget Sound Pilot.
- Month-end spreadsheets of PS pilot data were distributed.

Committee Reports.

Trainee Evaluation Committee:

- The TEC met on March 10.
- Training Program progress was reviewed for all current trainees: Captains Surface, Lowe, Carstensen, Kelleher, Henderson, Furst and Rounds including a face-to-face session with Capts. Henderson and Furst.
- The TEC intends to designate a couple of pilots who are not TEC member pilots to supplement the group of *TEC Training Pilots* in order to afford the trainees more training opportunities.
- Motion: Mayer/Adams – replace Captain Cooke on the TEC with Captain Ryan White – Carried.

Legislative/WAC Committee: HB 1449, SB 5057, SB 5087, SB 5834 and SB 5686. The *Oil Transportation Safety* bills (HB1449 and SB5057) are moving along with several amendments. Scott Ferguson and Mike Moore briefed the Board on their status.

Exam Committee: The committee will be meeting later today.

Activity Reports. Gary Nelson, representing Port of Grays Harbor, Captain David Grobschmit, 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.

Review of Pilot/Trainee Physical Examination Reports. Motion: Adams/Morrell - accept the physicians' reports for Captains R.L. D'Angelo and D.A. Sanders for annual pilot license renewal; and Captain N.T. Kelleher for annual trainee license renewal – Carried. Captain J.K. Ward remains unfit for duty since 9/8/14.

Commissioner Comments. Chairman Dudley appointed Commissioner Scott Ferguson as the new Vice Chairman of the Board.

Public Comments. Captain Christian Julien, pilot aspirant, shared a brief bio with the Board.

Confirmation of Next Regular Meeting Dates. The next regular meeting dates are set for April 16 and May 14, 2015, at 2901 3rd Avenue, Seattle. The May meeting will be preceded by a public hearing on WAC 363-116-300: Pilotage Rates for the Puget Sound Pilotage District.

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

Scott J. Ferguson, Vice Chairman

Commissioner Sheri J. Tonn

Commissioner Charles F. Adams

Absent
Commissioner Edmund I. Kiley

Commissioner Philip Morrell

Commissioner J. Grant Stewart

Commissioner Donald W. Mayer

Commissioner Edmund Marmol