

**Connecticut Pilot Commission
Annual Meeting
Summary Report December 16, 2014 Public Meeting
New Haven Regional Fire Training Academy
230 Ella Grasso Blvd
New Haven, CT**

1.) Call to Order and Introductions - The public meeting was called to Order at 10:00 a.m. by Chairman Bill Gash. Pilot Commission members/designees Chuck Beck, Wynne Bohannon, Mike Eisele and Phil Gaughran were also present making a quorum of five. Also attending were Tom Dubno, Joe Maco, CDR Jason Gunning and Alan Stevens.

2.) Approval of Minutes - A motion was made to approve the summary report of the November 18, 2014 meeting by Mike Eisele, seconded by Wynne Bohannon and passed by unanimous affirmative votes.

3.) Public Comments – None.

4.) U.S. Coast Guard Comments – CDR Gunning reported that the icebreaking season had officially started in the CG Sector LIS AOR. Phil Gaughran asked some questions about icebreaking in the CT River which CDR Gunning and Chuck Beck addressed.

5.) Connecticut Department of Transportation – Alan Stevens had nothing new to report.

6.) Continuing Business:

A. P.O.R.T.S. – Chuck Beck reported that the September, October, November and December regularly scheduled Bond Commission meetings had been canceled deferring any action on the bond request to fund P.O.R.T.S. He added that the P.O.R.T.S. Bond request had been forwarded by the CTDOT to OPM for consideration on the January 2015 Bond Commission agenda.

B. Draft Changes to CGS Chapter 263 Harbors and Rivers – Mike Eisele presented a letter he had drafted (and distributed prior to the meeting) on behalf of the CPC to be sent to the DOT Commissioner recommending that CGS Section 15-13 be amended to include an "extension of route" paragraph. Mike Eisele stated that the recommended change would add a paragraph (b) to CGS Sec 15-13. The new paragraph would allow a pilot already licensed by CT for eastern LIS and at least one of the three deep draft ports to apply for an "extension of route" provided the pilot could document that within the preceding 36 months (1) 12 round trips were made on American vessels under enrollment as a pilot of record for which the pilot was not a crew member or (2) 12 round trips as observing pilot on vessels under enrollment or vessels under register subject to compulsory pilotage under CGS Section 15-15 and 15-15(c) during which the applicant does the piloting work under the supervision and authority of a pilot licensed by the state or (3) any combination of the above requirements for trips. Eisele pointed out that the 4K GT requirement had been deleted and replaced with "vessel requiring compulsory pilotage in accordance with CGS Sec 15-15". There was a discussion on the difference between the requirement for an initial CT license and the proposed extension of route. It was pointed out that as proposed in the letter a pilot could apply for/obtain an extension of route making 12 round trips through the waterway as a pilot of record on any size American vessels without being observed/evaluated by a CT licensed pilot. The Chairman stated that he felt confident that the intent of the CT licensed pilots was to have all trips to be used for application of an extension of route to be observed by a pilot licensed by the state. Phil Gaughran agreed. Phil also questioned the need for 12 round trips and suggested the 12 observed round trips be reduced to 6 round trips. The issue of requiring the trips to be observed only by a CT licensed pilot as opposed to any/all pilots licensed for the MOA waters. The discussion centered on restricting the observed trips to only CT licensed pilots reduced the overall opportunity by 30% during a time when vessel transits had declined. Phil Gaughran stated that he understood the 30% reduction but that all of the trips should be

observed by a pilot licensed by the state of CT. Upon general agreement to the changes needed to the proposed CGS 15-13 (b) a motion was made by Chuck Beck to edit the draft letter accordingly, distribute the new letter to the CPC for final review then authorized the Chairman to sign and send the letter to the DOT Commissioner for consideration and action. Mike Eisele provided a second and the motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

C. Draft Changes to the CT State Agency Regulations –The Chairman asked that the topic be deferred to the January 2015 CPC meeting. All agreed.

D. Connecticut Port Authority Working Group (PAWG) – In the absence of Dave Pohorylo, the CPC's representative on the PAWG, the Chairman drew everybody's attention to the December 1, 2014 PAWG meeting summary report and information provided in the CPC meeting package. The information included summaries of the two subgroups (Structure/Governance and Geography/Responsibilities) recommendations, a roster of the PAWG members and a draft update of the Economic Impact of the Maritime Industry in Connecticut. The updated Economic Impact report provided a comparison of the number of jobs and overall salaries of various elements of the marine industry in CT. There was no further discussion.

7.) New Business

A. Pilotage Training Fee – Referring to the draft document provided in the CPC meeting package, the Chairman asked if anybody had any input. Hearing none the Chairman suggested that the pilots and others review the draft and be prepared to discuss at the January 2015 CPC meeting. Chuck Beck added that the draft document presented some ideas on how the Training Fund might be distributed merely as a starting point. It offered a couple of different distribution scenarios to be considered for adoption with a goal of reimbursing individual pilots for expenses incurred as a result of continuing training and/or procurement of safety equipment. The Chairman asked Phil Gaughran to talk with the pilots to get their collective input. Phil was asked to discuss a distribution plan with Chuck Beck and the JRA prior to the January 2015 CPC meeting.

B. Annual Report – Chuck Beck advised that a draft copy of the CPC 2014 Annual Report was part of the December CPC meeting package. He advised that the vessel transit numbers as well as the pilotage revenues collected and distributed needed to be revised through the month of December. The Chairman asked for all to review the document and forward any other edits that need to be made so that the 2014 Annual Report could be acted upon by the CPC at the January 2015 meeting.

8.) Executive Session – None called

9.) Adjourn – Mike Eisele made a motion to adjourn that was seconded by Wynne Bohannon and passed by a unanimous voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 10:40 AM

All were reminded that the next CPC meeting is scheduled for **10:00 a.m. on Tuesday January 20, 2015 at the New Haven Regional Fire Training Academy located at 230 Ella Grasso Blvd. in New Haven, CT.**