

Minutes of the Lower Coastal Commission of Pilotage Meeting

July 10, 2012  
899 Morrison Drive  
Charleston, SC 29402

Board members present were:

Mr. David Galloway, Chairman  
Mr. William Lempesis  
Cap. Chris Thornton

Excused absence was noted for:

Mr. John Hassell, III  
Mr. Ken Riley

Staff and others present were:

Capt. John Cameron, Chas. Harbor Pilots  
Capt. Whit Smith, Chas. Harbor Pilot  
CDR Scott Higman, USCG  
Mr. Brad Gettelfinger, Moran Shipping  
Mrs. Kitty Cox, LLR  
Ms. Julia Winkler, TradeWorthy Inc.  
Ms. Katie McKenna, Intern, Chas. Harbor Pilots  
Mrs. Noreen Milligan, Secretary

The Commissioners of Pilotage for the Port of Charleston met Tuesday, July 10, 2012, 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 Galloway called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm. All votes referenced herein were unanimous unless otherwise noted.

Chairman Galloway asked the members to read the draft of minutes taken during the June 12th 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 \$14.00 (bank fee) and there were no deposits. It was reported with all bills having been paid, the Commission had \$344.95 on hand. **Motion:** Commissioner Thornton moved to accept the Finance Report and Commissioner Lempesis seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Chairman Galloway asked for public comment. The Harbor Pilots introduced Ms. McKenna to the Commission.

The Coast Guard reported that the July 4<sup>th</sup> festivities went well and stated there are no major events coming up. Capt. Smith mentioned that the pilots cannot move vessels up river to North Charleston and private terminals during the fireworks.

Mrs. Cox gave the LLR Report. She reported Reg. Bill 4249 passed and was published in the *State Register* on June 22, 2012. She reported the NTSB draft letter from the Commission was given to LLR Director, Holly Pisarik, for the Governor's response to the NTSB. It was noted the Director made a few non substantive changes to the letter and passed it on to the Governor. Mrs. Cox asked if the NTSB asks for data would the Commission be able to handle that request. Capt. Cameron said that the Commission does not have any hard copies. Mrs. Cox said the Insurance Reserve Fund class will held for board/commission members on September 14, 2012 in Columbia and Chairman Galloway and Mrs. Cox will be in attendance. There are three (3) pilots due for annual health certificates, one (1) in July and two (2) in August. Chairman Galloway asked Capt. Cameron to prepare a request to change the fees in the regulations. Mrs. Cox said that they should try to do this as quickly as possible for early filing. She also recommended that they be prepared to send a representative to Columbia to discuss the request as needed.

Capt. Smith said that a workshop with the Army Corps will be held on July 11th at the Marriott on the Charleston Harbor 45 project.

It was reported the air draft application for the Don Holt Bridge has been approved and Commissioner Lempesis said that it should be installed in the next three (3) to five (5) months.

Capt. Cameron said that there was nothing new to report on the Savannah Maritime Commission. He stated he will keep the Commission informed on any updates.

Under New Business Capt. Smith said that apprentices Sanders and Weil will be going for the Full Branch licenses and that they will be tested this month. No new apprentices are needed at this time.

Capt. Cameron gave a report on the preparations the pilots have in place in case of hurricanes. It was: If there is a Category 2 or higher, one pilot boat is placed in a cradle at Deytons Ship Yard and the other one is taken up river. The critical gear is taken to a farm in Huger. The pilot's building was designed to with stand a Category 3 storm and they have generators that will power the building. They have fuel and food to last for 1 ½ weeks. After the storm has passed they will assess the damage and get in contact with the Coast Guard and the State Ports Authority. They will let the Coast Guard know what is critical and what needs to be handled first. The port has averaged 1 hurricane per season and the harbor was closed for about 15 hours last year. Commissioner Lempesis said that there is a State OEC Committee that has representatives from all maritime organizations (Port, tugs, Coast Guard, pilots etc.). They will be stationed at the Embassy Suites to handle the situation after the storm. Mrs. Cox asked what the procedure was for earthquakes or other situations. Capt. Cameron said that the procedures are the same.

It was reported the Law firm of Womble, Carlyle, Sandridge and Rice sent a letter to the Commission asking for recordings from Channel 13 on the morning of February 1, 2012. The recordings were pulled and given to Mrs. Cox. She will hand them over to Mr. Spoon who is the Commission's advice counsel for LLR.

It was also reported on July 5<sup>th</sup> the OOCL California was inbound to the WWT. They were not sure on the air draft of the vessel and it was turned around. The vessel was brought back in later that day.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Noreen K. Milligan  
Executive Secretary

David Galloway  
Chairman