

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of The
New Jersey Maritime Pilot and Docking Commission**

July 19, 2022

The regular meeting of the New Jersey Maritime Pilot and Docking Pilot Commission was held on Tuesday, July 19, 2022 Via-Zoom.

Commissioner Dacey called the meeting to order at 10:01 AM.

Open Public Meeting Statement

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Commissioner Timothy J. Dacey (present); Commissioner Brian McEwing (present); Commissioner Jacob Shisha (present); Commissioner Bjoern Kils (present); Commissioner Charles Wowkanech (absent); Commissioner Brendan Roberts (absent)

Also included in the call were: Andre Stuckey, Executive Director; Al Hawkins, Board Administrator; Captain Brendan Foley, President Sandy Hook Pilots; Captain Kirk Pinto, President Harbor Pilots; Captain Adam Richardson, President Interport Pilots; Dorian Smith, Authorities Unit, Brian Ashnault Esq., DAG.

Ms. Stuckey advised that Commissioner Wowkanech is on state business in Washington, DC and Commissioner Roberts could not attend today but, he advised that he will listen to a recording of the meeting.

Approval of the June 21, 2022 regular meeting minutes

A motion was made by Commissioner Shisha and seconded by Commissioner Kils to approve the June 21, 2022 meeting minutes. All voted in favor.

Resolution #22-20 to approve the July 2022 Treasurers Report

A motion was made by Commissioner McEwing and seconded by Commissioner Shisha to pass Resolution #22-20 to approve the July, 2022 Treasurers Report.

All voted in favor.

Executive Director's Report

Ms. Stuckey thanked Commissioner Shisha for filling in for her while on vacation.

- A. Pilot trip log - Ms. Stuckey provided the Commission with a copy of the updated pilot log.
- B. COVID update - The latest report indicates that the positive cases are increasing. The Commission will revisit the issue of in person meetings at the August meeting.
- C. Annual Report - The 2022 Annual report has been received from the printer. The mailing list is almost completed with the anticipation of getting the reports in the mail by the end of the week.
- D. Docking Fees - The invoices for the docking pilot fees were mailed out. The Commission has already begun to receive payments. The payments will be deposited into the Commission's discretionary fund.
- E. FY22 Audit - The request for proposals for the FY22 annual audit have not yet been sent, but Ms. Stuckey received an email from treasury showing that there is one approved accounting firm on their list. Ms. Stuckey is working with Mr. Smith to get a definitive answer on whether to solicit proposals from local accounting firms before sending a letter to the one listed accounting firm.
- F. SUNY Maritime - An invitation was sent to the Commission for the SUNY Maritime's Foundation annual Admirals Dinner. The Dinner is scheduled for Tuesday, September 20th at 5:30pm. Ms. Stuckey advised that she is not planning to attend, but encouraged any Commissioner interested in attending, to let her know.

G. Vacation Schedules - Mr. Hawkins is scheduled to be on vacation the week of July 25th. Ms. Stuckey reported that she does not have any vacation plans until the end of August. If the schedules change, the Commission will be notified immediately.

H. Articles of Interest - Several articles of interest were sent to the Commissioners and they were advised to read them at their leisure.

Public Comment (s)

Comments from Captain Brendan Foley, President, Sandy Hook Pilots Association:

Captain Foley reported that the Christening of the new pilot boat New York was held on the 24th of June. He advised that the Captain of the port Captain Zeta Merchant, Michael Cusick and Senator Diane Savino were in attendance, the weather was good and all went well.

Captain Foley reported that the old pilot boat New York has been sold and departed the Sandy Hook pilot's pier last Thursday. She was brought by Vinik Marine.

Captain Foley reported that the Sandy Hook Pilots are continuing their summer intern program. They are focusing on learning the non-piloting aspects of the business.

Captain Foley reported that he was able to meet with the new Chief of Prevention, he came to Sandy Hook for a meet and greet a couple days after the Commission's last meeting. He advised that he will be in his current position for the next two years.

Captain Foley reported that 25 years ago the Sandy Hook Pilots transitioned to the use of union deckhands on the pilot boats. With the new station boat going off shore and the fact the new pilot boat carries 11 union crew members, they are moving towards the captain of the off shore pilot boat to be an employee and not an apprentice. Sandy Hook felt the crew needs a consistent leader off-shore and the early morning rush would create a crewing issue. He advised that the apprentices would

continue to serve as Captain and crew on the pilot boat that is stationed at the association therefore the decision would not impact the training they receive as part of their apprenticeship.

Ms. Stuckey apologized to the Commission for not updating them on the crew changes with the Sandy Hook pilots.

Comments from Captain Kirk Pinto, President, Harbor Pilots Association:

Captain Pinto reported that the Harbor pilots currently have 2 pilots out with shoulder injuries and everything else is good.

Comments from Captain Adam Richardson, President, Interport Pilots Association:

Captain Richardson reported that Interport pilots 2 new licensed pilots Captain Occhipinti and Captain Tomalo are working their way through the rotation and are both doing well.

Captain Richardson reported that Interport is getting ready for their 2 New York pilot boats to go into the yard for their summer adjustment period.

Captain Richardson reported that he attended the Marine Society lunch at the Nobel Museum and advised that if anyone have not seen the museum, it is worth the trip.

Captain Richardson reported that Interport will try to keep their work spread out evenly amongst the pilots and he does not anticipate licensing any new pilots in the near future.

Ms. Stuckey advised Captain Richardson that in addition to not going 30 days without piloting, the Commission regulations require that each pilot must to do at least 26 trips within a 6 month period. She advised that the numbers of some of the pilots at Interport may come up a little short. Ms. Stuckey advised Captain Richardson to keep that number in mind when talking to the pilots and make sure they are able to fulfill their recency obligations. She advised that if they don't complete the minimum number of trips, the Commission will have to remove them from the board and have them do break in trips.

Committee Reports

A. Apprentice Selection Committee:

Docking Pilot Apprentice Selection - Ms. Stuckey advised that Commissioner Shisha will be filling in on the Committee for Commissioner Wowkanech and Captain Jon Miller will be taking over on the Committee for Captain Flannery. Ms. Stuckey reported that there were 3 applications received, the Committee reviewed each and decided, they will interview all the applicants. There seems to be an issue with one of the applicants when it comes to time. The applicants are required to have 10 years in total experience in the industry with at least 5 of those years being in the tug industry. After the interviews, Ms. Stuckey advised that she will send a report to the Commission with the Committee's recommendations.

B. Occurrence Investigation Committee:

- I. Oleander - Executive Session.
- II. Orient Sky - Ms. Stuckey recommended that the Commission find no fault of the pilots and the file be closed. Additionally, it is recommended that a copy of the report be sent to the Coast Guard, vessel Owner and the vessel agent. A motion was made by Commissioner McEwing and seconded by Commissioner Shisha to accept the recommendation.
All voted in favor.
- III. Grand Duke - Ms. Stuckey recommended that the Commission find no fault of the pilots and file be closed. It is also recommended that a copy of the report be sent to the Coast Guard, vessel's owner and the vessel's agent. A motion was made by Commissioner McEwing and seconded by Commissioner Kils to accept the recommendation.
All voted in favor.

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 legal and personnel matters, and

WHEREAS, the Commission desires to meet in 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 or constitute a breach of the attorney client privilege.

A motion was made by Commissioner McEwing and seconded by Commissioner Shisha that the Commission goes into Executive Session.

All voted in favor.

The Commission went into Executive Session at 10:25 AM.

Return to Public Session

A motion was made by Commissioner McEwing and seconded by Commissioner Kils that the Commission return to Public Session.

All voted in favor.

The Commission returned to Public Session at 10:55 AM

Adjournment

A motion was made by Commissioner Shisha and seconded by Commissioner Kils that the meeting be adjourned.

All voted in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 AM.