

**Connecticut Pilot Commission
Summary Report February 19, 2013 Public Meeting
Coast Guard Sector Long Island Sound
New Haven, CT**

- 1.) The public meeting was called to Order at 10:02 a.m. by the Chairman, Bill Gash. Pilot Commission members Chuck Beck, Alan Blume, Bill Borek, Mike Eisele, Phil Gaughran and Ralph Gogliettino were also present. Also attending were Captain Joe Vojvodich, CDR Amy Beach, James Amarante, Keith Colwell, Charlie Jonas, Michael LaBonia, Bill Mulligan, Adam Richardson, Joe Maco, James Mahlmann, Dave Rossiter, Alan Stevens, Alex Woodworth.
- 2.) A motion was made to approve the summary report of the January 15, 2013 meeting by Mike Eisele and seconded by Ralph Gogliettino. Chuck Beck raised a minor point concerning an exchange he had with Alan Blume (not present at the time of the vote) related to comments attributed to Blume in the January summary report. The motion passed by unanimous vote.
- 3.) Public Comments - None
- 4.) U.S. Coast Guard – Captain Vojvodich and CDR Beach stated that they had nothing to pass.
- 5.) Rotation System Executive Board Update – After a lull in any response, Chuck Beck reminded all that their still appeared to be confusion as to who would be making the report. It was noted that Paul Costabile, the Joint Rotation Administrator, was not present. Recalled that at previous meetings the pilots stated that as an employee of the Joint Rotation Administrator Paul Costabile was not a member of the RSEB thus, not their representative. Beck reminded the Chairman that he had asked the pilots to figure out how to administer the RSEB meetings and report back to the CPC. Joe Maco offered that the RSEB had meet in the CG Sector LIS Command conference Room just prior to the CPC meeting. Phil Gaughran stated that the RSEB had discussed maximum safe drafts for the channel (36 ft) and the Motiva facility (34 ft). He also reported that the RSEB had discussed the process and safety related to taking stores aboard a visiting vessel while at a terminal, underway and/or at anchor. Terminals have security plan issues. Underway and at anchorage have weather related issues. The pilots might be asking for the assistance from the CPC to establish a policy. Ralph Gogliettino offered to discuss the security related issues with some of the New Haven terminals and report back to the CPC at the March meeting. The Chairman asked that the issue be placed on the March agenda. Alan Blume reiterated that it appeared to be a safety vs security balance. He cautioned the CPC about offering vs facilitating a solution. The discussion returned to the RSEB meeting. Phil Gaughran stated that most of the other issued discussed were internal to the RSEB. He also stated that the pilots had agreed to meet once every three months possibly before that month's CPC meeting. He concluded by stating that the pilots had not yet decided how update reports would be provided to the CPC or by whom.
- 6.) Connecticut Department of Transportation – Dave Rossiter asked CDR Beach about how the new CG random drug testing policy might affect CT pilots. CDR Beach stated she believed that lowering the percentage of tests requirement (50% to 25% annually) in theory was driven by costs considerations. Joe Maco stated that he had spoken to the NY Board and was told that the change in federal policy wouldn't have a negative effect. Chuck Beck made a similar evaluation relative to CT pilots.
- 7.) Executive Session: The CPC adjourned to Executive Session at 1015 to discuss issues related to the recent grounding in New Haven Harbor. Captain Vojvodich and CDR Beach were invited to attend. The Public Session of the CPC meeting was reconvened at 1105. The Chairman announced that no motions had been made and no votes had been taken.

8.) Continuing Business:

A. Investigative Processes for Marine Incidents/Accidents – The Chairman announced that discussion on the agenda item would be deferred until the March 19, 2013 CPC meeting

B. Apprentice Pilot Training Report - Phil Gaughran stated that there were no new trips reported by either of the two apprentice pilots since the January CPC meeting. He also stated that he had requested the apprentices provide documentation of trips made prior to being selected as apprentices but nothing had been provided.

C. Recency Requirements – Phil Gaughran stated he had been asked at the January meeting to research the recency requirement. He read a passage from CGS Section 15-13(f) *“Any pilot who has been away from duty for a period of not less than six months, or who has not completed a passage through any port or waterway for which he is licensed during such period, shall be placed on inactive status. Said pilot shall complete at least one round trip over the port or waterway for which he is licensed before resuming his duties as a pilot. The refresher passages shall be made in the company of an active pilot licensed by the state. Said pilot, before resuming his pilotage duties, shall submit to the commissioner a list of completed refresher passages, including the name, gross tons and draft of each vessel involved, a description and date of each passage and the name of the attending pilot.”* He concluded by stating that the CPC needs to decide whether or not to make a recommendation to change the recency requirement. Mike Eisele inquired as to what Phil Gaughran had in mind as a proposed change. Gaughran responded that since the waterways have not changed for quite some time, perhaps computer “simulation trips” under the supervision of a senior pilot could be used. When asked if any other jurisdictions were using virtual technology for recency trips Phil stated he did not know. Alan Blume stated that he would be attending an IMO meeting in the near future and he would inquire. After some discussion on the merits and limitations of virtual trips, the Chairman asked Phil Gaughran and Alan Blume to report on their findings at the March meeting.

D. Pilotage Rates and Fees – Status of Pilotage Rate Increase Regulation - Chuck Beck stated that the change to the regulation had cleared OPM and the Governor's office. The draft had been returned to CTDOT with some minor editorial changes to be made, some of which were to parts of the regulation that were not being changed. He stated that the CTDOT Legislative Manager was making the changes and once done would be putting the regulatory change out for public notice, potentially within a week or two

E. Temporary Fuel Surcharge – Chuck Beck stated that the 30 day comment period had just expired. He reminded everybody the request for an extension and increase was made by the Joint Rotation Administrator on behalf of the pilots despite the pilots statement that they do not recognize the JRA as their representative. Beck stated that only one comment was submitted as a result of the Public Notice. The NY Board had submitted a letter (included in the meeting package) supporting the 6 month extension but not the increase from \$260 to \$280. There was some discussion on the math used to determine the increase. It was pointed out that the math/formula used by the JRA to justify the \$20 increase was the same as contained in the pending change to the Pilotage Regulations. Thus, had the regulations been approved the temporary fuel surcharge would have automatically (with the consent of the Commissioner) been increased to \$280. The CTDOT was asked to discuss the matter with the NY Board and work to a resolution.

F. CPC Annual Report – Upon introducing the agenda item, the Chairman asked for a motion to approve the 2012 Annual Report. Alan Blume moved that the 2012 Annual Report be approved. The motion was seconded by Mike Eisele. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

9) New Business - none

10.) Adjourn - A motion was made by Mike Eisele to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Ralph Gogliettino and unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 1122.

The Commission's next public meeting is scheduled for **10:00 a.m. on Tuesday March 19 2013**
at the U.S. Coast Guard Sector Long Island Sound in new Haven, CT