

Minutes of the Lower Coastal Commission of Pilotage Meeting

January 14, 2020
6 Concord Street
Charleston Branch Pilot Office
Chas, SC 29401

Board Members present were:

Mr. David Galloway (Chairman)
Ms. Amy Riley
Capt. Chris Thornton
Mr. Joel Britt

Excused Absences were noted for:

Mr. Ken Riley
Mr. Darrell Johnson
Mr. Henry Hay

Staff and other present were:

Capt. John Cameron, Charleston Pilot Assoc.
Capt. Whit Smith, Charleston, Pilot Assoc.
Ms. Elizabeth Hills, Charleston Pilot Assoc.
Capt. Doug Logan, Charleston Pilot Assoc.
Lt. Richard Keefauver, USCG
Ms. Laura Smith LLR (phone)
Mr. Hardwick Stuart, LLR Advice Counsel (phone)
Mrs. Noreen Milligan, Secretary

The Commissioners of Pilotage for the Port of Charleston met Tuesday January 14, 2020 at the Charleston Branch Pilot Office, 6 Concord Street in Charleston, South Carolina. Whereas, proper notice of date, time, place and agenda information having been properly provide to the Charleston Post and Courier and proper notice also having been posted on the LLR website/Pilotage 24 hours prior to the time scheduled for the meeting and quorum having been noted as present, Chairman Galloway called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM. All votes reference herein was unanimous unless otherwise noted.

Chairman Galloway asked the Commission to approve the agenda. **Motion:** Commissioner Riley moved to approve the agenda and Commissioner Thornton seconded it. **The motion passed.** Chairman Galloway asked the members to read the draft of minutes taken during the November 12, 2019 meeting. **Motion:** Commissioner Thornton moved to accept the minutes and Commissioner Riley seconded the motion. **The motion passed.** Next, the Financial Report showed that checks written since the last meeting totaled \$1,611.37 and there were no deposits, the Commission had \$21,490.27 on hand. **Motion:** Commissioner Thornton moved to accept the Financial Report and Commissioner Riley seconded the motion. **The motion passed.**

Under Old Business, Lt. Keefauver gave the Coast Guard report. Wando buoy was moved for dredge and will be moved back when they are finished. Pilots will let the Coast

Guard know where they would like Buoy #3 and 4 to be placed. Horse Reach front is being worked on. Hog Reach will be torn down and moved 4-6 ft from old location. Cooper River Delta is to be worked on next. The Willow Tender is the one that moves the buoys and the Coast Guard has to wait until it is available. Capt. Logan wanted to inform the Commission that the pilots prefer AIS transmission on the buoys. The Coast Guard will follow up on the request.

Ms. Smith gave the LLR Report. There are three physicals for December. Capt. Thornton informed LLR that his physical is due in February. LLR will make the correction. There was no new information to report on the Lower Pilotage Policies and Procedures Manual. Please continue to send updates to the new LLR Web site *llr.sc.gov/pilot*.

Capt. Cameron said that there was nothing new to report on the Savannah River Commission.

LLR asked Capt. Cameron to submitted his resume and they have recognized him as a maritime expert to consult on the Trans-Atlantic Race, Regulation 136-003 and Regulation 136-080. Mr. Draftz said that only 20 racing yachts would exceed the 11 ft draft threshold. Capt. Cameron said that the keels on these yachts are adjustable. In his opinion the intent of the 11 ft. draft limit is intended to apply to fixed appurtenances, and that adjustable appendages were not intended to be incorporated into the draft necessary to float, because adjustable appendages to accommodate high performance foiling above the surface have a different engineering objective than is incorporated into conventional cargo ship design. The Commission recommends that this be tabled until the next meeting so LLR can submit a written waiver for the racing vessels.

Capt. Cameron said that buoy #8 was moved 14 yards and is still considered in the same place. The Pilots would like the buoy to be moved to a better navigational location. Lt. Keefauver said that it would have to be moved before next Tuesday because the Willow Tender is leaving to another location. He will send in a request to have it moved.

Capt. Cameron said that the Lobbyist, Mr. Bob Coble is working on the pilots' behalf with Senate Bill #689. He will continue to give updates to the Commission.

Under new business, Capt. Cameron gave the 2019 Annual Pilots Report. There were 2,151 arrivals, 158 shifts, 4,457 moves and jobs/licensed pilot was 248. Pilots' Brian Cisco, George Campsen and Jason Teal have all passed the board exam to become Fourth Short Branch Pilots. This license is for one year and there is no tonnage limit, deep draft limit shall be the deepest draft applicable to merchant vessels whose movements are not draft-restricted under Regulation 136-071 A. There is a 43ft draft at the Wando Terminal, 40ft draft at the North Charleston Terminal and 38ft draft at all the other terminal. Captains Smith, Kovanagh and Lockwood administered the tests. Chairman Galloway issued the new licenses on January 1, 2020. Ms. Hills gave the Annual Pilot Registration report. There are 15 full branch pilots, 3 Fourth Short Branch Pilots. **Motion:** Commissioner Riley moved to accept the pilot registration and Commissioner Britt seconded it. **The motion passed.** The three apprentices (Ward, Kratz and Rowe) are doing great. The pilots will have an update for the next meeting.

There were no Commissioner Comments

There were no legal comments.

There were no public comments.

There were no announcements.

There being no further business to bring before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

David Galloway
Chairman

Noreen K. Milligan
Secretary