

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**STATE OF WASHINGTON ~ BOARD OF PILOTAGE COMMISSIONERS**  
**July 19, 2018**

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**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: Chuck Adams, Mike Anthony, Eleanor Kirtley, Phil Morrell, John Scragg, Grant Stewart, and Sara Thompson

Assistant Attorney General: Albert Wang

Administration: Jaimie Bever, Shawna Erickson, Jolene Hamel

Eric vonBrandenfels, Linda Styrk: Puget Sound Pilots

Gary Nelson: Port of Grays Harbor

Jordan Royer, Mike Moore: Pacific Merchant Shipping Association

John Wright: Polar Tankers

Monique Webber: Pacific Yacht Management

Peter Giese: Puget Sound Pilots, retired

Laird Hail, Darwin Jensen: USCG-VTS

**Minutes.** **Motion:** Adams/Stewart – approve the June 21, 2018 Minutes as written with one edit to the TEC Report first bullet point – delete the remainder of sentence beginning “attributed...”. It was determined by the TEC that the trainee wasn’t actually fatigued. – Carried.

**BPC Staff Report.**

- The draft 2017 BPC Annual Report was presented to the Board. Copies will be provided for stakeholders. The format is slightly different, as staff is constantly working to make improvements. Commissioners and stakeholders were asked to give feedback to the staff before the August meeting. Information on tugs has been updated and improved thanks to Jolene reaching out to various companies in the area.
- The Salish Sea Vessel Safety Report is not on the agenda this month as there is nothing to update. The comment period has ended and the draft is due in early August. The Department of Ecology will be presenting at a special meeting of the Puget Sound Harbor Safety Committee on August 15<sup>th</sup>. Commissioners are encourage to attend. Additionally, Ecology will be presenting at the August 16th meeting in Westport.
- The BPC Quarterly newsletter (summer edition) was distributed in early July and a copy was included in the meeting packet. Suggestions for stories and features are always welcome.
- Shawna will present visual statistical data later in the agenda prior to the discussion on pilot shortage.

**BPC Chair Report.**

- Chair Tonn and Jaimie Bever had a conference call with Jay Balasbas from the UTC. The UTC is still working on their draft rules. Once completed they will hold a workshop with the Board, shippers and pilots with a target date of August or September.
- Chair Tonn and Jaimie Bever also met with legislative staffers in the House and Senate Transportation Committees regarding 2019 legislation and confirmation of Board members during the 2019 Legislative Session. The meetings were very positive. Meetings have also been scheduled with Representative Fey and OFM.
- Chair Tonn reported that the Board’s SILA insurance premium could go up 35%. However, it is not believed that the increase will be approved by OFM.

**Activity Reports.** Gary Nelson representing the Port of Grays Harbor, Captain Eric von Brandenfels representing Puget Sound Pilots, Mike Moore representing Pacific Merchant Shipping Association, and Captain Laird Hail representing United States Coast Guard offered current and projected statistical data as well as updates on current maritime issues and activities.

Regarding the August Board meeting, Gary Nelson informed the Board that the meeting will be held at the Westport Lighthouse Museum. Captain vonBrandenfels asked if a phone-in option would be available. Gary will check on that and send additional details. Mike Moore suggested that the meeting include an update on the Grays Harbor, Harbor Safety Committee. Commissioners were told to plan for a full day in Grays Harbor.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Approval of Pilot License Upgrade Program for Captains Tom Coryell and Brian Jensen.** Captain Coryell is nearing completion of his fifth license year and Captain Jensen is approaching completion of his fourth license year.

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

**Pilot Station Ship Separation.** Captain vonBrandenfels reported that Puget Sound Pilots issued a memo stating that vessels cannot have the same ETA. It was common practice for vessels to call within an hour before arrival. However, recently several vessels had the same arrival time. Ship separation has been in practice for 2 weeks now and it is providing more predictability and safer conditions.

**Pilot Shortage/Vessel Delays.** Shawna presented quarterly statistics for 2018. Data showed that as a result of several pilots out on medical, retirements, trainees not yet ready to license, and other factors, Puget Sound Pilots (PSP) is currently down several pilots which led to a discussion regarding possible vessel delays and solutions. PSP asked the Board to write a letter to Industry advising of possible delays due to pilot shortage, with the intention of focusing on vessels that have flexibility in their schedules. They also asked the Board to consider a letter or policy statement identifying the Board’s current practice of not penalizing those who refuse a job based on fatigue. The Board will work with Assistant Attorney General Albert Wang on drafting that language. Repositioning was defined as a rebalancing of pilots either to the Port Angeles Pilot Station or to Seattle depending on whether there is an imbalance between inbound and outbound traffic. Repositions are not revenue producing assignments and are used to accommodate the board-on-arrival service that the Puget Sound Pilots provide.

**Consideration of NavSim PPU System Quote.** Jaimie advised that we have a confidential bid for a 3-year lease option for 4 Portable Piloting Units from NavSim to review. This is the same system that is used in the Puget Sound and Grays Harbor Pilotage Districts.

**2018 Annual Tariff Hearing Preparation – Grays Harbor Pilotage District.** The Grays Harbor Pilotage District timetable for tariff document submission was reviewed.

Motion: Kiley/Adams – Adopt the timetable as proposed – Carried.

**Pilot’s Report of Incident: *GUANG DONG BRIDGE, 07-03-18***

Tacoma, Commencement Bay	A tug’s mast made contact with the ship’s hull.	<u>Motion:</u> Kiley/Adams File as an Incident with minor damage and no pilot error – Carried.
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Chair Tonn announced that a report was filed by a shipping company as a result of a pilot losing situational awareness and possibly sleeping on the job. The report will be reviewed in Closed Session, with any action being taken to occur in public session.

**Consideration of Request for Vessel Exemption:**

**Motor Yacht CV-9** – 139’, 325 gt, Cayman Islands registry, Captain Charles Johnson.

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

**Sailing Yacht CLAN VIII** – 148’, 324 gt, Malta registry, Captain Mark Lumley.

Motion: Anthony/Stewart – grant a three month exemption renewal with the provision that the vessel must take a pilot for an orientation on its first trip – Carried.

**Motor Yacht Mangusta**– 132’, 288 gt, Cayman Islands registry, Captain Darren Kennedy.

Motion: Stewart/Kirtley – concur with Chair’s granting of an interim 3 month exemption – Carried.

Laird Hail of VTS requested that the list of vessel exemptions distributed by the Board include the provisions of the certificates.

### **Committee Reports.**

#### **Trainee Evaluation Committee (TEC):**

- The TEC met this morning at 8:00am. Training Program progress was reviewed for all current trainees: Kridler, Bendixen, Grieser, McGrath, Ninburg, Seamans, Miller, Melin, and Bozina. There was nothing significant to report. One trainee has nearly completed the State portion of the training program and is now finishing the federal requirement. Another trainee is almost done with training and has completed the federal requirement, and another should be done by Thanksgiving. There are 3 remaining on the list that must begin the training program prior to the exam on November 5, 2018.  
Motion: Scragg/Kiley – Invite the 3 remaining candidates on the 2016 Exam list to start November 1, 2018 – Carried.
- A Train-the-Trainer class for the remaining pilots and trainees who have not taken it is scheduled for August 7<sup>th</sup> at 8:00am. Chair Tonn invited any commissioner who has not previously attended to attend.
- Captain Anthony invited Jeff Slesinger, retired tug captain and author of one of the exam references, to join the TEC. He has also agreed to be a simulator evaluator for this year's exam.  
Motion: Scragg/Anthony – Appoint Jeff Slesinger to the TEC – Carried.
- The TEC discussed changes to the tonnage limitations for upgrading pilots and will plan to have recommendations for the next Board at the next meeting.

#### **Legislative/WAC Committee:**

- Nothing to report at this time.

#### **BPC/PSP Joint Diversity Committee (JDC):**

- The JDC is very happy with the recruiting services received from Sheila LaFleur/Job Propeller for the 2018 Marine Pilot Exam. All are invited to check her recruitment materials.
- Women Offshore will be featuring a story on Cal Maritime Cadet Amelia Herrman, who interned with PSP last summer.
- The Board website contains a published a list of FAQ's that were generated in part by the recruiter. All were encouraged to check them out and provide feedback, if necessary.
- Chair Tonn reiterated Washington State Ferries' encouragement of the pilotage career path within their own system.

#### **Exam Committee:**

- The exam committee has reviewed the first two applications.
- Next simulator workshop is August 21/22 and the next writing workshop is August 20/21.
- The feedback from the first writing workshop in July was very good and the Board is very thankful for those who participated.

#### **Fatigue Management Committee:**

- Chair Morrell reported that the committee is close to providing recommendations to the Board.
- Provided were the draft minutes along with a rough draft of changes that the committee is looking to make to the RCW.
- The language was reviewed by legislative aides, who provided valuable input.
- The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for August 13, 2018.

#### **Commission Investigative Committee:**

- The committee members are currently working on language and hope to have something to present soon.

#### **Review of Pilot/Trainee Physical Examination Reports.**

Motion: Anthony/Kiley - approve the physicians' reports for Captains I.J. Carlson, J.D. Henderson, and D.W. Mayer for annual pilot license renewal – Carried.

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

- August 16 – Meeting Will be held in Westport, WA

- September 20 – Meeting will start at 11:00am to accommodate a TEC meeting beforehand. Commissioners are invited to attend the TEC meeting.

**CLOSED SESSION**

*A Closed Session of the Board of Pilotage Commissioners was convened from 1:50pm to 2:35pm in the Agate Conference Room, 2901 Third Avenue, Seattle, Washington to discuss matters relative to personnel. In attendance were Commissioners Tonn, Kiley, Anthony, Adams, Thompson, Kirtley, Scragg, Morell and Stewart, Assistant Attorney General Albert Wang; and BPC staff Shawna Erickson, Jolene Hamel, and Jaimie Bever. Regular session was resumed by Chair Tonn immediately following closed session.*

**REGULAR MEETING RECONVENED**

The regular meeting of the Board of Pilotage Commissioners was reconvened immediately following the Closed Session by Chair Sheri Tonn in the Agate Conference Room, 2901 Third Avenue, Seattle, Washington.

**Consideration of NavSim PPU System Quote.**

Motion: Stewart/Kiley – Accept NavSim proposal using option A – Carried.

**Tote Services Inc. MIDNIGHT SUN Near-Miss Report.** The report was discussed and Commissioner Kiley was appointed to conduct a preliminary investigation.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chair Tonn adjourned the regular session Board meeting at 2:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Jaimie C. Bever, Executive Director

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Sheri J. Tonn, Chair

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Edmund I. Kiley, Vice Chair

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Commissioner Charles F. Adams

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Commissioner Philip Morrell

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Commissioner J. Grant Stewart

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Commissioner John Scragg

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Commissioner Michael Anthony

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Commissioner Eleanor Kirtley

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Commissioner Sara Thompson