

Minutes of the Lower Coastal Commission of Pilotage Meeting

October 8, 2013
899 Morrison Drive
Charleston, SC 29402

Board members present were:

Mr. Henry Hay, Chairman
Mr. Billy Lempesis
Mr. John Hassell
Mr. David Galloway
Capt. Chris Thornton
Mr. Stanley Gamble (Representative for Mr. Riley)

Excused absence was noted for:

Mr. Ken Riley

Staff and others present were:

Capt. Whit Smith, Harbor Pilot
Capt. John Cameron, Harbor Pilot
CDR Scott Higman, USCG
Mrs. Kitty Cox, LLR
Ms. Julia Winkler, TradeWorthy Inc.
Mr. Denver Merrill, Maritime Assoc.
Mrs. Noreen Milligan, Secretary

The Commissioners of Pilotage for the Port of Charleston met Tuesday, October 8, 2013, 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 provided 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 Lempesis 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 September 17th meeting. **Motion:** Commissioner Hassell moved to accept the minutes and Commissioner Lempesis seconded the motion. The motion passed. Next, the Finance Report showed that checks written since the last meeting totaled \$475.00 and there was one deposit of \$4,825.00. With all bills being paid, the Commission had \$8,761.35 on hand. **Motion:** Commissioner Thornton moved to accept the Finance Report and Commissioner Galloway seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Chairman Hay asked for public comment. There was none.

The Coast Guard thanked the pilots for hosting the USCG personnel. They were able to tour the pilot facility and boats.

Mrs. Cox gave the LLR report. There was one physical for the month of October and one for the month of November. LLR is working on an ID badge for the pilots. It will contain the LLR logo, photo of pilot, name, birthdate, expiration date, Commissioner's

signature and gender of pilot. It will have statue language regarding Pilotage on the reverse side. Mrs. Cox will have an ID proof at the next meeting to show the Commission for their final approval. The website for the Pilot Commission is working great and all updates can be sent to Mrs. Cox electronically.

There is no update on the Right Whale letter. The Government shut down caused delays with this.

Commissioner Hassell said that the Savannah River Maritime Commission met on October 1. They propose to undertake a channel capacity study in two phases. First, the U.S. Army Corps proposes to update data used in the analysis for the Savannah Harbor Expansion Project, which authorizes a channel at a depth of 47 ft. mean low water in the inner harbor and 49 ft. in the outer harbor. Second, Moffatt & Nichol (consultants for Joint Project Office) will take that data and perform additional analyses. Capt. Smith said that both the Charleston and Georgia Pilots will have to sign off on the study.

Capt. Cameron said that the Racon on the Don Holt is working great. The Racon device on the Ravenel is the old style and is not working. They are sending a technician next week to look at it. He will have an update at the next meeting.

Under new business, Capt. Cameron brought up the procedure for drug testing of the boat drivers for the pilots. They had an incident where one of the boat drivers had a non-negative test result. It was a legal prescription. This happened on a Saturday and the medical reviewer would not come to the pilot house until that Monday. The boat driver was unavailable to work until then. The pilots would like to change this and have medical reviews 365 days a year. Investigative Associates are the ones that handle the subcontracts for this. The pilots will contact them on this matter and will have an update for the Commission at the next meeting.

Capt. Cameron and Mrs. Cox attended the Georgetown Commission meeting. The Georgetown Commission has only one active Harbor Pilot. Capt. Cameron advised them on how to handle the one pilot situation and on what to do when a need might arise for another quickly. Business has been slow and they do not need to have three pilots.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Noreen K. Milligan
Executive Secretary

Henry Hay
Chairman