

Minutes of the Lower Coastal Commission of Pilotage Meeting

November 12, 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

Excused absence was noted for:

Mr. Ken Riley

Staff and others present were:

Capt. Whit Smith, Harbor Pilot
Capt. John Cameron, Harbor Pilot
Capt. Rick Rodriguez, USCG
CDR Scott Higman, USCG
Mrs. Kitty Cox, LLR
Ms. Julia Winkler, 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, November 12, 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 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 October 8th meeting. **Motion:** Commissioner Thornton 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 \$1,499.04 and there was one deposit of \$75.00 with all bills being paid, the Commission had \$7,337.31 on hand. **Motion:** Commissioner Hassell moved to accept the Finance Report and Commissioner Thornton seconded the motion. **The motion passed.**

Chairman Hay asked for public comment. There was none.

The Coast Guard gave their report. CDR Higman gave the Commission a Marine Safety Information Bulletin. It was on the "Clarification of Implementation Date and Notice of Arrival Requirements for Nontank Vessel Response Plan Final Rule". Since the October 30, 2013 effective date of this requirement does not align with the

January 30, 2014 compliance date for submission of nontank VRP's and to ensure consistency with our previous enforcement policy for nontank vessels 1,600 GT and above, the Coast Guard will enforce the following time line:

October 30, 2013 - Tank Vessels

October 30, 2013 - Nontank Vessels (1,600 GT or greater; use VRP Control # listed in existing IOA's

January 30, 2014 - Nontank Vessels 9 400 – less than 1,600 GT)

The Coast Guard informed the Commission that the City Marina can now supply fuel to large yachts.

Mrs. Cox gave the LLR report. There was one physical for the month of November and two for December. The ID badge for the pilots is small enough that it can be carried in their pockets. It will have a double photograph on it for security. It will also have the state seal, photo of pilot, name, gender, expiration date, Commissioner's signature and statute language regarding Pilotage on the reverse side. Commissioner Hay will send his signature to LLR to be used on the new badges. Capt. Cameron asked if the motion to pass the new badge could be held until the next meeting so that the pilots could look at it first. The Commission agreed and the motion was tabled until the next meeting. The web-site for the pilots is still on going with new information being added every month. Mrs. Milligan asked that the site emphasized that all applicants must have the "Comprehensive Metabolic profile" done. Dr. Sloan has mentioned that applicants are not submitting complete physical reports.

Capt. Cameron informed the Commission that he has been to Washington DC three times on the Right Whale issue. The Army Corp. is studying the channel and when the ships are going 15 knots and passing they take up 75% of the channel, when slow down to 10 knots they take up 85% of the channel. This is not safe for the vessels. The Harbor Pilots are hiring a Lobbyist Firm to help them with the Right Whale issue. The Coast Guard is waiting to see what NOA is going to do; the rule expires on December 9th.

Commissioner Hassell did not have any new information on the Savannah River Commission.

The racon on the Ravenel Bridge is still not working. Capt. Cameron will have more information at the next meeting.

The pilots are still waiting for information from Investigative Associates on the drug test for the boat operators for the Harbor Pilots.

Under new business Capt. Smith invited everyone to the Harbor Pilot office on December 7th to watch the parade of boats.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Noreen K. Milligan
Executive Secretary

Henry Hay
Chairman