

Minutes of the Lower Coastal Commission of Pilotage Meeting

January 11, 2022

Charleston Branch Pilots Association Office

6 Concord Street

Charleston, South Carolina 29401

Meeting was Conducted via Conference Call1

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. Darrell Johnson

Mr. Kenny Riley

Staff and Others Present:

Capt. John Cameron, Pilot Commission Consultant

Capt. Whit Smith, Charleston Pilots Assoc.

Ms. Elizabeth Hills, Charleston Pilot Assoc.

Mr. Hardwick Stuart, LLR Advice Counsel

Lt. Chad Ray, USCG

Mr. Nick Wong, Charleston Maritime Assoc.

Ms. Owen Gregory, Secretary

The Commissioners of Pilotage for the Port of Charleston met January 11, 2022 via 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.

Chairwoman Riley asked the members to approve the agenda. **Motion:** Commissioner Thornton moved to accept the agenda and Commissioner Hay seconded. **The motion passed.** Chairwoman Riley asked the Commission to approve the November 9, 2021 minutes and the November and December Financial Reports. **Motion:** Commissioner Thornton moved to accept the minutes and the financial report and Commissioner Hay seconded. **The motion passed.**

Under old business, Lt. Chad Ray reported to the Commission that the Coast Guard would be implementing a new inspection regime regarding Gangway Safety. This new safety measure would focus on and provide guidance on pilot ladders and gangways for all ports. The Harbor Safety Committee is looking to implement a subcommittee in Hilton Head/Port Royal. The Cutter Willow is here to do a little bit of work in January and February on buoy movements for Post-45.

Mr. Stuart reported from LLR that the ID Cards were finished with production and were mailed to the Pilots on December 8, 2021. Mr. Stuart reported that annual health forms for Capt. Upton, Capt. Logan, Capt. Stewart and Capt. Stuhr are due.

Capt. Cameron reported that Mrs. Smith from LLR sent the most recent version of the legislation regarding adding an elective course to students in instruction of harbor pilotage. The curriculum would be determined by both the Upper and Lower Commissions of Pilotage. Reps. Gaillard and Bennett have proposed this legislation. The Pilots are for any education in the Maritime Domain. The scope of the curriculum should include all the various departments within the Maritime Industry, not just Harbor Pilotage alone.

Capt. Cameron reported that the Charleston Pilots have enacted the previous Covid-19 protocols. The Pilots are following CDC guidelines and wearing masks aboard all ships.

Under New Business, Capt. Cameron released the 2021 Annual Pilotage Report to the Commissioners. The number of arrivals is trending down due to the fact ships are getting larger, therefore fewer ships. Cruise ships arrival numbers are not included on the report. Carnival Cruise ship is back in Charleston and moving forward with their schedules. The Annual Pilot Register includes all 20 Pilots and the number is stable through the year (no retirements indicated). Commissioner Thornton moved to accept the register of pilots. Commissioner Galloway seconded. **The motion passed.**

Under Commissioner comments, Commissioner Galloway informed the Commission that the annual economic statements had been emailed to all Commissioners.

There were no legal comments.

There were no public comments.

Under Announcements:

Chairwoman Riley thanked the Commission, LLR and all those with the committee as it was her last meeting as Chairwoman of the Commission. Chairwoman Riley announced that the position would be turned over to Commissioner David R. Galloway.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Ms. Amy Riley
Chairwoman

A.Owen Gregory
Secretary