

Minutes of the Lower Coastal Commission of Pilotage Meeting
April 11, 2017
899 Morrison Dr.
Charleston, SC 29402

Board Members present were:

Mr. Henry Hay (Chairman)
Mr. Billy Lempesis
Mr. David Galloway
Capt. Chris Thornton
Ms. Amy Riley

Excused Absences were noted for:

Mr. Ken Riley
Mr. Darrell Johnson

Staff and other present were:

Lt. John Downing, USCG
Capt. Whit Smith, Charleston Pilot Assoc.
Capt. John Cameron, Charleston Pilot Assoc.
Ms. Elizabeth Hills, Charleston Pilot Assoc.
Dr. Rita Melton, LLR
Ms. Heather Homquest, Maritime Assoc.
Mrs. Noreen Milligan, Secretary

The Commissioners of Pilotage for the Port of Charleston met Tuesday April 11, 2017 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 Hay called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM. All votes reference herein was unanimous unless otherwise noted.

Chairman Hay asked the members to read the draft of minutes taken during the February 14th meeting. **Motion:** Commissioner Riley moved to accept the minutes and Commissioner Thornton seconded it. **The motion passed.** Next, the Financial Report showed that checks written since the last meeting totaled \$1,719.66 and there were 3 deposits totaling \$4,697.50 and the Commission had \$22,144.62 on hand. **Motion:** Commissioner Thornton moved to accept the Financial Report and Commissioner Riley seconded the motion. **The motion passed.**

Chairman Hay asked for public comment. There was none.

Lt. Downing gave the Coast Guard report. The entrance buoys are back in place. The Ft. Sumter range is having a power cable issue and the Coast Guard is working on it. On May 13 the State Port will be handling a 13000 TEU vessel. The pilots asked the Coast Guard to check with the contractors that are working on the bridge to check their measurements. The Coast Guard will check with the contractors and get back with the pilots.

Dr. Melton gave the LLR report. There is 1 physical for April and 1 for May. There is no new information on the NTSB letter. Capt. Cameron asked LLR for their assistance in setting up Mrs. Milligan with an LLR State domain e-mail address. Dr. Melton will check with the administrator and get back with the Commission.

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

The Commission received a proposal from Roper St. Francis Physician Partners to review Pilot Apprentice applicant's physicals. The charges are \$200 per review and a consulting rate of \$200 per hour (charged in 15 minute segments). **Motion:** Commissioner Galloway moved to accept the proposal and Commissioner Thornton seconded it: **The motion passed.** Commissioner Thornton asked the Commission to check into perusing changes to the regulations pertaining to charges for applicants and pilot examiners. Capt. Cameron said he will draft a proposal with the requested changes.

A notice was placed in the Post and Courier from February 16 through February 19 to notify the public of the 2.1% COLA rate adjustment. The new rates will be \$63.25 GT and \$25.80 DF effective July 1, 2017. There was no public comment. **Motion:** Commissioner Thornton moved to accept the new rate increases and Commissioner Galloway seconded it. **The motion passed.** The Pilots new rate cards were presented to the Commission. The effective date for the cards is July 1, 2017. **Motion:** Commissioner Galloway moved to accept the new rate cards and Commissioner Riley seconded it. **The motion passed.**

The WWT fender system is operational and no new problems.

The Personnel Committee met on March 15, 2017. All applicants have until April 30, 2017 to update their files. The applicants will have to score a 32.5 to qualify for an interview. Anyone who does not qualify for an interview their applications are good for 3 years. Commissioner Thornton asked if applicants that interviewed in the last round could keep their scores if they wanted to. The Commission discussed the issue and felt that all applicants should be scored again. **Motion:** Commissioner Thornton made a motion that all applicants will be interviewed and new scores will be issued. Commissioner Lempesis seconded the motion. **The motion passed.**

Under new business Moran Tugs sent the Commission a letter updating them of the new qualified docking pilots. Capt. Whit Smith said that the Tall Ship Festival would be from May 15 through May 23, 2017. The pilots would like to have the apprentices pilot

the tall vessels during the festival. The Regulation # 54-15-120 would need to be amended. **Motion:** Commissioner Thornton made a motion to “Peruse emergency regulation from LLR to allow qualified apprentice pilots to pilot said exhibition vessels during the Tall Ship Festival. Commissioner Galloway seconded the motion. **The motion passed.** LLR will check with the legal council and get back with the Commission. Commissioner Galloway informed the Commission that a “Go Fund Me “account has been set up for the Buckheister family. The water front community is helping the family cover costs for Mrs. Buckheister recovery.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Henry Hay
Chairman

Noreen K. Milligan
Secretary