

Minutes of the Lower Coastal Commission of Pilotage Meeting

November 10, 2020

Charleston Branch Pilots Association Office

6 Concord Street

Charleston, South Carolina 29401

Meeting was conducted by Conference Call

Board Members Present:

Mr. Henry Hay III (Chairman)
Mr. David Galloway
Ms. Amy Riley
Mr. Joel Britt
Mr. Darrell Johnson

Excused Absences were noted for:

Capt. Chris Thornton

Staff and Others Present:

Capt. John Cameron, Pilot Commission Consultant
Capt. Whit Smith, Charleston Pilots Assoc.
Ms. Elizabeth Hills, Charleston Pilot Assoc.
Ms. Laura Smith, LLR
Mr. Hardwick Stuart, LLR Advice Counsel
Mr. Nick Wong, Charleston Maritime Assoc.
Lt. Richard Keefauver, USCG
Ms. Owen Gregory, Secretary

The Commissioners of Pilotage for the Port of Charleston met Tuesday November 10, 2020 by conference call. Whereas, proper notice of date, time, place and agenda information having been properly provided 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 a quorum having been noted as present, Chairman Hay called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM. All votes referenced herein were unanimous unless otherwise noted.

Chairman Hay asked the Commission to approve the agenda. **Motion:** Commissioner Riley moved to approve the agenda and Commissioner Galloway seconded. **The motion passed.** Chairman Hay asked the members to read and review the draft of minutes taken during the November 10, 2020 meeting. **Motion:** Commissioner Riley moved to accept the minutes and Commissioner Galloway seconded. **The motion passed.** Chairman Hay asked the members to review the financial report. **Motion:** Commissioner Riley moved to accept the financial report and Commissioner Galloway seconded. **The motion passed.**

Under old business, Lt. Keefauver reported on behalf of the Coast Guard. Great Lakes Dredging Company gave proposed temporary buoy moves beginning in December for dredge operations with regard to buoys "C" 1, 2, 19, 20, 21 and 22 in addition to what is already off station offshore. They submitted similar requests for buoys in the vicinity of Drum Island Reach, Myers Bend and Daniel Island Reach be moved off station in the February timeframe for dredging operations. This would include buoys 49, 48A, 48, 46 and 44. Norfolk Dredging is talking about moving buoys 39, 40 and 42 off station. More to follow regarding buoy moves. Currently, there is no timeline for putting buoys back on station. Buoy tender Willow is currently in the Gulf, and is very booked between now and July. These buoy moves may need to be done during the December 7 to December 20 time period. Lt. Keefauver will discuss moves and move locations with the Pilots prior to any buoys being moved. USCG was able to relight the range past Yellow House Creek, and plan to rebuild Range Delta.

Commissioner Galloway reported that there is nothing new to report on Channel 13 at the moment. He will continue to keep the Commission up to date.

Capt. Cameron advised that there is nothing new to report on the Savannah River Commission.

Ms. Smith reported for LLR. Ms. Smith advised that due to Covid-19, physical postponements are still in effect. Ms. Smith is waiting to receive physicals from Capt. Cisco, Capt. Swan and Capt. Walters. Capt. Cameron reported that all pilots have kept up with their scheduled physicals during this time.

Capt. Cameron reported that there is no new information on S.689. He will continue to keep the Commission up to date.

Capt. Cameron reported on Pilot/Ladder Safety. Capt. Cameron informed the Commission that the American Pilots Association is working closely with the Coast Guard to identify what international standards need to be enforced and ensure that they are enforced. The Charleston Branch Pilots Association has instituted a quick response card with the local sector to allow for quick reporting and standardized information through this form. The Coast Guard was notified about two instances this past month when there were issues associated with vessel boarding ladders. In each case, the problem was with "trap door" and ladder arrangement. The new quick response cards were used, and seem to be working well. USCG has noted the deficiencies and is responsible to enforce compliance.

Capt. Cameron updated the Commission that the apprentices have all completed their Coast Guard testing. All apprentices have passed the USCG four-part test. That completes their qualifications that need to be submitted to the Coast Guard for Coast Guard licenses. Their next step will be an examination by a board of retired Pilots. When that is complete, the recommendations of the Board will be forwarded to the Commission along with a letter that

certifies that they have completed the Apprentice Training Course and requests that licenses be issued. Pending the completion of the aforementioned steps, licenses could be issued for the Apprentices to commence First Short Branch work beginning January 1, 2021.

Apprentice updates will remain on the agenda until all final elements of the training and licensing are completed.

Under New Business Ms. Hill reported that there has been a change in the drug screening company. Lowcountry Drug Screening will now be conducting the random drug tests for all Pilots and Boat operators. They are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Lowcountry will randomly select the day/time and who will be tested for drugs/alcohol.

There were no legal comments.

There were no public comments.

There were no Commissioner comments.

There were no announcements.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Henry Hay III
Chairman

A.Owen Gregory
Secretary