

**Connecticut Pilot Commission  
Summary Report March 16, 2010 Public Meeting  
Coast Guard Sector Long Island Sound  
New Haven, CT**

1.) The public meeting was called to order at 8:32 a.m. by the Vice Chairman. Pilot Commission members Rick Barry, Chuck Beck, Alan Blume, Vincent Cashin, Bill Gash, Ralph Gogliettino and John Love were present forming a quorum of seven. Also attending was Dave Rossiter of CTDOT, CDR Kevin Oditt of the USCG, Duncan Ayr, Jim Miller, Mike Pimer, Tom Dubno, Lou Bettinelli, Charlie Jonas, Bill, Mulligan, Paul Costabile, Joseph Maco, M.A. Peszke, and Alex Woodworth.

2.) A motion to approve the summary report of the January 19, 2010 meeting was made by Vin Cashin and seconded by Bill Gash. The motion carried unanimously.

3.) Continuing Business:

A. Pilot Boat Operating Costs – Bill Gash had drafted a generic model of the pilot boat costs. There was little discussion on the model but there was consensus it was a good start. Chuck Beck reminded all that he had previously requested pilot boat operating cost from all of the owners/operators of pilot boats that serve the Block Island/Long Island Sound Joint Rotation but had received no information. Beck asked if there was no interest on the part of the boat operators to improve the payments to the operators perhaps the matter should be dropped. Bill Gash stated that the CPC should continue to work on the model. Alan Blume agreed. Both felt that the CPC can work on the issue independently. Charlie Jonas stated that the numbers used in Bill Gash's model were pretty accurate. There was a discussion relative to the higher costs associated with the operation of the Northeast Marine pilot boats. Jim Miller stated that the numbers in the model were conservative relative to the operation of his harbor launches. Beck reminded all that the CT State Statutes (Sec.15-15e) and the CT Regulations (Sec.15-15a-17(h)) gives the Commissioner of the CTDOT the authority to regulate pilot boats including fees. The Vice Chairman asked the boat operators to reconsider providing information to Beck and for Beck to forward the information to Gash to refine the model.

B Objectives and Goals - Apprentice Selection and Training Regulation

Chuck Beck reported that the draft Apprentice Selection and Training regulation along with the required supporting documents had been forwarded to regulation review process. Joe Maco inquired about the document forwarded. Beck stated that the final draft regulation and the supporting documents had been electronically forwarded to all of the CPC Commissioners as well as the interested parties. He also stated that language had been reinstated relative to a newly licensed apprentice working on the CT side of the rotation for the CT pilot organization. Chuck Beck asked for that matter to be discussed during Executive Session scheduled later on the agenda.

C. Infectious Disease Preventive Measures – The CPC had sent a letter to CTDOT dated 11/17/09 requesting assistance with getting CTDPH to evaluate the risk of exposure of marine pilots to infectious disease. A copy of the letter as well as a copy of the CTDPH response was in the meeting package. It was decided to drop the topic from future agendas but monitor as incidents occur.

D. Pilot Fee Distribution to States – Chuck Beck stated that the information from the JRA was still being digested and converted into a more usable format. The topic will be carried on the agenda for the next meeting in April 2010.

E. License Moratorium – License Application Update.

Due to the potentially sensitive nature of the information relative to personnel matters, it was decided that the update on the status of the marine pilot application process would be discussed in Executive Session latter on the agenda.

4.) New Business

A. Coast Guard Sector Long Island Sound – Command Update Commander USCG Sector Long Island Sound Captain Dan Ronan provided an update on pending personnel changes that would take place within his command over the next few months. He stated that he and the Executive Officer would both be departing as would the Chief of the Prevention Branch, CDR Kevin Oditt. Captain Ronan will be retiring and his change of command is scheduled for 21 June 2010. The Executive Officer, Captain Kevin Burke, will be transferred to Iraq. CDR Oditt is being transferred to CGHQ in Washington. Captain Ronan also provided an update on the various Port Security Grants that were either recently awarded or would soon be announced.

B. Bridgeport Harbor Dredging Project – Chuck Beck brought to the attention of all the Public Announcement that was part of the meeting package concerning the ACOE Public Announcement on the Bridgeport Dredge Material Management Plan. The proposed plan includes creating a Contained Aquatic Disposal (CAD) cell within Bridgeport Harbor as well as use of the "borrow pit" in New Haven Harbor. Comments are being solicited by the ACOE.

C. Lightering Operations – Chuck Beck brought to the attention of all material contained in the meeting package concerning and effort to determine and perhaps reduce pollutants introduced to the air during lightering operations just off shore. Basically, there is a major effort underway by clean air regulators in the Northeast (called the Ozone Transport Commission, or OTC) to draft a model rule on aboveground storage tanks (AST's) for petroleum. The discussion has included lightering, which may lead to a model rule on that topic.

D. Pending Legislation – Chuck Beck brought to the attention of all a letter in the meeting package submitted by the Connecticut Maritime Coalition (CMC) to the co-chairs of the CT Legislature's Transportation Committee. The letter stated opposition to a proposed change to the CT General Statutes that would eliminate current language on reimbursement to CPC members for necessary expenses. Alan Blume expressed concern about CPC member who might be asked to travel out of state on CPC business. Chuck Beck stated that those types of expenses would still be reimbursed. There was no further discussion.

E. Supplemental Environmental Impact Study for Eastern Long Island Sound (SEIS) – Chuck Beck brought to the attention of all a letter contained in the meeting package from the CMC to the CT Congressional delegation. The letter requested assistance in securing Federal funding for an SEIS. An SEIS is needed to determine an appropriate/alternative disposal site in Eastern Long Island sound. EPA has been dragging its feet on getting the SEIS done.

5. CONNDOT Comments – Dave Rossiter stated advised that CGS 4-38f contains guidance on entities that are attached to a State Department for "Administrative Purposes". Bill Gash asked if a copy could be scanned and provided to the CPC

6. USCG Comments

A. LIS AMSC – CDR Kevin Oditt provided a handout on and made remarks concerning the anchorage areas off of the three CT deep draft ports. Some minor adjustments have had to be made to accommodate comments from the ACOE on an historic disposal area. However, the goal was to keep the changes minor so that the rule making process would not have to start from scratch. CDR Oditt stated that he would send the changes to Chuck Beck so that they could be distributed to the CPC and interested parties for comment.

B. LIS HSC – CDR Oditt stated that there would be a barge moored adjacent to the channel under the Thames River Amtrak Railroad Bridge for a period of time. The barge will be used during painting of the bridge and will not obstruct the channel

The Chairman acknowledged the presence of the FBI Special Agent Dan Coleman and asked if he had any comments. None were offered.

7. Executive Session – An Executive Session was held to discuss two personnel items. The public session was recessed and the executive session commenced at 0918. The public session was reconvened at 1101. It was reported that no motions were made and no votes were taken during the executive session.

Upon reconvening, a motion was made by Bill Gash to add a topic to the agenda. The motion was seconded by John Love. Receiving 2 affirmative (Gash and Love), 2 negative (Beck and Cashin) and 3 abstentions (Barry, Blume and Gogliettino), the motion did not carry. John Love then asked for a license suspension hearing discussion to be added to the agenda of the next CPC meeting.

8. A motion to adjourn was made by Bill Gash, seconded by Alan Blume and approved by unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 1104.

The Commission's next public meeting is scheduled for **8:30 a.m. on Tuesday April 20 , 2010 at the Coast Guard Sector Long Island Sound in New Haven, CT**

Rick Barry  
Vice Chairman, Connecticut Pilot Commission