

**CONNECTICUT MARITIME COMMISSION (CTMC)
REPORT OF MEETING (Mtg. #8)
For
October 20, 2005**

Location of Meeting: CT Department of Transportation
2800 Berlin Turnpike Conf Rm. B
Newington, Connecticut

Attendance:

Commissioners

Present

Carl Bard (for Commissioner Korta)
Vincent Cashin
Judy Gott
G.L. "Doc" Gunther
Joseph P. Maco
Carmen Molina-Rios (for Commissioner Abromaitis)
Joseph Riccio
Kaye Williams
George Wisker (for Commissioner McCarthy)
John Wronowski

Absent

Robert Genuario
Tom Dubno
John Johnson
David Shuda
Martin Toyen

Guests

Chuck Beck	Bob Hammersley	Dave Head	LT Andrea Logman
Dave Rossiter	Joel Severance	Carl Stephani	Alan Stevens
Carmine Trotta	John Valengavich		

I. Call to Order:

- Vice Chairman Riccio called the meeting to order 9:35. The Vice-Chair noted that there was a quorum (eight (8) needed).

II. Review of Meeting Minutes:

- It was noted that the September meeting (#7) was not held due to a lack of a quorum. Minutes of August 18, 2005 were reviewed. One minor change was noted. The minutes as amended were approved unanimously.

III. Public Comments: Joel Severance provided information and a handout on the Connecticut Harbor Management Association (CHMA) and the Dredged Material Management Plan (DMMP). He requested that the CTMC become engaged in the DMMP process as a stakeholder and include comments on the DMMP on the monthly agenda. CT DEP is the lead CT agency. G. Wisker provided additional information on the DMMP process as well as the politics involved with the State of NY, EPA (2 regions) and the Army Corps of Engineers (ACE). NY does not want to open the Long Island sound (LIS) dumping areas that have been designated. CT is seeking to keep the LIS sites open and viable within the rules set by EPA. The ACE has the lead on the DMMP but has not been funded for the project by Congress (approximate cost \$15M). The Governor's office has sent letters to the CT Congressional delegation requesting they work to provide the necessary funds. Without a DMMP, maintenance dredging of the CT ports could be stymied thus affecting their economic viability. Mr. Severance also provided information on the CHMA Annual Banquet being held on the evening of 20 October 2005.

IV Old Business

- NOAA Tide Station - Chuck Beck reported that a draft Memorandum of Agreement between CONNDOT and NOAA has been provided to NOAA and within CONNDOT for approval. CONNDOT funds have been budgeted for operation of the tide station for the next 5 years.
- Bridgeport Dredging Pilot Project – The Vice Chair pointed out that as authorized at the 18 August meeting, the Chair had submitted a letter of support from the Commission to OPM for \$750,000 of bonding funds to be provided for the Bridgeport dredging project. A copy was provided to the Commissioners.
- O & G Letter of Support - Mr. Williams stated that despite the tide station, he was not supportive of the O&G project that would move material between Stamford and Bridgeport. He was reminded by the Vice Chair that the Commission had voted to support the project at the August 18 meeting and authorized the Chairman to send a letter of support to the Stamford Zoning Board. A copy was provided to the Commissioners.

V Sub-Committee Reports

- Mission Statement – J. Riccio provided a copy of the draft Mission Statement for discussion. He expressed a concern on how the Mission Statement might create conflict with other agencies dealing with the same issues. Commissioner Bard stated that conflicts are a fact of life. It was pointed out the CTMC had representatives from the agencies that have responsibility for common issues. Thus, it was felt that the CTMC could/would be the body to work through any interagency conflicts. The section of the CGS that created the Commission was read to provide clarifying support. A question was asked about whether the CTMC would set policy for the CT maritime pilots thus should the Mission Statement so note. After some discussion it was agreed that in general the CTMC would be concerned about policy related to the Pilots but that the specifics would be handled by the legislatively created CT Pilot Commission (CPC). It was noted that the CTMC had two currently licensed CT Pilots as members. Senator Gunther moved that the draft Mission Statement be approved. The motion was seconded by J. Maco and approved unanimously by the Commission.
- Issue Priorities - The sub-committee leader (Ms Gott) reported that the list of 28 maritime issues generated by the Commission several months ago has been boiled down to 2 main areas; dredging and economic development. She recommended that a Policy be drafted for each. There was discussion about the need to add a reference to the DMMP process within the dredging policy. There was considerable discussion on how/where the DMMP should be added. J. Gott wrapped the discussion by stating that she felt that the CONNDOT staff should draft a policy statement on the two issues. There was further discussion on the need to synchronize the policy statement with policy already set by the Transportation Strategy Board (TSB). There was also discussion on the need to state why these two issues were important to the State. V. Cashin raised the issue of a policy on “new Pilots”. After considerable discussion it was decided that the best approach would be to have the CPC bring recommendations to the CTMC with regards to Pilot issues. It was decided that the Chairman of the CPC will be invited to attend and make a presentation at the November CTMC meeting. Since the Transportation Maritime Manager (C. Beck) serves both Commissions he will draft the letter. J. Gott took issue with the intent of the TSB relative to the legislation that created the Transportation Maritime Manager Position. She felt that the TSB had intended that the position be 100% dedicated to the CTMC. It was pointed out the despite the intent of the TSB, the multipurpose duties of the position are clearly described in the legislation.

VI. New Business

- CTMC Annual Meeting - The Vice Chair reminded the members that November 17, 2005 would be the "Annual Meeting" of the Connecticut Maritime Commission. He stated that the meeting would be held at the CONNDOT building in Newington. He was reminded that there was discussion at the July CTMC meeting about holding the Annual Meeting at the Aquaculture facility in Bridgeport to be closer to the shoreline public. It was reported that the M. Toyen had determined that the Aquaculture facility was not available. The Vice Chair stated that he would revisit the issue with Chair who was not present today. There was discussion about "guest speakers" at the annual meeting. It was decided to keep the list short and invite the Chairman of the CPC to speak on the CT Pilot Commission's mission and "vision".
- Broadwater – The CTMC has not taken a position on the Broadwater proposal. However, the Chairman wrote to the Governor (as authorized by the Commission at the 18 August meeting) telling her of the steps that the CTMC had previously taken relative to Broadwater; i.e. accepted a presentation. The letter also offered any and all assistance from the CTMC to the Long Island Sound Liquefied Natural Gas Task Force (LIS LNG TF) created by the Governor. It was reported that the M. Toyen, as the Chairman of the CTMC, had been invited to participate on the LIS LNG TF by the appointed Chairman, Senator Fasano. It was also reported that C. Beck was Commissioner Korta's "designee" to the LIS LNG TF. Thus, the CTMC would be adequately represented.

VII. Date of Next Meeting

Next meeting is scheduled for 0930 Thursday 17 November 2005. The meeting is scheduled to be held in Conference Room B on the 1st Floor of the CONNDOT Head Quarter's building at 2800 Berlin Turnpike Newington, CT

VIII. Adjournment - A motion was made by Commissioner Bard to adjourn and seconded by V. Cashin. The motion carried unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 1145