

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

November 17, 2020

The regular meeting of the New Jersey Maritime Pilot and Docking Pilot Commission was held on Tuesday, November 17, 2020 Via-Teleconference.

Commissioner Dacey called the meeting to order at 10:03 AM.

Open Public Meeting Statement

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

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

Also included in the call were: Andre Stuckey, Executive Director; Al Hawkins, Board Administrator; Captain Brendan Foley, President Sandy Hook Pilots; Captain Bob Flannery, President Metro Pilots; Captain Robert Ellis, President Harbor pilots; Captain Charlie Jonas, President Interport pilots; Captain Adam Richardson, Vice-President Interport pilots; Stephanie Brown, Authorities Unit, Vivek Mehta Esq., DAG.

Approval of the October 20, 2020 regular meeting minutes

A motion was made by Commissioner Shisha and seconded by Commissioner Kils to approve the October 20, 2020 meeting minutes.

All voted in favor.

Resolution #20-28 to approve the November, 2020 Treasurers
Report

A motion was made by Commissioner Shisha and seconded by Commissioner Kils to pass Resolution #20-28 to approve the November, 2020 Treasurers Report.

All voted in favor.

Executive Director's Report

A moment of silence was held for Captain Paul Frank and Commissioner Dennis Lombardi's father.

- A. Pilot Spread Sheet - The Commission was provided a copy of the pilot spread sheet for their review.
- B. Office Hours - Newark is currently experiencing an increase in the number of Coronavirus cases. Mayor Baraka has imposed a curfew and new restrictions on indoor dining. New Jersey Transit has responded to the increased restrictions by putting a system in place where every person that enters the building, must complete a pre-screening questionnaire. Staff will continue current practices of maintaining office hours on Monday, Wednesday and Friday while working from home on Tuesday and Thursday. However, if there are any reported cases within the building, staff will scale back those hours. Ms. Stuckey will keep everyone posted of any changes.
- C. Online Ethics Training - Ms. Stuckey reported that she has not received training certificates from all of the Commissioners. She encouraged all to complete the training ASAP and advised that she has to certify the Commissioners's compliance with copies of the training receipt to the Governor's office.
- D. Office of Administrative Law - A letter was received from the Office of Administrative Law Rules Office outlining new procedures beginning July 1, 2021. Previously, the publisher of the New Jersey Register and Administrative

Code would reimburse the state for the cost of the licensing fee. Moving forward, the contract will no longer include this cost. They will therefore bill each agency for a portion of the licensing fee based on the amount of pages they occupy in the two publications. In the email Ms. Stuckey sent is an example of an agency that occupies 1,000 pages in the register that included 10,000 pages total. They would be assessed 10% which is \$75,000 of the total \$250,000. In the Commission's case, we occupy 15 pages in both publications which are .15% This will give the Commission an annual assessment of \$375. These numbers are all estimates at this point however; she advised that the Commission should include a minimum of \$500 in the FY22 budget to cover the cost.

E. Pilot Safety Committee - The Commissioners were sent copies of an email that Ms. Stuckey received for Hyo Hwang from McAllister thanking the Commission for taking the initiative to set up the meetings and expressed a willingness to cooperate with the Commission in the future.

F. Harbor Ops - Last Month Ms. Stuckey reported that the Harbor Ops Steering Committee held elections for the officers that will begin their terms as of January 1, 2021. The new leadership consists of: Captain Andrew McGovern, retired Maritime Pilot will continue as chair, Captain Eric Johansson from the tug and barge industry will be the Vice Chair, Steering Committee and Captain Robert Flannery, Docking pilot will be the Vice Chair, Sub Committees. The next full Harbor Ops meeting is scheduled for November 18th via zoom, which Ms. Stuckey will participate in the meeting. She sent the Commissioners a copy of the agenda.

G. Late Commissioner Richard Amster - Ms. Stuckey was contacted by the family of late Commissioner Richard Amster. He has designated money in his will to be donated to non-profit organizations within the maritime industry. She recommended that the funds be split between the Seamen's Church Institute, Seafarer's and International House and the Marine Society. Commissioner Amster was always interested in giving back to the industry and was

the Commissioner that pushed for New Jersey to be able to provide training grants and initiated the Commissions first gift of a man overboard dummy to Sandy Hook. She is very pleased that his family is continuing his legacy.

H. Commission's Website - The Commission's website has been designed, the URL has been purchased and now Mr. Hawkins is in the process of uploading all required information to the site. The monthly fee for the website is \$18 per month. However, there will be a 30% discount for paying annually. Once everything has been uploaded, it will take about two weeks for it to be launched. At that time, a notice will be sent out to all of the stakeholders within the port advising them of the new website.

I. Vacation Schedules - The Commission's offices will be closed on Thursday and Friday the week of Thanksgiving. Beginning on December 18th, Ms. Stuckey will begin her end of the year vacation returning on January 4th. Mr. Hawkins will also take time off between the 18th and the end of the year and will get back to her with exact dates. She advised that even though no one will be in the office, she will be on call and available for any emergencies during that time.

J. Articles of Interest - The Commission was provide with copies of several articles of interest and encouraged to read them at their leisure.

Public Comment (s)

Comments from Captain Robert Flannery, President, Metro Pilots Association:

Captain Flannery reported that the Metro pilots brought in a 15,000 TEU ship to berth 92 and now they are asking for a 16,000 TEU ships to be brought in. He advised that the only place that can handle a ship of that size is berth 92 and that all of the ULCV's are being brought down to Allen Hook.

Captain Flannery reported that the Army Corp. is holding a briefing on 55ft channel. The briefing will take place tomorrow between 3 and 4pm. He advised that there will be a comment period ending on December 19th.

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

Captain Foley reported that all pilots are healthy with no Covid cases and they continue to follow protocol.

Captain Foley reported that the Cruise Line International Association, which represent 95% of global ocean cruise capacity have announced the suspension of their cruises through the end of 2020. After which time, they will begin a slow phasing that will begin without passengers. The 1st phase will include testing inside the vessel, the 2nd phase will be stimulating cruises with volunteers onboard and the 3rd phase they will obtain certification from the CDC which, Intel's the number of hospital beds available in the home port as well as the ability to quarantine all onboard in shore side facilities.

Captain Foley reported that the dredging in Newark Bay and Port Jersey channel is complete. Perth Amboy is almost done and the point of the hook is 1/3 of the way done.

Captain Foley reported that the Coast Guard advised that they changed over the ice buoys for the season.

Captain Foley reported that the channel widening project from the Army Corp. is approved and the start date will be in the year 2024 and the completion date will be in 2038.

Comments from Captain Charlie Jonas, President, Interport Pilots Association:

Captain Jonas reported that Interport pilots, apprentices and staff are all safe and Coronavirus free.

Captain Jonas reported that he had an accident coming off a ship in October and is expected to be out of work for a month.

Captain Jonas reported that Interport's third pilot boat is in Tuckahoe, New Jersey finishing the repairs and improvements and should be back in operation in about a week.

Comments from Captain Bob Ellis, President, Harbor Pilots Association:

Captain Ellis reported that all McAllister's pilots, apprentices and staff are all healthy and following COVID19 protocol.

Resolution #20-29 to Approve the Meeting Dates for Calendar Year 2021

A motion was made by Commissioner Kils and seconded by Commissioner Roberts to approve Resolution 20-29 to approve the Meeting Dates for Calendar Year 2021.

All voted in favor.

Resolution #20-30 to Approve a Training Grant for a Program to Simulate the Climbing of a Pilot Ladder

Ms. Stuckey advised that the Commission designated \$15,000 in the FY21 budget for pilot training. This year, the Commission will be sending one pilot for the Manned Model training so there is funding in the budget. After a discussion with Captain Foley and Ms. Stuckey reported that the cost of purchasing the ladder and set up will come to about \$8,000. The Commission will split the cost with the New York Commission, which is approximately \$4,000.

A motion was made by Commissioner Roberts and seconded by Commissioner Shisha to approve Resolution 20-30 to approve a Training Grant for a Program to Simulate the Climbing of a Pilot Ladder.

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

All voted in favor.

The Commission went into Executive Session at 10:24 AM.

Return to Public Session

A motion was made by Commissioner Shisha and seconded by Commissioner Kils that the Commission return to Public Session.
All voted in favor.

The Commission returned to Public Session at 11:48 AM.

Adjournment

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

All voted in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:49 AM.