

Minutes of the Lower Coastal Commission of Pilotage Meeting

March 18, 2014
899 Morrison Drive
Charleston, SC 29402

Board members present were:

Mr. Henry Hay, Chairman
Mr. Billy Lempesis
Capt. Chris Thornton

Excused absence was noted for:

Mr. Ken Riley
Mr. John Hassell
Mr. David Galloway

Staff and others present were:

Capt. Whit Smith, Harbor Pilot
Capt. John Cameron, Harbor Pilot
CDR Scott Higman, USCG
Mrs. Kitty Cox, LLR
Mrs. Julia Bennett, Charleston Pilot Assoc.
Ms. Pam Zaresk, Maritime Assoc.
Mr. Denver Merrill, Maritime Assoc.
Mrs. Noreen Milligan, Secretary

The Commissioners of Pilotage for the Port of Charleston met Tuesday, March 18, 2014, at the Maritime Association Office, 899 Morrison Drive, 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 at the Maritime Association Office 24 hours prior to the time scheduled for the meeting and 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 members to read the draft of minutes taken during the February 11 meeting. **Motion:** Commissioner Lempesis moved to accept the minutes and Commissioner Thornton seconded the motion. **The motion passed.** Next, the Finance Report showed that checks written since the last meeting totaled \$1,329.27 and there were no deposits, with all bills being paid, the Commission had \$8,654.57 on hand. **Motion:** Commissioner Thornton moved to accept the Finance Report and Commissioner Lempesis seconded the motion. **The motion passed.**

Chairman Hay asked for public comment. There was none.

CDR Higman thanked the Pilots for reporting a marine casualty. The Coast Guard is in the process of modernizing the Navigation System in the country over the next 18 months.

Mrs. Cox gave the LLR Report. LLR is still looking for a vendor to print the new pilot ID badges. There was one physical in the month of March, one in April and one in May. There is nothing new added to the pilot website. The Statement of Economic Interest is due March 30.

On the Right Whale issue, Capt. Smith said that NOAA has 120 days to review and there have been no new updates.

Commissioner Hassell was not able to attend the meeting so there were no updates on the Savannah River Commission.

The racon on the Ravenel Bridge has been working better but the company is still working on improvements.

There was nothing new to report on the changes that the Coast Guard has made to the physicals the pilot are required to have.

The CPI increase was posted in the *Post and Courier* in March. There were no written responses and Chairman Hay asked if there was anyone at the meeting that had a response to the increase. There were none. **Motion:** Chairman Hay asked for a motion to pass the CPI increase. Chairman Lempesis made the motion and Commissioner Thornton seconded it. **The motion passed.** The increase will go into effect on June 1st, 2014. The pilots handed out the new rate cards.

Under new business Capt. Smith informed the Commission that the pilots would be taking possession of their new pilot boat at the end of May at the earliest.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Noreen K. Milligan
Executive Secretary

Henry Hay
Chairman