STATE OF WASHINGTON
BOARD OF PILOTAGE COMMISSIONERS

BPC Mission: to ensure against the loss of lives, loss of or damage to property and vessels, and to protect the marine environment by maintaining efficient and competent pilotage service on our State’s inland waters.

BPC Commissioner Confirmations

On Monday February 15, 2021, BPC Pilot Commissioner Captain Mike Anthony and BPC U.S. Shipping Commissioner Captain Andrew Drennen appeared before the Senate Transportation Committee for their confirmation hearing (re-appointment and appointment, respectively). The commissioners provided information on their backgrounds and what they hope to accomplish on the Board. They both were confirmed in Executive Session of the committee on February 22, 2021.

The Board’s Foreign Shipping representative, Captain Rik Krombeen, appeared before the committee on March 23, 2021 for his re-appointment confirmation hearing. As a representative of Holland American Group, he spoke to the effects of the pandemic on the cruise industry and the path forward. He was confirmed in Executive Session of the committee on March 30, 2021.

Congratulations and thank you all for your service!

From the top: Senate Transportation Committee Chair Senator Steve Hobbs, Captain Michael Anthony, and Captain Andrew Drennen during the February 15, 2021 confirmation hearing, and Captain Rik Krombeen during the March 23, 2021 confirmation hearing. Images courtesy of TVW.
Pilotage Tariffs

The 2019 Washington State Legislature transferred the pilotage tariff setting responsibility from the Board of Pilotage Commissioners to the Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC). The new Grays Harbor Pilotage District tariff became effective December 10, 2019. The new Puget Sound Pilotage District tariff became effective January 25, 2021. Both tariffs can be found on the UTC’s website at https://www.utc.wa.gov/regulatedIndustries/transportation/Pages/Pilotage.aspx. You can also find links to both on the home page of our website.

Women in Maritime Leadership

Cal Maritime held its 10th Annual Women in Maritime Leadership Conference on March 4th and 5th. The theme of the conference was Building Resiliency. BPC Chair Sheri Tonn and Executive Director Jaimie Bever are regulars at these yearly conferences representing Washington State pilotage and the BPC/PSP Joint Diversity Committee. It is always inspiring to hear the stories and perspectives from professional women mariners as well as to connect with the male and female cadets, who are the future of marine pilotage. While we missed connecting with these individuals in person, Cal Maritime did an excellent job with the virtual platform.

BPC 2021 Meeting Schedule

The Board typically meets for regular public meetings on the third Thursday of the month. However, the schedule for the Spring and Summer of 2021 will look a little different. Please see below for upcoming meeting dates. You can also find information regarding meetings on our website at https://pilotage.wa.gov/2021---2022.html.

Upcoming Regular Public Meetings
- Monday, April 19 – 10:00am
- Tuesday, May 25 – 12:00pm
- Tuesday, June 22 – 12:00pm
- Tuesday, July 20 – 12:00pm
- Tuesday, August 17 – 12:00pm

District Snapshots

Puget Sound

Retirements:
Captain W. Lowery – March 31
Thank you for your service to the state of Washington!

License Upgrades to Unlimited:
There were no upgrades to Unlimited in the 1st Quarter of 2021.

Training Program:
Currently training are Captains Ryan Gartner, Eric Michael, Nick Moore, Robert Ekelmann, Andrew Stewart, Mark Bostick, and Peter Mann.

Captains Larry Holland, Kevin Riddell, and Matt Cassee entered the pilot training program on March 1, 2021.

Grays Harbor

Training Program:
Currently in training is Captain Forest McMullen.