

MEETING MINUTES
STATE OF WASHINGTON ~ BOARD OF PILOTAGE COMMISSIONERS
June 15, 2023

REGULAR MEETING – Call to Order

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Pilotage Commissioners was convened at 1:00pm by Chair Sheri Tonn in person and via Microsoft Teams. The meeting had a late start to accommodate BPC attendance at the U.S. Coast Guard Change of Command Ceremony at 10:00am. The BPC thanks Captain Patrick Hilbert for his partnership and support of pilotage and welcomes new Captain of the Port Captain Mark McDonnell.

Present In person:

Chair: Sheri Tonn

Vice Chair: Eleanor Kirtley (Marine Environment)

Commissioners: Sandy Bendixen (Pilot), Jason Hamilton (Public), Andrew Drennen (U.S. Shipping), Mike Anthony (Pilot)

Administration: Jaimie Bever, Bettina Maki, Jolene Hamel

Present via Teams:

Commissioners: Timothy J. Farrell (Public), Nhi Irwin (Ecology)

Ivan Carlson, Eric Klapperich, Charlie Costanzo, Travis McGrath, Severin Knutsen: Puget Sound Pilots

Mike Folkers: Port of Grays Harbor

Mike Moore: Pacific Merchant Shipping Association

Laird Hail, Kira Moody: U.S. Coast Guard

Lindsay Wolpa: The Northwest Seaport Alliance

Ann LaRue: Public

BPC Staff Report.

- Executive Director Jaimie Bever announced that the BPC office will be closed on Monday in honor of Juneteenth.
- Jaimie has been working closely with DES (Department of Enterprise Services) on both the COVID policy for all BPC employees as well as the employment description for the upcoming tug escort rulemaking project specific position recruitment.
- The allotments for the 23/25 Biennial Budget will be available for the Board to review in July.
- Jaimie also reminded the Commissioners about the Washington State DEI Empowerment Conference, taking place each Wednesday of June, via webinar. These have also been recorded for viewing, but registration is necessary for access.
- BPC Program Analyst Bettina Maki discussed and answered questions on data trends in Puget Sound and the updated dashboard.

BPC Chair Report.

- Chair Tonn also has been participating in the DEI Empowerment Conference and highly endorsed either participation or registering for later viewing. She participated in a very interesting session on bias in data.
- Both Sheri and Jaimie have had a busy month of meetings including meetings with Lindsay Wolpa from NWSA, outgoing Captain of the Port Captain Patrick Hilbert, Linda Springman from the Port of Seattle to discuss cruise ship season, as well as with Jordan Royer, Doug Coburn, and Mike Moore at the PMSA office. They also met with Laird Hail and CDR Kira Moody and their discussion led to a revision in the agenda for BPC's regular meetings. The review of Marine Safety Occurrences (MSOs) has been moved closer to the beginning of the meeting in consideration of the USCG time constraints. Sheri and Jaimie will also be meeting with Ivan and Charlie from PSP next week.

Activity Reports. Laird Hail representing the United States Coast Guard (USCG), Mike Moore representing Pacific Merchant Shipping Association (PMSA), Lindsay Wolpa representing The Northwest Seaport Alliance (NWSA), Mike Folkers representing the Port of Grays Harbor (PGH) and Ivan Carlson representing Puget Sound Pilots (PSP) offered current and projected statistical data as well as updates on current maritime issues and activities.

Captain Ivan Carlson, PSP President, directly addressed pilot aspirants who may be in attendance at the meeting. He was discouraged by and disagreed with PMSA's suggestion in their activity report that the number of pilots should be reduced. He encouraged aspirants to study for and take the exam next Spring. He added that once the UTC tariff order is released, a robust discussion regarding the number of pilots will ensue. He anticipates the need for more pilots, not less.

OLD BUSINESS

Pilot's Report of Marine Safety Occurrence: *MORNING LENA*, 03/07/2023

East of Pilot Point (Northbound).	While proceeding outbound, vessel experienced loss of propulsion. The USCG issued a COTP order to proceed to Port Angeles anchorage with an assist tug.	<u>Motion:</u> Defer to July meeting.
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Pilot's Report of Marine Safety Occurrence: *MATSON ANCHORAGE*, 03/10/2023

Abeam "T" Buoy Southbound in Traffic Lanes.	Vessel experienced bridge blackout with steering and propulsion loss. Situation stabilized and vessel proceeded to Sitcum Waterway with no further issue.	<u>Motion:</u> Defer to July Meeting
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NEW BUSINESS

Pilot's Report of Incident: *NAVIOS CENTAURUS*, 06/06/2023. An incident of damage at Pier 86 was reported to the BPC. Chair Tonn appointed Commissioner Anthony to start gathering information, with Commissioner Hamilton heading the investigation. The Board received the written incident report from both the Pilot and Trainee and more information will be shared once more of the investigation has been completed.

Pilot's Report of Marine Safety Occurrence: *DISCOVERY PRINCESS*, 05/14/2023

Underway in TSS between S and SA buoys.	Vessel experienced high temperature alarm and needed to shut down starboard propulsion to initiate restart. VTS was notified and repairs were made. The rest of the transit completed without incident.	<u>Motion:</u> Bendixen/Farrell – File as a Marine Safety Occurrence – Carried.
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Pilot's Report of Marine Safety Occurrence: *MATILDE V*, 05/14/2023

Upon departure in Elliott Bay.	Vessel experienced blackout and main engine failure while in busy waters. VTS was notified of the failure and a third tug was dispatched. Pilot proceeded to back the vessel dead ship into T-30 without incident.	<u>Motion:</u> Drennen/Farrell – File as a Marine Safety Occurrence – Carried
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Pilot's Report of Marine Safety Occurrence: *GLOVIS CRYSTAL*, 05/19/2023

Underway in Puget Sound approaching Bush Point.	Vessel experienced an issue with a leak in cylinder #5. The captain requested drifting 1-2 hours while repairs were completed. VTS was notified of issue and discussed taking to anchor. However, a temporary fix was applied successfully. VTS gave permission to allow vessel to proceed out no more than 12nm from Neah Bay to make repairs.	<u>Motion:</u> Hamilton/Drennen – File as a Marine Safety Occurrence – Carried.
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Pilot's Report of Marine Safety Occurrence: *CATALINA*, 05/21/2023

Underway in the outbound lane between buoys SA and S.	A Naval ship mistakenly identified on radar, ECDIS and PPU, was overtaking the vessel. It was challenging for the pilot as the Naval vessel appeared 8 miles in distance. Pilot was able to contact Naval vessel and they immediately corrected AIS ID.	<u>Motion:</u> Farrell/Hamilton – File as a Marine Safety Occurrence – Carried.
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Pilot's Report of Marine Safety Occurrence: *VISION*, 05/24/2023

Underway in the inbound lane between buoys SF and SG.	Fishing vessel tending to its pots turned into the vessel's lane of traffic and pilot had to turn substantially into the separation zone to avoid a close call. VTS was notified and rule 10 notification transmitted via VHF.	<u>Motion:</u> Hamilton/Drennen – File as a Marine Safety Occurrence – Carried.
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Pilot’s Report of Marine Safety Occurrence: *GSL ELENI*, 05/24/2023

Underway in TSS approaching SA precautionary area.	Vessel experienced rudder failure and needed to switch to emergency steering. Pilot was able to get tug tethered and make report to VTS. Once tethered and proceeding toward open water, the issue was determined to be a bolt that had vibrated loose. An extra nut was applied to the bolt for security purposes.	<u>Motion:</u> Anthony/Drennen – File as a Marine Safety Occurrence – Carried.
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Pilot’s Report of Marine Safety Occurrence: *APL PARIS*, 05/31/2023

Underway in Elliott Bay approaching East Waterway.	Engine was stopped while making tugs fast fore and aft. When asked for restart, the engine would not start. VTS was notified, and pilot decided to anchor in East Waterway Anchorage. Vessel was able to get engine restarted while docking. It was determined that the failure was due to a manual pressure relief valve.	<u>Motion:</u> Drennen/Hamilton – File as a Marine Safety Occurrence – Carried.
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Meeting Minutes.

Motion: Kirtley/no second - Approve the May 18, 2023 minutes as drafted – Failed.

Commissioner Bendixen asked BPC staff to review the statements that PSP President Carlson had made during his activity report specific to recruitment for the 2024 exam and have those reflected into the minutes. ED Bever agreed to review and bring the May 18 meeting minutes back for approval at the July meeting.

Committee Actions.

Trainee Evaluation Committee (TEC)

- TEC Chair Captain Bendixen discussed the proposed changes to WAC 363-116-078 Training Program and shared the progress made thus far, including the process to incorporate feedback received from the TEC and Commissioners. The changes include codifying the Statement of Policy regarding Supervising Pilots, Emergency Rule language, housekeeping, and continual improvements to the Training Program. A CR 102, hearing date, and draft rule language will be discussed at the July meeting.
- Captain Bendixen is very excited to announce that the BPC has approved simulator training for the 6 current trainees, utilizing the remaining PPU funding now that PPU training is included in PSP’s contract with NavSim. The TEC has been working on making simulator training a reality for many years and believes it is a great addition to the Training Program, allowing for a clean, environmentally safe and consistent industry-used tool for district-specific training. She announced that Captains Scragg and Anthony are volunteering their time to facilitate the training, and it will take place on two days, using two simulators (3 trainees each) later this summer.
Motion: Bendixen/Anthony – approve a one-time stipend increase of \$2750 for each of the 6 current trainees to fund simulator training – Carried.
- The TEC met yesterday and reviewed all trainee progress. There are currently 6 trainees in PS and zero trainees in GH. In Puget Sound, there are 2 trainees in Evaluation phase and 4 in Training phase and all are progressing. There are currently 15 pilots in their upgrade window but none to be reviewed this month.

Exemptions from Pilotage.

Motor Yacht *GRANKITO*– 65’, 76gt, Cayman Islands registry, Captain Victor Larraguibel.

Motion: Anthony/Farrell – concur with Chair Tonn’s granting of the interim annual exemption with the following restrictions imposed: No Duwamish, Deception Pass, or Locks – Carried.

Motor Yacht *NOORDERZON* – 118’, 276gt, Jamaica registry, Captain Estelle Blet.

Motion: Farrell/Bendixen – concur with Chair Tonn’s granting of the interim annual exemption with the following restrictions imposed: Pilot orientation and No Duwamish, Deception Pass, or Locks – Carried.

Motor Yacht *FIGARO* – 130’, 335gt, Cayman Islands registry, Captain Sean Staine.

Motion: Bendixen/Anthony – concur with Chair Tonn’s granting of the interim annual exemption with the following restrictions imposed: Pilot orientation and No Duwamish, Deception Pass, or Locks – Carried.

Motor Yacht ARROWHEAD– 113', 193gt, Marshall Islands registry, Captain Nicholas Cullen.

Motion: Farrell/Drennen – concur with Chair Tonn's granting of the interim annual exemption with the following restrictions imposed: Pilot orientation and No Duwamish, Deception Pass, or Locks – Carried.

Motor Yacht LOHANKA – 132', 427gt, Cayman Islands registry, Captain Chester Bertuello.

Motion: Drennen/Farrell – concur with Chair Tonn's granting of the interim annual exemption with the following restrictions imposed: No Deception Pass, Westport, or Locks without Pilot or orientation – Carried.

Motor Yacht TESS – 120', 244gt, British registry, Captain Orlando Milla.

Motion: Farrell/Drennen – grant an annual exemption with no restrictions imposed – Carried.

Motor Yacht ST. EVAL – 114', 218gt, British registry, Captain Orlando Milla.

Motion: Farrell/Anthony – concur with Chair Tonn's granting of the interim annual exemption with no restrictions imposed – Carried.

Motor Yacht SEA GYPSY– 54', 64gt, Marshall Islands registry, Captains Gregory Sparks & Jacqueline Scherz.

Motion: Farrell/Anthony – grant an annual exemption with no restrictions imposed – Carried.

Captain Bendixen mentioned that she had read the Boaters Blue Pages recently and it looked like a great publication to advertise Rule 10 and Pilotage Exemption Rules together. Chair Tonn agreed it would be good to investigate.

Pilot/Trainee Physical Examination Reports.

Motion: Farrell/Drennen – approve the pilot physical examination reports for Captains P.S. Kelly, I.J. Carlson, D.E. Brusco & M.L. Anthony for their annual pilot license renewals – Carried, with Commissioner Anthony abstaining.

Tug Escort Rulemaking Updates.

Workshop # 2 is coming up in June and the OTSC will meet before that workshop. After that meeting, further workshops will be taking place in June and July. Work with Ecology behind the scenes continues.

Committee Updates.

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee (DEIC)

- The DEIC Steering Committee met on June 5 to discuss exam recruitment. During that meeting, BPC Training Program Coordinator Jolene Hamel shared the statistics regarding the exam recruitment list. Pilot aspirants should contact Jolene to be added to the list.
- The Steering Committee spent some time planning the webinar(s) that the BPC will host in Fall 2023 for the 2024 exam. PSP has agreed to host a webinar from the point of view of a pilot, and to talk about their maternity policy and other factors involved in making the decision to test for the Washington State exam. There will also be some drop-in times for candidates to come and ask questions.
- The committee spent some time discussing equity versus equality and making sure that the exam is reviewed through both lenses.
- Commissioner Bendixen is working on a letter that will go out to the aspirants sharing her experience as a female pilot.

Pilot Safety Committee (PSC)

- The PSC has not met since the last Board meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for July 17.

Oil Transportation Safety Committee (OTSC)

- The next OTSC meeting is at the end of June, followed by public workshop #2 and then Tribal workshop #2.

Vessel Exemption Committee (VEC)

- The VEC is reworking the fee structure recommendations and will be meeting in August. VEC recommendations to the Board are expected in the Fall.

Pilot Exam Committee (PEC)

- MITAGS has subcontracted with a new psychometrician for both the written exam and the simulator evaluation, Dainis & Co. The week of July 10, Dr. Amanda Dainis and her team will be in Seattle getting to know both pilot groups as well as hosting the Job Task Analysis Workshop. She will join (via Teams) either the July or August Board meeting to meet Board members and answer questions.

- The BPC hopes to formalize the Spring 2024 Marine Pilot Exam dates at the July meeting.

Public Comment. Chair Tonn asked for public comment, but none was offered.

Confirmation of Next Regular Meeting Dates. Chair Tonn reminded everyone of the upcoming meetings in July and August and that all meetings will continue to be hybrid.

Adjourn. Meeting was adjourned by Chair Tonn at 03:20pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jaimie C. Bever, Executive Director

Sheri J. Tonn, Chair

Eleanor Kirtley, Vice Chair

Commissioner Timothy J. Farrell

Commissioner Andrew Drennen

(Vacant)

Commissioner Sandy Bendixen

Commissioner Michael Anthony

Commissioner Jason R. Hamilton

Commissioner Nhi Irwin