

**CONNECTICUT MARITIME COMMISSION (CTMC)  
REPORT OF INFORMATIONAL MEETING (Mtg. #11-11)  
November 16, 2011**

**Location of Meeting:** Bridgeport Regional Vocational  
Aquaculture School  
60 St Stephens Road  
Bridgeport, CT

**Attendance:**

**Commissioners**

**Present**

Chuck Beck (for DOT Commissioner)  
Tom Dubno  
John Johnson  
Dave LeVasseur  
Larry Miller  
Bob Ross  
David Shuda  
George Wisker (for DEP Commissioner)

**Absent**

Commissioner Smith/Ronald Angelo  
Vincent Cashin  
Michael Griffin  
Joe Riccio  
Parker Wise

**Guests**

Gordon Brown Don Eversley Martha Klimas Ed Lavernoch Joe Maco Andy Nunn  
Joe Salvatore Joel Severance Judi Sheffele Brian Thompson Grant Westerson

**I. Call to Order:**

The Vice Chairman John Johnson called the meeting to order at 0933. Commissioners/designees present introduced themselves followed by introductions of the audience.

**II. Review of Meeting Minutes:**

In the absence of a quorum, review and approval of the September 21, 2011 summary report was deferred pending the late arrival of an eighth Commissioner. With the arrival of the eighth Commissioner during the dredging update, approval of the September 21 summary report was revisited at the end of Old Business. A motion was made by Commissioner Miller to approve the summary report. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Dubno and approved by unanimous vote.

**III Discussion Open to Public** Joel Severance reminded all that the Connecticut Harbor Management Association (CHMA) Annual banquet being held on 12/06/2011 at the Woodwinds in Branford. State Senator Meyer, chair of the Environmental Committee, will be the keynote speaker. Harbor Masters who performed beyond the call of duty during Hurricane Irene will be honored. Grant Westerson reminded all of the Connecticut Marine Trades Association Holiday Special being held at St. Clements Castle in Portland on 12/06/2011. All wishing to attend are asked to bring an unwrapped gift/toy to be donated to charity. Joe Maco reminded all that the North Atlantic Ports Association meeting being held in Washington, DC December 1 & 2, 2011. He expected that the ballast water issue will be a central topic. Martha Klimas reported that she had attended the NAPA Traffic Board meeting in NYC on 10/26/2011. It was announced at the meeting that NY had delayed implementation of its proposed ballast water discharge regulations and was redrafting with new standards that would not be as restrictive as the original. In response to a question, Andy Nunn reported that the Derecktor bankruptcy issue was ongoing. CT CDA and other state organizations are engaged with the City of Bridgeport to keep the site open through subleases. Bridgeport is working to keep the site going as an active marine industrial complex.

#### **IV Old Business:**

A. Dredging Update – Joe Salvatore provided an update that started with projects being funded out of the \$6M capital funds provided by PA 11-57. A \$1.8M state bond had been approved to initiate data collection for the Supplemental Environmental Impact Study (SEIS) for Eastern Long Island Sound. CTDOT is working with CTDEEP and the US EPA on an MOA that will establish the consultant selection process, the scope of work and the project monitoring criteria. Guilford will receive \$ 198,750 for the Dredging of the Guilford Town Marina Basin and Inner Channel. Old Lyme will be receiving \$200k for Design/Engineering Services for Dredging of the Black Hall and Four Mile Rivers and related facilities. Joe referenced a copy of a letter in the meeting package from the NY Department of State to the New England District of the Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) objecting to the disposal plan for the Patchogue River dredging project scheduled for the winter of 2012-2013 as being inconsistent with their coastal zone management plan. The ACOE plan is to use the Cornfield Shoal Disposal site. The Central and Western disposal sites are considered suitable but would have an extra cost associated with the additional transportation. Brian Thompson reported that it's up to the ACOE to challenge the NYDOS objection. A resolution to the disposal of the Thames Shipyard dredge material has been determined. The material will be taken to the Western LIS Disposal site and used as capping material for the Stamford project. Joe Salvatore reported that he attended the LIS DMMP workgroup meeting held in Port Jefferson, NY on October 6, 2011. Information about the meeting was in the meeting package. The next step will be to conduct interviews with the stakeholders.

B OPSAIL 2012 – Vice Chairman Johnson provided an update on New London participation in OPSAIL2012CT. He stated that the first public fund raiser event was being held Thursday evening November 17, 2011 at the Coast Guard Academy. The OPSAIL2012CT committee has set a goal of raising \$1M for the event. A new OPSAIL2012CT office located at 239 Bank Street Rear will be opening on December 6, 2012. Commissioner Johnson stated that 8 tall ships have indicated they would participate in the New London event but the committee is waiting confirmation. He also advised that the NYC OPSAIL2012 event is lacking support and might be moved to Liberty Park in NJ. The outfall could equate to larger crowds at the New London event. The current estimate of people coming to New London for the OPSAIL2012 event is 800k-1M.

C. Long Island Sound Area Maritime Security Council (LIS AMSC) Update – In the absence of a CG representative, Chuck Beck reported that a meeting of the LIS AMSC Executive Steering Committee was held in Bridgeport, CT on 11/02/2011. Nothing of particular interest to the CTMC was discussed.

D. Long Island Sound Harbor Safety Committee (LIS HSC) Update – In the absence of a CG representative, there was nothing to report. In response to a question from Joe Maco, Grant Westerson of the CT Marine Trades Association (CTMA) confirmed that the last HSC meeting was held on 4/5/2011 in Port Jefferson, NY.

E. Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund Letter – Chuck Beck stated that several e-mails and telephone calls to the Governor's staff to determine the status of the letter drafted by the CTMC for the Governor's signature in support of releasing more of the HMTF for its intended purposes had not been successful. The Vice Chairman recommended that the topic be removed from the agenda.

F. Study of a Strategy for the Economic Development of CT's ports – Chuck Beck provided an update on the status of the RFP that OPM had generated to select a consultant to conduct the Port Study. OPM had the lead with support from DECD, DEEP and DOT. The RFP timeline was very tight. Solicitations were made and submittals received. The submittals were scored by a panel that consisted of the 4 state agencies as well as representatives from New Haven, New London and Bridgeport. The top three consultants were interviewed by the evaluation panel. The interviewees were notified of who was selected/not selected. Negotiations with the selected consultant will start on Monday November 21, 2011. In response to a question Beck stated that

he knew the name of the selected consultant but it was up to OPM to make public. In response to another question, Beck stated that the deadline for conducting the study was April 2, 2012.

**V New Business:**

A. State Pier Deficiency and Needs Study and RFP – Chuck Beck provided an update on the status of the study. The Study has provided a road map for the DOT to follow to improve the State Pier facility. The study also assisted in the drafting of an RFP soliciting for the next State Pier facility manager. The RFP was posted and distributed on October 6, 2011. A non-mandatory meeting of interested parties was held at the State Pier Administration building on October 19, 2011. Questions that were due no later than November 2 had been received and responses generated. The questions and the responses are posted along with the RFP on the CTDOT web page under Doing Business with ConnDOT. Proposals are due on December 7, 2011. In response to a question from Commissioner Dubno about who attended the non-mandatory meeting, Beck read the names of the companies represented from the sign-in sheet.

B. American Feeder Lines – Since the topic had been requested by Commissioner Parker who was absent, the Vice Chairman referred discussion until the December meeting.

C. Meeting Schedule 2012 – A draft schedule for calendar year 2012 was part of the meeting package. The draft schedule had the CTMC meeting the third Wednesday of each month (except August) at 0930 following the site location rotation followed in 2011. A motion was made by George Wisker to approve the draft schedule. The motion was seconded by Dave Shuda and approved by unanimous vote.

A discussion on some of the agenda topics discussed earlier ensued. Grant Westerson reported that Terry Backer, the Sound Keeper, had advised that the State of NY has not been cooperating with CT relative to the lobster kills over the past couple of years. Also the Long Island Sound Studies Citizens Advisory Committee had recently met. Attendees consisted of 8 CT and 1 NY representatives as an example of the inactivity between CT and NY. Brian Thompson reported that DEEP Commissioner Esty had reached out to his counterpart in the NY Department of Environmental Conservation but that it was the NY Department of State that imposes the consistency road blocks to CT dredging projects. Grant Westerson stated that the CMTA was meeting with DEEP next Monday to discuss the problems with NY.

**VI Executive Session – none held**

**VII Date of Next Meeting:** Prior to adjourning, the Vice Chairman announced that the next meeting of the CTMC would be held at the **CTDOT HQ office located at 2800 Berlin Turnpike in Newington, CT at 0930 on Wednesday December 21, 2011.** The meeting will be the Annual meeting.

**VII Adjournment:** -. A motion was made to adjourn by Commissioner Dubno, seconded by the Vice Chairman and passed by unanimous vote. The meeting ended at 10:15 AM.