

Minutes of the Lower Coastal Commission of Pilotage Meeting

May 11, 2021

Charleston Branch Pilots Association Office

6 Concord Street

Charleston, South Carolina 29401

\*\*\*Meeting was conducted by Conference Call\*\*\*

Board Members Present:

Ms. Amy Riley (Chairwoman)

Mr. Henry Hay III

Mr. David Galloway

Mr. Joel Britt

Capt. Chris Thornton

Excused Absences were noted for:

Mr. Kenny Riley

Mr. Darrell Johnson

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

Lt. Chad Ray, USCG

Ms. Owen Gregory, Secretary

The Commissioners of Pilotage for the Port of Charleston met Tuesday May 11, 2021 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, Chairwoman Riley called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM. All votes referenced herein were unanimous unless otherwise noted.

Chairman Riley asked the Commission to approve the agenda. **Motion:** Commissioner Thornton moved to approve the agenda and Commissioner Galloway seconded. **The motion passed.** Chairwoman Riley asked the members to read and review the draft of minutes taken during the April 13, 2021 meeting. **Motion:** Commissioner Britt moved to accept the minutes and Commissioner Galloway seconded. **The motion passed.** Chairwoman Riley asked the Commission to approve the April Financial Report. **Motion:** Commissioner Britt moved to accept the financial report and Commissioner Galloway seconded. **The motion passed.**

Under old business, Lt. Ray reported on behalf of the Coast Guard. Buoys 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 in the Wando River will be put back in place this month. The Wando Reach Channel will be widened by 100 ft. on one side of the channel; the Coast Guard is working with the Pilots on the placement of buoys on account of the middle line in the channel being moved due to the widening. Functional exercises will be taking place July 26-27 in preparation of the upcoming hurricane season. Capt. Cameron informed the Commission that the CMA Marco Polo, the largest container ship to arrive in Charleston, is expected at the Port on May 28. He reminded the Coast Guard and the Commission about the importance of buoy placement for ships that size, and how there is no set up for any alternate ranges with the buoys. Lt. Ray noted that inspections underneath the Ravenel Bridge will begin soon, including the foundations and such.

Ms. Smith reported for LLR. There are no pending physicals due at this time and all physicals are up to date. Ms. Smith is still working on the ID cards and getting approval from LLR to have them issued.

Capt. Cameron reported that Capt. Smith attended a meeting in Columbia on May 5, 2021. It was determined then that the Pilots were exempted from issuing licenses after completion of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade Apprenticeship & Pilotage education program. And, that the legislation has been removed from the bill at Committee level.

Capt. Cameron reported that Covid-19 precautions continue as noted previously. As of 5 pm May 11, 2021, 100% of the Pilots/employees had completed their vaccines. The Pilots continue to follow the Coast Guard's guidelines regarding Covid-19 precautions until further notice.

Capt. Cameron advised the Commission that licenses can be updated to include the new geographic range of the Port of Charleston and the Lower Coastal Area. Licenses need to be reformatted to show the original date of issue, which can be placed in the bottom corner of the license and have Chairman Riley sign all the updated licenses with the new wording. The Commission was in approval of the new changes.

There was no New Business.

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,  
Ms. Amy Riley  
Chairwoman

A. Owen Gregory  
Secretary