

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of The  
New Jersey Maritime Pilot & Docking Pilot Commission  
April 17, 2007**

The regular meeting of The New Jersey Maritime Pilot and Docking Pilot Commission was held on Tuesday, April 17, 2007 at One Penn Plaza East, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor, Newark, NJ 07105.

Pledge of Allegiance

Open Public Meeting Statement

Roll Call

Commissioner Timothy J. Dacey, present; Commissioner Thomas F. Daly, present; Commissioner Stanley E. Wiklinski, present; Commissioner Charles Wowkanech, present; Commissioner Richard L. Amster, absent; Commissioner Joseph Azzolina, present.

Minutes of Prior Meetings

On a motion by Commissioner Wowkanech and seconded by Commissioner Wiklinski that the minutes of the March 20, 2007 regular meeting be approved. All voted in favor.

Treasurers Report

On a motion by Commissioner Daly and seconded by Commissioner Wowkanech that the Treasurer's report dated April 2007 be approved. All voted in favor.

Executive Directors Report

The deadline for submitting applications for the Docking Pilot Apprentice Training Program was April 16<sup>th</sup>. To date eight applications have been received. The Committee will interview the applicants on May 24<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Licata anticipates that the Committee will present the Commission with a list for approval at the June 19, 2007 meeting.

The deadline for comments on the proposed regulations is April 21<sup>st</sup>. To date one comment has been received from the Sandy Hook Pilots Association. Depending on the scope of comments received, Mr. Licata anticipates having a resolution to adopt the amended regulations at the May 15, 2007 regular meeting.

The Commissioners were given a copy of an article from the *Professional Mariner Magazine* regarding "Tugboat U" a training program in which McAllister has teamed up with the Global Marine and Transportation School to prepare their employees for licensing. Mr. Licata has been in touch with McAllister and will work with them as the program develops in an attempt to see if the program can assist in meeting the training requirements set by the Commission.

The Commissioners were given a copy of an article regarding Dubai Ports World closing of the sale of its U.S. port operations to AIG Global Investment Group.

The Commissioners were given a copy of an article regarding the testing of the A.K. Railroad Bridge.

The Commissioners were given a copy of remarks by Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff to the American Association of Port Authorities.

Captains Kenneth Sorensen, Richard Seeth, Alan Braendly, John McCarthy, Kevin Gadow and Timothy Nielson are currently out on sick leave. Captain Christopher Weiss has taken a leave of absence.

The meeting with the Port Authority regarding the Bayonne Bridge has been postponed until May 15, 2007.

#### Public Comment

Report from Captain Simon Zorovich - McAllister Towing of New York:

The A.K. Railroad Bridge testing is currently underway. There have been problems with the aligning of the tracks when the bridge is down. The schedule is periodically announced on VTS's channel 13.

Simulator exercises regarding dredging will take place in Vicksburg, VA. Captain Kevin Gadow and Timothy Nielson will participate in the simulator exercises while recovering from their illnesses. Captains Jeff McAllister and John Tooker are also scheduled to participate in the exercises.

Captains Zorovich and Flannery are scheduled to attend the Docking Pilot Convention in Boston on April 27-28<sup>th</sup>. A key topic that will be discussed is the re-evaluation of the medical standards set by the Coast Guard.

Captain Zorovich attended a meeting with the Coast Guard regarding the Regional Examinations in New York. They are attempting to streamline the process while making it consistent with other ports. One area of concern discussed was the drawing of the charts in the Lower Bay. There are approximately 230 Aids to Navigation included in the chart that are of no navigational significance to state licensed pilots. Currently the Exam requires everything to be drawn on the charts. The pilots feel there is no need to draw the chart for buoys in harbors like Keyport as no vessels taking pilots call there.

It was recommended at the last Pilot & Oil Terminal Operators roundtable discussion and the Pilots & Container Terminal Operators roundtable discussion that the panels become subcommittees of the Harbor Ops Committee.

Mr. Licata reported that he has been attending the discussions of both panels that are currently run by the Port Authority under the direction of Lucy Ambrosino and have noticed some encouraging steps taken to improve the relationship between the pilots and the terminal operators. The movement of the panels to become sub committees of Harbor Ops is a positive step and would enable the Committees to make formal recommendations to the Coast Guard.

The Intrepid has been moved to the Dry Dock for repair and renovation.

Report from Captain Richard Schoenlank- President, The New Jersey Sandy Hook Pilots Association:

The Berth Auditing Committee is waiting for information from Texas before they begin.

Sandy Hook will send pilots to Vicksburg to participate in the dredging simulator exercises.

The visibility and wind restrictions at Bergen Point have been officially eased.

The A.K. Railroad Bridge has gone up and down a couple of times each day to accommodate the trash trains. There has been no intermodal traffic to date and it is anticipated that the intermodal traffic may cause problems.

Captain Schoenlank presented the Commission with an article regarding TWIC hearings in Washington, D.C.

Captain Schoenlank presented the Commission with an article regarding the difficulties arising out of the selling of a Staten Island Terminal to the Canadian Teachers Pension Group.

The Pilot Boat New Jersey is still under repair. It is anticipated that the repairs will be completed in the next 1-2 weeks.

There is a laptop training class scheduled for April 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>. To date half of the new laptops are in service.

The Liberty of the Seas is expected to arrive in Bayonne on May 7<sup>th</sup>.

Captains Richard Schoenlank and Dennis Wheeler met with the Coast Guard Auxiliary to say thank you for their efforts and to discuss Operation Clear Channel. They showed the Auxiliary a presentation they have on recreational boating. The members of the Auxiliary requested a copy to use for their safety training classes.

The Harbor Inspection Tour has been scheduled for Friday, September 7<sup>th</sup>.

The Port Authority released cargo statistics for 2006. All numbers are up.

#### Committee Reports

##### A. Investigation Committee:

- I. **New Delhi Express** - 4/15/06 - Bottom Strike. This incident remains under investigation by Commissioner Daly and has been carried. The NTSB has sequestered vital data, which has inhibited the Commission's investigation of this occurrence. Commissioner Daly recently received three disks with downloads. There is a public meeting scheduled for May 1, 2007 that deals with the incident. Commissioner Daly and Mr. Licata will attend the hearing.
- II. **Team Actinia** - 2/26/07 - Loss of astern capability. This incident is being investigated by Commissioner Dacey and has been carried.
- III. **Kobe Express** - 3/17/07 - Engine Failure and Grounding. This incident is being investigated by Commissioner Dacey and has been carried.

### Executive Session

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act provides that a public body such as The New Jersey Maritime Pilot and Docking Pilot Commission may meet in closed session to discuss personnel and litigation matters.

WHEREAS, the Commission desires to retire to closed session to discuss such matters.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Commission shall at this time meet in closed session to discuss such matters the substance of the closed session would be disclosed publicly only if it would not warrant an invasion of privacy.

On a motion by Commissioner Daly and seconded by Commissioner Wowkanech the Commission went into Executive Session.

All voted in favor.

### Return to Public Session

On a motion by Commissioner Wowkanech and seconded by Commissioner Daly the Commission returned to Public Session. All voted in favor.

### Adjournment

On a motion by Commissioner Wowkanech and seconded by Commissioner Wiklinski the meeting was adjourned. All voted in favor.