

Minutes of the Lower Coastal Commission of Pilotage Meeting  
March 13, 2018  
899 Morrison Dr.  
Charleston, SC 29402

Board Members present were:

Ms. Amy Riley (Chairman)  
Mr. David Galloway  
Capt. Chris Thornton  
Mr. Henry Hay  
Mr. Keith Nell

Excused Absences were noted for:

Mr. Ken Riley  
Mr. Darrell Johnson

Staff and other present were:

Capt. Whit Smith, Charleston Pilot Assoc.  
Ms. Elizabeth Hills, Charleston Pilot Assoc.  
Lt. Justin C. Heck, USCG  
Dr. Rita Melton, LLR Administrator  
Mr. Hardwick Stuart, LLR Advice Attorney  
Dr. Galaid, Roper St. Francis  
Ms. Annabelle Thies, Maritime Assoc.  
Mrs. Noreen Milligan, Secretary

The Commissioners of Pilotage for the Port of Charleston met Tuesday March 13, 2018 at the Maritime Association Office, 899 Morrison Dr. 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 Riley called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM. All votes reference herein was unanimous unless otherwise noted.

Chairman Riley asked the Commission to approve the agenda. **Motion:** Commissioner Galloway moved to approve the agenda and Commissioner Hay seconded it. **The motion passed.** Chairman Riley asked the members to read the draft of minutes taken during the February 6th, 2018 meeting. **Motion:** Commissioner Thornton moved to accept the minutes and Commissioner Galloway seconded the motion. **The motion passed.** Next, the Financial Report showed that checks written since the last meeting totaled \$857.25 and there was one deposit of \$4,560.00, the Commission had \$10,673.57 on hand. **Motion:** Commissioner Thornton moved to accept the Financial Report and Commissioner Galloway seconded the motion. **The motion passed.**

Under Old Business the Coast Guard gave their report. Lt. Heck said that Buoy's #3 and 5 were moved per request. Buoy's that had sunk have been retrieved. The Fort

Sumter Range lights on the back are being replaced and the front will be replaced next week.

Dr. Rita Melton gave the LLR Report. The Ethic Commission Filing is due by March 30, 2018. Penalties will begin 5 days after this date. There is one physical due for March and 2 due in April. There was no new information to report on the Lower Pilotage Policies and Procedures Manual. Please continue to send updates to the LLR Web site.

There was nothing new to report on the Savannah River Maritime Commission.

Under new business Capt. Smith reported that the Harbor Deeping Project has started and will take 2 ½ years to completed.

Capt. Smith submitted a letter to the Commission during the February meeting requesting a COLA increase. A notice was ran in the *Post and Courier* from February 8 through February 11 to notify the public of the Cost of Living (COLA) rate adjustment. The requested rate increase is \$63.25 GT to \$64.60 GT and \$25.80 DF to \$26.35 DF. This is based on a CPI for CY2017 of 2.1%. There were no increases to the minimum rates and shifts. **Motion:** Commissioner Galloway moved to approve the CPI rate increase as written and Commissioner Nell seconded it. **The motion passed.**

Under Commissioners Comments, Commissioner Thornton and Capt. Smith said that the Corp of Engineers are working with the pilots to come to an agreement with the placement of reefs that are in the pilot boarding area. Commissioner Galloway asked if a letter from the Commission to the Corp of Engineers stating the concerns over safety issues be considered. Commissioner Thornton said that a letter did not need to be sent at this time. The Pilots will keep the Commission up to date on their progress with the Corp. of Engineers.

Dr. Galaid informed the Commission that starting on January 1, 2018 there were changes to the drug test that the Coast Guard uses. It use to be a Five-Panel Drug Test and is now a Ten Panel Drug Test. They have included Opioids. He also said that there is a new 5-day rule. If a donor tests positive he will have 5 days to show need of the medication or change the prescription if the lab physician has concerns for safety issues. If the donor does not comply after the 5 days, the lab physician can call the employer with his or her safety concerns. Commissioner Thornton said that the pilot's administration would send out a memo to the pilots informing them of the changes. Capt. Smith asked if exams could be conducted at the beginning of the week and not at the end.

Chairman Riley asked if there was any public comment. There was none.

**Motion:** Commissioner Galloway made a motion to go into Executive Session for legal advice. Commissioner Hay seconded it. **The Motion passed.**

**Motion:** Commissioner Galloway made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Commissioner Hay seconded it. **The motion passed.**

There were no announcements.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Riley  
Chairman

Noreen K. Milligan  
Secretary