

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of The
New Jersey Maritime Pilot and Docking Pilot Commission
January 20,2026**

A hybrid meeting of the New Jersey Maritime Pilot and Docking Pilot Commission was held on January 20,2026.

Commissioner Dacey called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M.

Commissioner Dacey extended apologies on behalf of Commissioner Wowkanech, who is attending the Governors swearing in ceremony and was unable to attend the meeting.

Open Public Meeting Statement

Ms. Andre Stuckey read the Open Public Meetings Act Statement into the record.

Andre Stuckey Read Roll Call

Commissioner Timothy J. Dacey (via ZOOM); Commissioner Nicholas Fixmer (via ZOOM); Commissioner Bjoern Kils (via ZOOM); Commissioner Dana Martinotti (via ZOOM); Commissioner Charles Wowkanech (absent).

Also included in the meeting were: Andre Stuckey, Executive Director, (present); Shahima Hudson, Administrative Assistant (present); Captain Adam Richardson President, Interport Pilots Association (present); Captain Jonathon Miller, Metro Pilots Association (via ZOOM); Captain Russel Henschman President, Harbor Pilots Association (via ZOOM), Samuel Kovach-Orr, Authority's Unit(via ZOOM), Captain Timothy Ferrie, President, Sandy Hook Pilots Association (via ZOOM).

in the way they dealt with the Commission, and he provided great leadership through the pandemic and allowed the Commissions work to continue.

Commissioner Dacey and the Commissioners look forward to working with the incoming Governor and wish Governor Murphy the best.

Committee Assignments

Commissioner Dacey made the attached Committee Assignments.

Ms. Stuckey stated that any Commissioner that has any issues with the Committees they've been assigned, to contact her or via email.

Approval of the December 16, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes.

A motion was made by Commissioner Fixmer; seconded by Commissioner Kils; to approve the December 16, 2025, meeting minutes.

The motion passed unanimously.

Resolution #26-01 to Approve the January 2026 Treasurers Report.

A motion was made by Commissioner Kils; seconded by Commissioner Martinotti; to approve the January 2026 Treasurers Report.

The motion passed unanimously.

the Coast Guard would take the lead role, however they're busy with the OpSail 250 preparations. The meeting was well attended with only 2-3 terminals missing. Captain Jonathan Miller and Captain Russel Henschman came in with written out procedures for safety mooring within the Harbor and were able to go over each point. Attendees discussed communication issues, points of contact, and the angle of cranes. The terminals seemed receptive and stated their willingness to go back to their work and share the information with their staffs.

Ms. Stuckey reported that the feedback at the meeting was positive. The agents stated their willingness to try to correct a lot of issues discussed. It was clear that these types of conversations will need to continue. Captain Jonathan Miller suggested a solution which is to fine the perpetrators however, the Port Authority pushed back on the idea. If the need arises, Ms. Stuckey is prepared to bring the Captain of the Port into discussions.

Ms. Stuckey reported that she met with the New York Executive Director to go over issues that concern both states. She announced that she will discuss some parts of the meeting in the Executive Session.

Ms. Stuckey reported that the New York Commission has a regulation that allows a \$500 fine to be assessed to a vessel that has an unsuitable ladder. Ms. Stuckey inquired whether they ever exercised the regulation, especially with all the pilot ladder deficiency reports and was told that they did not.

Ms. Stuckey is not suggesting that New Jersey propose an amendment to the regulations specifically for this reason, however she is developing a file for future amendments and will include this for consideration.

on site. They intend to have the first mile of the tunnel dug by the summer.

Ms. Stuckey reported that she sent the artwork for the Commission's Challenge Coin, to the Commissioners and with their approval she will proceed with ordering them.

Ms. Stuckey reported that one of the Commissions investigators has taken time off to take care of sick parents. The investigator will continue to stay in touch and if she is not able to return to work by the summer, Ms. Stuckey will put together a committee and start a search for new investigators.

Ms. Stuckey reported that the Marine Society's Annual Dinner is scheduled for March 19th, she will be sending out copies of the invitation, anybody interested in going can contact her via email and she will make arrangements.

Ms. Stuckey announced that the Commission will be taking in a new Apprentice on March 1st for the Sandy Hook Pilots Association, he will attend the February 17th meeting to be appointed and get his credentials.

Ms. Stuckey reported that there are currently no scheduled vacations.

Ms. Stuckey reported that Steven Lyman, the Executive Director of the Maritime Association, lost his mother last week. Her viewing services will be Thursday afternoon. Ms. Stuckey will send flowers on behalf of the Commission and will attend the viewing services.

Ms. Stuckey reported that if any Commissioners is interested in attending to let her know and she will send the link with information on the services.

Captain Ferrie reported that he was reelected president for Sandy Hook Pilots Association which will be his final year before he will have to retire in October 2026.

Captain Ferrie reported that it is an honor and a pleasure to lead the New Jersey Sandy Hook Pilots, and it's going to be a busy year.

Captain Ferrie reported that Captain Dan Foley is currently the Vice President and will be acting President after he retires, and Captain Mark Wanderer is the Secretary. Captain Kevin Walsh is the new Finance Chair on the Jersey side.

Comments from Captain Jonathan Miller, President, Metro Pilots Association:

Captain Miller reported that the Coast Guard requested the same meeting to brief the Deep Draft Committee, just as they did with the Harbor Ops Steering Committee and the Oil Terminal Round Table.

Captain Miller reported that until the Coast Guard finalizes where they're going to put the vessels, they can't really react or work out the details.

Captain Miller reported that regarding the container terminal round table, it was productive because it forced them to come up with that checklist and discuss it. Since the meeting they had three incidents that were discussed directly with the terminals, which was what they have always done.

Captain Miller stated that he believes with more public awareness, it seems like the conversations might be more impactful.

Captain Miller reported that he will see if there's any progress in that direction, as he discussed before he will seek to fine them directly to get their attention.

monitoring the weather for all their locations. They will keep an eye on all ice possibilities in the Raritan Bay, and have the boats positioned accordingly.

Executive Session

A motion was made by Commissioner Fixmer; Seconded by Commissioner Martinotti; that the Commission enter Executive Session.

The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Stuckey read the following statement into the record:

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 legal matters, 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.

Whereas, the substance of the closed session will be disclosed publicly only if it would not constitute an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy.

The Commission entered Executive Session at 10:35 am.

The motion passed unanimously.