

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

February 15, 2022

The regular meeting of the New Jersey Maritime Pilot and Docking Pilot Commission was held on Tuesday, February 15, 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 (present); Commissioner Brendan Roberts (present)

Also included in the call were: Andre Stuckey, Executive Director; Al Hawkins, Board Administrator; Captain Bob Flannery, President Metro Pilots; Captain Tim Ferrie, Vice-President Sandy Hook Pilots; Captain Kirk Pinto, President Harbor Pilots; Captain Charlie Jonas, President Interport Pilots; Jamera Sirmans, Authorities Unit, Brian Ashnault Esq., DAG.

Approval of the January 18, 2022 regular meeting minutes

A motion was made by Commissioner Kils and seconded by Commissioner Shisha to approve the January, 2021 meeting minutes.

All voted in favor.

Resolution #22-04 to approve the February 2022 Treasurers Report

A motion was made by Commissioner Wowkanech and seconded by Commissioner Roberts to pass Resolution #22-04 to approve the February, 2022 Treasurers Report.

All voted in favor.

Executive Director's Report

Ms. Stuckey advised that Captain Timothy Ferrie would be reporting on behalf of the Sandy Hook Pilots association in his first meeting as Vice President.

Ms. Stuckey welcomed Mr. Steven Lyman, the new Executive Director of the Maritime Association.

- A. Updated Pilot Log - A copy of the updated pilot log was provided to the Commission.
- B. Return to office update - The Commission's staff is currently back in the office full-time. Ms. Stuckey reported that the daily reports received from Transit shows that the number of infections in the building has decreased substantially. It seems that the state on a whole is approaching the end of the peak of the new variant and a lot of the restrictions are beginning to be lifted. During his press conference, Governor Murphy stated his intent to lift mask requirements for all schools and possibly state buildings. Ms. Stuckey advised that she will keep the Commission updated as things evolve.
- C. Harbor Ops meeting - Ms. Stuckey attended the January 19th Harbor Ops meeting. It was the first meeting of the year and there was nothing of note to report.
- D. Maritime Pilot Apprentice Selection Process - Ms. Stuckey reported that Sandy Hook has utilized Susan Tyberczy and then her daughter Tara over the past 20 years to test apprentice pilot applicants. Tara has decided that she can no longer provide the service anymore, so Sandy Hook has

been vetting other facilities recommended by the Tyberczy's. The Apprentice Selection Committee interviewed Dr. Lewis Schlosser whose institute was the top contender. Ms. Stuckey provided the Commission with a copy of his resume with their meeting materials. She advised that she believes the doctor interviewed well, but advised that she is more concerned with the process than the institute. Ms. Stuckey reported that the Tyberczy's worked with a small staff which proved to be very helpful to the Committee. On the other hand, Dr. Schlosser works with a group of doctors that will share in the testing and interviewing and has not had a client like the Committee that requires such detailed reports. Ms. Stuckey believes that because he works primarily with policeman and other public safety careers, they may have a better understanding of the type of person it takes to become a good pilot. Additionally, the Committee agreed to have the final list of candidates go for a second interview with Dr. Schlosser's team and the second interview would be the one where he would give the Committee the yes or no answer.

The Committee also went over the application. One of the main changes that were made was the deletion of the requirement to provide SAT, ACT and high school transcripts. This has been done since the Commission's regulations do not provide for them to accept applicants out of high school. The Committee agreed that only college transcripts would be reviewed.

Lastly, a timeline was established to complete the process. The next meeting is set for April 21st. At this meeting, the committee will review all applications received and rule out those that will not go forward in the process. After that, the Committee will meet again in mid-June to go over the reports received from the institute. The next meeting will take place in mid-August to set meeting dates and go over questions and interview protocol. It is anticipated that the interviews will take place the first two weeks in September and a list would be ready for approval at the Commission's September 20th board meeting.

- E. The San Francisco Bar - The San Francisco Bar is also doing an apprentice selection process with the same deadline date as this Commission. Ms. Stuckey does not believe this will have an impact on the number of applications that are received. Historically, Ms. Stuckey has seen applicants apply to both Associations.
- F. Ms. Stuckey has reached out to each of the Associations and they are prepared to report to the Commission today about the current apprentices in the programs and future needs. The Docking Pilot Apprentice Selection list has two candidates left on the list and the Maritime Pilot Apprentice Selection List has seven candidates left on it as well as the five alternates.
- G. Ms. Stuckey provided the Commission with a copy of the invitation for the Marine Society dinner. The dinner will be held on March 28th this year. She advised that if any of the Commissioners are interested in attending to please let her know.
- H. Ms. Stuckey reported that she plans to take vacation beginning next Wednesday, February 22nd and will be returning on Monday, February 28th. She advised that she will be available to handle any emergencies that may come up.
- I. Ms. Stuckey provided the Commission with an article about the new New York, with pictures. She is currently at Edgewater and as soon as Captain Foley is ready, he will schedule a date and time for any available Commissioners to tour her.
- J. Articles of Interest - Several articles of interest was sent to the Commission and they are advised to read them at their leisure.

Public Comment (s)

Comments from Captain Timothy Ferrie, Vice-President, Sandy Hook Pilots Association:

Captain Ferrie reported that the new Pilot Boat New York has arrived and the old pilot boat New York was relieved on station last week for the last time and she is now out of service. He advised that they are doing safety training on her right now and if all goes well, she will be on station by the beginning of March.

Captain Ferrie reported that the Coast Guard is not requiring Sandy Hook to have additional personnel; in fact they will have fewer personnel with one less engineer.

Captain Ferrie reported that Sandy Hook is all healthy in regards to COVID, they continue to work with CDC and all pilots are following protocol.

Captain Ferrie reported that the mid-station in the Hudson River is currently closed due to ice.

Captain Ferrie reported that Sandy Hook has had their reorganization meetings and they are now going to continue their active shooter simulation training that was put on hold due to the pandemic.

Captain Ferrie reported that Sandy Hook plans to bring in three apprentices this year with the third apprentice being taken off the new list that is currently being worked on.

Comments from Captain Flannery, President, Metro Pilots Association:

Captain Flannery reported that the Oasis of the seas is looking to come into the New Jersey channel. He advised that she is a lot wider and this is an accident waiting to happen. He advised that there will be another meeting on the topic, but as of right now it is a no go.

Captain Pinto reported that he agrees with Captain Flannery that it is too dangerous and there will be another meeting to discuss the topic with all parties.

Captain Flannery reported that Metro Pilots has 15 pilots now working counting Jesse Malmgren who was just sworn in and will begin his rotation when he gets off the boat in 2 to 3 weeks. He advised after swearing in another apprentice today, Metro would currently have 3 apprentices in their Apprentice training program.

Comments from Captain Jonas, President, Interport Pilots Association:

Captain Jonas congratulated the Sandy Hook pilots on their new pilot boat.

Captain Jonas reported that all pilots at Interport are healthy and free from COVID. He advised that the work has been steady and consistent.

Captain Jonas reported that one of their apprentices is currently ready for testing and the other is still accumulating trips. He advised that Interport is not looking to bring in any new apprentices at this time.

Comments from Captain Pinto, President, Harbor Pilots Association:

Captain Pinto reported that all Harbor pilots are all healthy and they have no current incidents or problems.

Captain Pinto reported that Harbor pilots got two active apprentices right now and they currently have ten active pilots with one being part time. He advised that they have an apprentice that they are very interested in that is currently not on the list.

Ms. Stuckey advised Captain Pinto of the procedures of an apprentice being accepted on the Apprentice Selection List.

Comments from Steven Lyman, Executive Director, Maritime Association:

Mr. Lyman thanked the Commission for having him and he advised that he is happy to be back working with the Maritime industry.

Mr. Lyman reported that there will be an auction done by the Ocean and Energy Management on February 3rd that they are watching closely.

Mr. Lyman reported that the Maritime Association reported a comment for RFI off-shore wind cable restraints.

Mr. Stuckey advised Mr. Lyman that the former Executive Director was really good at informing the Commission of any items that may fall below the Commission's radar and expressed that the Commission's hope is for that to continue.

Committee Reports

A. Occurrence Investigation Committee:

- I. Bright Star - Captain Flannery III reported that everything went well and all was taken care of. Based on the investigators report, Ms. Stuckey recommended that the Commission find no fault on the pilots and the file closed. A motion was made by Commissioner Wowkanech and seconded by Commissioner Roberts to accept the recommendations. All voted in favor.

Resolution #22-05 to Appoint Andrew Beaird into the Apprentice Training Program of Metro Pilots Association

Mr. Beaird gave a brief description of his background in the maritime industry and thanked the Commission for the opportunity.

A motion was made by Commissioner Wowkanech and seconded by Commissioner Kils to approve Resolution #22-05 to Appoint Andrew Beaird into Apprentice Training Program of Metro Pilots Association.

All voted in favor.

Ms. Stuckey advised Mr. Beaird of the Commission's apprentice process.

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 Roberts and seconded by Commissioner Kils that the Commission goes into Executive Session.

All voted in favor.

The Commission went into Executive Session at 10:38 AM.

Return to Public Session

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

All voted in favor.

The Commission returned to Public Session at 11:26 AM