

Minutes of the Lower Coastal Commission of Pilotage Meeting

March 14, 2023

Charleston Branch Pilots Association Office

6 Concord Street

Charleston, South Carolina 29401

Board Members Present:

Mr. Henry Hay (Chairman)

Ms. Amy Riley

Mr. David Galloway

Capt. Chris Thornton

Excused Absences were noted for:

Mr. Joel Britt

Mr. Ben Flowers

Mr. Darrell Johnson

Staff and Others Present:

Capt. John Cameron, Pilot Commission Consultant

Capt. Crayton Walters, Charleston Pilots Assoc.

Ms. Elizabeth Hills, Charleston Pilots Assoc.

Mr. Hardwick Stuart, LLR Counsel

Lt. James Sullivan, USCG

Ms. Owen Gregory, Secretary

The Commissioners of Pilotage for the Port of Charleston met March 14, 2023 at the Charleston Pilots Office. 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 otherwise noted.

Chairman Hay asked the members to approve the agenda. **Motion:** Commissioner Riley moved to accept the agenda and Commissioner Thornton seconded. **The motion passed.** Chairman Hay asked the Commission to approve the February 14, 2023 minutes and the February financial reports. **Motion:** Commissioner Thornton moved to accept the minutes and the financial report and Commissioner Riley seconded. **The motion passed.**

Under old business, Lt. Sullivan reported for the Coast Guard. Regarding Buoy #6, Cutter Willow will begin salvage operations March 21. The Cooper River Bridge Run is April 1, Charleston Race Week is April 20-23 and Lowcountry Swim Event will be in May; there will be some marine tweaking for water traffic. Capt. Cameron thanked the CG for all their help during the buoy moves, and the Pilots have requested in keeping some of the buoys in their moved locations.

Capt. Cameron reported that 2 Commissions(NY/MD) have enacted new policies regarding the findings from the Ever Forward. Commissioners can review and finalize new policies by the next meeting.

Mr. Stuart reported for LLR. LLR is still expecting health forms from Capt. Coombs and Capt. Sanders health forms by March 31,2023. Mr. Stuart reminded the Commission that their ethics forms are due by the end of March.

Capt. Cameron reported that the License Reciprocity bill went up in front of the Legislature on February 15, 2023. Capt. Cameron and Capt. Walters went to Columbia and sat for the session. Capt. Cameron spoke with one of the sponsors of the Bill, and he understands that complete reciprocity can not apply to Pilotage. Regarding the Education Bill, it seems to not be progressing.

Under New Business, Capt. Cameron reported that the letter regarding the Rate Increase for the Pilots, is running in the Post and Courier for the 30 days and should be added to the Agenda for April. Moran Towing has sent a letter updating the Pilots of a new Docking Pilot that has been added to their company.

Under Commissioner comments, Capt. Thornton reported to the Commission that the Pilots had voted unanimously to accept Apprentices have asked to stop accepting new applications at this time. A strategic plan will be put in place in the coming weeks and a Personnel Committee will convene and will notify those current applicants.

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,
Mr. Henry Hay
Chairman

A.Owen Gregory
Secretary