



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
CONNECTICUT PILOT COMMISSION



Minutes of December 14, 2006 Public Meeting
Connecticut Department of Transportation
2800 Berlin Turnpike, Newington CT

The public meeting was called to Order at 8:00 a.m. Pilot Commission members Michael J. Eisele, Vernon C. Miller, Jr., Captain Charles Beck, Captain Vincent Cashin, David Pohorylo, David Shuda, Joe Russo, and Captain Richard Barry were present.

The minutes of the New York Board were circulated for review. The minutes of the Commission's November 9, 2006 public meeting were unanimously approved as drafted upon the motion of Captain Cashin, seconded by Mr. Miller.

Captain Beck reported on the status of the DOT's formulation of a Request for Proposals with respect to the management and operation of the Joint Rotation.

LCDR Alan Blume, U.S.C.G. advised the Commission of the status of the Thames River Bridge Moveable Span Replacement Project.

Mr. Eisele reported that FERC had released a Draft Environmental Impact Statement regarding the Broadwater Energy LNG Project. Captain Beck advised that the Governor's Task Force was scheduled to reconvene following review of the draft EIS and that FERC would hold public hearings in January, 2007. The Commission discussed training requirements should LNG operations begin in the Long Island Sound.

The Commission continued its discussion of pilotage rates. Mr. Eisele reviewed the pilots' proposal, distributed at the November 9, 2006 public meeting and presented an alternative proposal, including an analysis of the effect of the proposal on pilotage costs and pilot distributions. Following discussion, Captain Beck, seconded by Mr. Miller, moved to recommend to the Commissioner of Transportation that pilotage rates be changed as follows:

1. The Long Island Sound and Harbor rates set out in Sec. 15-14-1A of the pilotage regulations be increased 6% in year 1, a further 6% in year 2, and another 6% in year 3.
2. The 6% fee currently paid by each pilot to the Commissioner of Transportation pursuant to Sec. 15-14-4 of the regulations be eliminated and in its place a 6% fee on the gross amount of pilotage fees be assessed against the pilots, to be escrowed by the Joint Administrator and utilized for pilot training and certification expenses as approved by the Commissioner of Transportation.

3. The Long Island Sound minimum charge be raised to 150 units (from 100 units); the Long Island Sound maximum charge be raised to 600 units (from 450 units); and the Harbor maximum dollar charges be raised 6% annually for 3 years to coincide with the increase in Harbor rates.
4. To impose a fee of \$150 for each hour piloting in excess of 8 hours (tows only); \$150 hourly for detention aboard at platforms or at anchor; and \$150 hourly for arrival/departure more than one hour late (unless 4 hours notice of ETA/ETD is provided).
5. To impose a cancellation fee of \$500, unless 4 hours notice is provided.
6. To impose a fee for a pilot carried away of \$1,000 for the first day and \$500 for each additional day plus return travel expenses.
7. Docking fees shall be regulated by Commissioner of Transportation at the current levels.

The motion passed 6 to 1, with Mr. Eisele, Mr. Miller, Captain Beck, Mr. Shuda, Mr. Russo, and Captain Barry in favor. Mr. Pohorylo opposed the motion. Captain Cashin abstained from voting. Mr. Eisele will draft a recommendation for approval of the Pilot Commissioners and forwarding to the Commissioner of Transportation.

Captain Barry departed the meeting at 10:00 a.m. due to a professional commitment.

The Commission reviewed a December 13, 2006 letter from the Joint Administrator to Captain Beck requesting that the Temporary Fuel Surcharge of \$200 per boarding or disembarkation be extended an additional year beyond the January 31, 2007 expiration. Upon the motion of Mr. Eisele, seconded by Captain Beck, the Commission voted 6 -1 to recommend to the Commissioner of Transportation that the Temporary Fuel Surcharge be extended another 180 days from January 31, 2007; Mr. Eisele, Mr. Miller, Mr. Shuda, Mr. Russo, Captain Cashin, and Captain Beck voting in favor and Mr. Pohorylo opposed.

Captain Cashin briefed the Commission on the workings of the U.S. Coast Guard Regional Examination Center (REC) Pilot Exam Standardization Group. The group was convened by the Coast Guard to assist in standardizing pilotage evaluation and examination processes among the RECs.

Mr. Eisele distributed the 2007 public meeting schedule.

Mr. Eisele advised the Commission that Captain Walker had made allegations that eight pilots boarded or disembarked the NELSON STAR or NAPIER STAR on a total of 16 occasions at locations other than the designated Montauk Point

pilot station. Captain Beck reported that additional allegations of boarding or disembarkation in violation of the pilotage regulations had since been made by Captain Walker. CDOT is reviewing these allegations.

The Commission discussed use of the Montauk Point pilot station and the issue of pilot discretion in selecting boarding and disembarkation stations. Captain Cashin, seconded by Mr. Pohorylo, moved that the Commission revisit the issue at its January, 2007 public meeting. The motion passed 6-1, with Mr. Miller, Captain Beck, Captain Cashin, Mr. Shuda, Mr. Russo, and Mr. Pohorylo in favor and Mr. Eisele opposed. Mr. Eisele will list this issue on the agenda for the January meeting.

The public meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m. The Commission did not meet in Executive Session. The Commission's next public meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 11, 2007 at 8:00 a.m., to be held at the Connecticut Department of Transportation, State Pier, New London.

Michael J. Eisele
Chairman, Connecticut Pilot Commission