

**CONNECTICUT MARITIME COMMISSION (CTMC)
REPORT OF MEETING (Mtg. #09-05)
20 May 2009**

Location of Meeting: Connecticut Department of Transportation Building
Newington, CT

Attendance:

Commissioners

Present

Chuck Beck (for Commissioner Marie)
Vincent Cashin
Sue Decina (for Commissioner McDonald)
Tom Dubno
G.L. "Doc" Gunther
John Johnson
Larry Miller
Linda Krause
Joseph P. Maco (for Chairman Kelleher)
John Opie
Joe Riccio
George Wisker (for Commissioner McCarthy)

Absent

Robert Genuario
David Shuda
John Wronowski

Guests

Skip Allemon	Keith Basilici	John Crowther	Jon Kachmar	Jack Karalius
David Losee	Joe Salvatore	Joel Severance	Lee Sharp	Judi Sheiffele
Bill Spicer	Alan Stevens	Geoff Steadman	Brian Thompson	Grant Westerson

I. Call to Order:

The newly appointed Chair, Commissioner Joe Riccio, opened the meeting at 9:31 AM. A quorum of 12 was present. The CTMC members were asked to introduce themselves. The audience was asked to introduce themselves.

II. Review of Meeting Minutes:

The summary report of the 15 April 2009 meeting was reviewed. A motion was made by Commissioner Johnson and seconded by Commissioner Dubno to approve. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

III Discussion Open to Public

None Offered

IV Old Business:

A. Dredging Update - Joe Salvatore

1. North Cove Dredging Project –Contractor has demobilized.
2. The Rocky Hill-Glastonbury Ferry dredging has been completed. Completion of the ramp improvement work pends due to level of CT River.
3. Recent inquires from both Clinton and Westbrook concerning possible funding sources for their respective dredging projects have been received. Congress has provided a total \$783K for Westbrook but nothing for Clinton. Estimate for each project is approximately \$1.6M.

4. Bridgeport Port Authority recently received \$1.5M for bulkhead improvement and dredging at the Derecktor Ship Yard. Derecktor recently directly received a \$1M grant from CDA.
 5. LIS DMMP – ACOE still drafting dredging needs study. The final dredging needs report should be available in June 2009. Percentage of surveys returned was in the high 60s. Critical facilities return rate also very high. In response to a question, George Wisker stated that the format of report will not identify specific facilities but rather a geographic summary. Based on preliminary review CT will need on average 500K cubic yards of mostly mud type material dredged each year for the next 30 years. He further stated that the LIS DMMP report will validate past reports but with updated/improved data. Commissioner Gunther interjected off-topic that the abandoned fixed aides to navigation in the Housatonic River were contributing to the silting of marinas down stream. George Wisker returned to the topic by stating that once the draft report is complete there will be public comment period as well as more public outreach meetings.
 6. It was reported that the letters concerning the Niantic Amtrak Bridge project approved at the April meeting had been signed and sent. A copy was included in the meeting package.
 7. Economic Stimulus Package Update – As previously reported by e-mail, there were no CT dredging projects approved to be funded by the Economic Stimulus program. In fact, there was only one dredging project approved in all of New England. Commissioner Gunther stated that there were other projects funded like the Pleasure Beach mitigation. Commissioner Krause advised that there was a link to the economic stimulus activity accessible posted the Governor's web page. She further stated that CT's share of the stimulus obtained was about \$3B out of a \$13B request. Of the \$3B provided, \$1.5B was dedicated to Medicare and another \$0.5 dedicated to education.
- B. LIS Eastern Boundary – George Wisker reported that had been told that the EPA had sent a letter to the New England Division of the ACOE on the LIS Eastern Boundary issue but he had not seen a copy yet. Once a copy is available it will be distributed. It was decided by the Commissioners to take the topic off of the agenda. George took the opportunity to provide an update on the CTDEP LEAN program which is designed to streamline the water quality certificate issuing process. It was reported that there had been a 57% reduction in steps since November 2008. Process time relative to issuance of a Letter of Insufficiency had dropped from 205 to 26 days. Permit Decision time had been reduced from 568 days to 47 on based on a sample of the 5 most recent applications. In response to a question, Brian Thompson stated that the LEAN program would be under a continuous process improvement process.
- C. LIS AMSC Update – CWO Basilici from Coast Guard Sector Long Island Sound (CGSECLIS) was in attendance but had nothing new to report. The Chairman reminded all of an up coming LIS AMSC meeting to be held in Port Jefferson on Wednesday June 10, 2009. He also provided information on a Facility Security Officers training opportunity being held in New London, CT in August 2009. Information can be obtained at the following link: (<https://www.seebald.com/fsoregister.php>).
- D. LIS HSC Update –Chuck Beck stated that it had been reported at the CT Pilot Commission the day before that the Long Island Sound Anchorages Notice to Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) was on the First Coast Guard District Commander's desk for signature. Commissioner Gunther stated that he didn't think that all of the interested parties had been properly informed about the anchorages. The Commissioner was reminded of the extensive outreach conducted by the Coast Guard. It was also stated that the NPRM would be yet another opportunity for interested parties to review and comment.

V New Business:

- A. Election of Officers – With the recent appointment of Commissioner Riccio as the Chair, the issue of electing a new vice-chair and secretary was raised. The Chair opened the floor for nominations. Commissioner Dubno moved to nominate Commissioner Johnson as the vice chair. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Opie. Commissioner Gunther moved to close the nominations seconded by Commissioner Dubno. Commissioner Johnson was elected as the vice chair by unanimous vote. It was determined through discussion that there was no need to elect a secretary at this time.
- B. NRG Presentation – Despite previous arrangements, there were no representatives from NRG present at the meeting. Commissioner Miller asked that the presentation be scheduled for the next CTMC meeting.
- C. Environmental Audit Presentation– Mr. Dave Losee from Halloran & Sage provided information on an Environmental Peer Auditing program. The program has been successfully implemented at over 300 colleges and universities throughout the US. It has been adapted for use by hospitals and there is a desire to adapt the program to port facilities. The concept involves directed training to a corps group that would then conduct environmental audits of facilities. Penalties on violations detected would be waived provided corrective action taken within certain timelines. The purpose of the presentation was to generate interest in an attempt to conduct a pilot port program. Contact information was provided as was a copy of the presentation to be distributed to the CTMC and interested parties via the CTMC e-mail distribution system.
- D. Bridgeport Port Authority Presentation – Joe Riccio, as the Executive Director of the Bridgeport Port Authority (BPA), provided an overview on the BPA. The information provided touched on the origination of the BPA, legislative authority, revenue streams as well as past and current issues. A copy of the presentation was provided to be distributed to the CTMC and interested parties via the CTMC e-mail distribution system.

At the end of the presentation Commissioner Riccio stated that as the Executive Director of the BPA, he had recently attended a meeting of the Long Island Sound Assembly (LISA). Dredging was a topic discussed. The members present passed a motion to form a loose association of parties interested in dredging issues. The desire is to have 2 members from various groups participate with a goal of developing a common approach to get CT's waters dredged in a consistent manner as needed. The Chair volunteered himself and Commissioner Johnson to be the CTMC representatives. A motion was made, seconded and approved to make it so.

VI Date of Next Meeting:

It was announced that the next meeting of the CTMC would be at **Fort Trumbull Conference Center in New London CT at 0930 on Wednesday June 17, 2009.**

VII Adjournment:

A motion was made by Commissioner Johnson, seconded by Commissioner Cashin and approved unanimously to adjourn. The meeting ended at 11:35 AM.