



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
CONNECTICUT PILOT COMMISSION



Minutes of November 10, 2005 Public Meeting
Connecticut Department of Transportation - State Pier
New London, Connecticut

The public meeting was called to Order at 8:10 a.m. Pilot Commission members Michael J. Eisele, Vernon C. Miller, Dave Shuda, and William Gash were present. Also in attendance were Captain Charles Beck, Alan Stevens, and Dave Rossiter (CT DOT), LCDR Alan Blume, U.S.C.G., Captain Charles Jonas, Captain Ted Melancon (Interport Pilots Agency, Inc.), Captain Ken Warner (Block Island Pilots), Captain William Mulligan (Connecticut State Marine Pilots, Inc.) and Captain Phil Gaughran (Connecticut Harbor Pilots).

The Pilot Commission reviewed draft minutes of the October 13, 2005 public meeting. The minutes were unanimously approved as drafted upon the motion of Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Gash.

Mr. Eisele circulated minutes of the New York Board and the report of the New York Board concerning the grounding of the M/T FASE.

Mr. Eisele reported that the court held a pre-motion conference in the New England Shipping Company v. Block Island Pilots, et al. case on November 1. Briefs on cross-motions for summary judgment are due December 2, with responsive briefs due January 18, 2006. Mr. Eisele will advise Paul Pernerewski of the briefing schedule.

Captain Jonas reported that his petition for a declaratory ruling regarding the administration of the Joint Rotation was denied in a November 1 opinion from DOT. Any appeal must be filed by December 15. Captain Jonas advised the Commission that the various pilot groups are continuing consolidation discussions which may moot the issues presented by the petition.

The Pilot Commission briefly discussed the issue of any recommendations to DOT regarding the 1st annual review of the Joint Administrator's performance. The subcommittee of Mr. Gash, Mr. Miller, and Mr. Shuda is continuing its work on this issue.

Mr. Gash distributed a further revision of Captain Beck's proposal to seek legislation to increase the authority of the Pilot Commission. On the motion of Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Shuda, the Commission voted unanimously to forward the proposed legislation to DOT for further consideration. Mr. Gash will draft covering correspondence for Mr. Eisele's signature.

The Commission reviewed a draft recommendation reflecting its decision at the

October meeting to recommend a temporary fuel surcharge in the amount of \$150 per boarding or disembarkation, for a period not to exceed 6 months. Mr. Eisele will forward the recommendation to DOT.

Mr. Eisele reported that there has been no response to the Commission's September 26 offer to provide assistance to the Governor's LNG Task Force.

Mr. Eisele reported that he has accepted an invitation to address the Connecticut Maritime Commission regarding pilotage issues at the CMC's November 17 public meeting.

Captain Jonas advised the Commission that he believes that it would be appropriate to license a new pilot in 2006. The Commission will review the need for a pilot and the current procedures for licensing new pilots at the December public meeting.

Captain Beck addressed the issue of 2006 license renewals.

LCDR Blume reported on status of the Coast Guard's involvement in the Broadwater permitting process. CAPT Boynton addressed the Task Force on November 4.

The public meeting was adjourned at 9:55 a.m. The Commission did not meet in Executive Session.

The Commission's next public meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 8 at 8:00 a.m., to be held at U.S. Coast Guard, Sector Long Island Sound, 120 Woodward Avenue, New Haven CT.

Michael J. Eisele
Chairman, Connecticut Pilot Commission