

**CONNECTICUT MARITIME COMMISSION (CTMC)
SUMMARY REPORT OF MEETING (Mtg. #01-12)
January 18, 2012**

Location of Meeting: ConnDOT HQ Building Conference Room A
2800 Berlin Turnpike
Newington, CT

Attendance:

Commissioners

Present

Chairman Joe Riccio
Vice Chairman John Johnson
Dave LeVasseur (for OPM Secretary)
Tom Dubno
Michael Griffin
Larry Miller
Bob Ross
David Shuda
Parker Wise
George Wisker (for Commissioner Esty)
Chuck Beck (for Commissioner Redeker)

Absent

Vincent Cashin
Commissioner Smith/Angelo

Guests

CDR Beach	Ned Farman	Bill Gash	Jack Karalios	Martha Klimas
David Keene	Dave Rossiter	Joe Salvatore	Judi Sheiffele	Bill Spicer
Grant Westerson				

I. Call to Order:

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 0934. A quorum of 11 was present. Commissioners present introduced themselves followed by introductions of the audience.

II. Review of Meeting Minutes:

The summary report of the December 21, 2011 meeting was reviewed. A motion was made by the Vice Chairman to approve the summary report. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Dubno and was approved by a unanimous vote.

III Discussion Open to Public Grant Westerson (CMTA) advised that he had attended an initial meeting of a CT Legislature Law Revision Committee on titling of recreational boats. There are 17 states that do not have recreational titling laws/regulations, CT being 1 of the 17. The committee had representatives from DMV, the State Boating Law Administrator, some lawyers and CMTA. Titling laws/regulations would provide some protection to used boat dealers as well as recreational boat owners. In response to a question Grant advised that the Harford Boat Show is being held 27-29 January 2012. The event is sold out relative to vendors/dealers. He further advised that 10-15K people traditionally attend the event depending on weather. In response to a question, Grant stated that participation at the NYC Boat Show was down this past December. He speculated that the cause was the event being held too close to the Christmas holiday and a conflict with the Giants football game schedule.

IV Old Business:

A. Dredging Update – Joe Salvatore advised that a LIS DMMP conference call was held on 01/05/2012. He reported that the interview mentioned at the December CTMC meeting as being imminent had been delayed and should take place the end of January-beginning of February. Work on hiring a consultant to initiate the to the Eastern Long Island Sound Supplemental Environmental Impact Study (ELIS SEIS) is progressing. A workgroup consisting of representatives from CTDEEP, CTDOT and EPA

Region 1 have been crafting an RFP to solicit a consultant to perform Phase 1 of the ELIS SEIS. Additionally a draft scope of work is near completion. In response to a question, Joe stated that the WRDA Bill with the SEIS related language inserted by Congressman Courtney and Senator Lieberman was signed by the President on or about 12/30/2011. The language that will keep the New London and Cornfield Shoals Disposal Sites open for 5 years from the date the bill was signed into law (December 30, 2016). The language also requested a report from EPA within 90 days on how they plan to resolve the dredging issue in eastern LIS, and directs them to work with the state and the Corps to find a solution.

B OPSAIL2012CT Update—Vice Chairman Johnson provided an update on OPSAIL2012CT event taking place Friday July 6, 2012 through Monday July 9, 2012. He reported that tall ships and others are beginning to confirm participation in the New London event. Appearance fees have been offered to several Class A tall ships. Newport, RI has scheduled an American Sail Training Association (ASTA) event over the same weekend. In response to a question Commissioner Johnson stated that unfortunately appearance fees are a necessary evil and range from \$20-25K.

C. Long Island Sound Area Maritime Security Council (LIS AMSC) Update –CDR Amy Beach of CG Sector LIS provided a brief update. She reminded all that the U.S. Coast Guard Atlantic Command is soliciting comments about a proposed Port Access Route Study for the entire Atlantic seaboard. Information about the proposed regulation can be found at the www.regulations.gov web site and typing in Atlantic Coast Waterway Study in the search block. (a direct link is <http://www.regulations.gov/#/documentDetail;D=USCG-2011-0351-0028>). The drop dead date for comments is January 31, 2012.

D. Long Island Sound Harbor Safety Committee (LIS HSC) Update –.See paragraph C.

E. Study of the Strategy for the Economic Development of CT's Ports (Port Study) – Commissioner Bob Ross advised that the consultant selection process was completed and drew all's attention to the Press Release that was part of the meeting package. He reported that a great kick-off meeting with the consultant Moffat and Nichol had been held on Tuesday Jan 10th. Commissioners Smith Redeker and Esty were present along with staff members and members of the M&N team. He reminded all that there was a very aggressive timeline to complete the study but there was an understanding that flexibility with the timeline might be needed to insure quality. In response to a question Commissioner Ross stated that details on the public involvement element of the study would be a topic at the next planning meeting with M&N. Concerns had been expressed by M&N about receiving/managing unsolicited input from stakeholders. Commissioner Ross advised all in the room that each deep draft port had a point of contact that should be used to get information to the consultant: Bridgeport-Don Eversley; New Haven-Judi Sheffele; New London-Ned Hammond. In response to a question from the Vice Chairman about M&N making a presentation to the CTMC, Commissioner Ross stated that he would take that request to the consultant. In response to a question from Commissioner Wise, Commissioner Ross stated that he would provide the American Feeder Line contact information to M&N.

F. State Pier Needs and Deficiency Study and RFP Update – Chuck Beck advised that the submittals to the RFP for the Management, Marketing and Operational Services for the State Pier Facility were in the process of being evaluated by a CTDOT selection. Care will be taken to coordinate the State Pier selection process with the Port Study timeline.

V New Business:

A. Annual Report – Chuck Beck presented the draft 2011 Annual Report. He handed out a revised draft based on comments that had been received after the meeting package had been distributed. The changes were minor in nature and pointed out. Questions related to the true status of Ron Angelo (designee to Commissioner Smith vs Gubernatorial appointed Commissioner) were discussed. The Vice Chairman moved to accept the 2011 Annual Report as revised. The motion was seconded by George Wisker and approved by unanimous vote.

B. 2012 Meeting Schedule – The Chairman advised that the 2012 CTMC Meeting Schedule was in the meeting package. The schedule follows the format and location rotation from past years. Commissioner Shuda made a motion to approve the 2012 meeting schedule. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Dubno and approved by unanimous vote.

Returning to dredging issues, the Vice Chairman asked Joe Salvatore to track the proposed legislation that would release more of the HMTF to the Army Corps of Engineers for navigation projects such as maintenance dredging. Off topic, Commissioner Griffin reminded all that he was a member of the LIS DMMP workgroup. He asked if he should consultant with the CTMC before responding to the LIS DMMP interview. After a brief discussion, Commissioner Griffin was advised that he should respond from his personal perspective since there were several members of the CTMC on the workgroup. It was also decided that once the interviews were completed, the topic would be an agenda item at future CTMC meeting to allow all to report their experience.

VI Executive Session – none held.

VII Date of Next Meeting: It was announced that the next meeting of the CTMC would be held at the **Fort Trumbull Conference Center in New London, CT at 0930 on Wednesday February 15, 2012.**

VIII Adjournment: - A motion to adjourn was made by the Vice Chairman, seconded by Commissioner Dubno and passed by unanimous vote. The meeting ended at 10:03 AM.