



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
CONNECTICUT PILOT COMMISSION



Minutes of October 11, 2007 Connecticut Pilot Commission
Public Meeting
Connecticut Department of Transportation
State Pier, New London CT

The public meeting was called to Order at 8:02 a.m. Pilot Commission members Michael Eisele, Captain Charles Beck, Captain Vince Cashin, William Gash, John Love, Dave Shuda, Joe Russo, and David Pohorylo were present along with CDOT staff members Alan Stevens and Dave Rossiter. Also attending were Captain Ken Warner, Captain Phil Gaughran, Michael Quinn, and LCDR Kevin Oditt, U.S.C.G.

Mr. Eisele introduced John Love, Esq., who is newly appointed to the Commission to fill the vacancy left by Vice-Chairman Vernon C. Miller. Mr. Eisele circulated a letter written on behalf of the Commission and CDOT thanking Mr. Miller for his four years of service to the people of Connecticut.

The minutes of the New York Board of Commissioners of Pilots for the month of September were circulated for review.

On the motion of Captain Cashin, seconded by Captain Beck, the minutes of the Commission's September 13, 2007 public meeting were approved as drafted by a unanimous vote, with Mr. Shuda, Mr. Pohorylo, and Mr. Russo abstaining.

Mr. Eisele noted that CDOT published a Notice of Intent to increase pilotage rates in the September 18, 2007 edition of the Connecticut Law Journal, beginning a thirty day public comment period. Mr. Eisele circulated a copy of the Commission's recommendation to CDOT to adopt a maximum LIS charge of 500 pilotage units, instead of the 600 pilotage units previously recommended, to conform to the New York rate structure as passed by the New York legislature in July, 2007.

Captain Beck reported that a draft Request for Proposals with respect to the management and operation of the Joint Rotation is still under review at CDOT.

Captain Beck reported that the Commission's recommendation regarding designation of a heavy weather pilot station in Block Island Sound is also under review at CDOT. Mr. Eisele advised the Commission that he has been unable to schedule a date to meet with the New York Board of Commissioners of Pilots to discuss this issue due to other commitments. Mr. Gash volunteered to meet with the New York Board. Captain Beck and Mr. Gash will attempt to schedule a meeting as soon as possible.

The Commission discussed the draft criteria for apprentice pilot selection and training developed by Captain Cashin and Captain Barry. The Commission will provide further written comments to Captain Beck for inclusion in the draft. This issue will be continued to the November meeting, with the objective of making a recommendation to CDOT.

The Commission discussed pilot staffing and the use of part-time pilots. Captain Cashin

advised the Commission that he will likely ask the Commission to consider recommending the licensure of a new pilot at the November public meeting.

On the motion of Mr. Shuda, seconded by Mr. Pohorylo, the Commission voted unanimously to elect Captain Barry to be Vice-Chairman of the Commission.

Captain Beck reported that the CDOT has completed its investigation of alleged boarding/disembarkation violations involving nine pilots and will likely make a proposal to resolve those allegations on a consensual basis.

Mr. Rossiter circulated copies of agency regulations pertaining to pilotage. Captain Beck noted that CDOT regulations are not readily available on-line and will explore the possibility of including pilotage regulations on the Pilot Commission's web page.

LCDR Oditt discussed the Coast Guard's use of Letters of Deviation, including restrictions on vessel movement based on various types of discrepancies. LCDR Oditt also advised the Commission that the Coast Guard report on the BARKALD/ESSENCE collision is under review at Headquarters and offered to discuss "lessons learned" following release of the report. Mr. Eisele accepted this invitation and will put this issue on a future agenda. LCDR Oditt informed the Commission that the Coast Guard is still considering proposed rulemaking to establish federal anchorage and lightering areas in the Long Island Sound and that the Coast Guard is still awaiting FERC's final EIS on the proposed Broadwater LNG project.

The Commission did not meet in Executive Session.

The public meeting was adjourned at 9:52 a.m. The Commission's next public meeting is scheduled for 8:00 a.m. on Thursday, November 8, 2007 at U.S. Coast Guard Sector Long Island Sound, 120 Woodward Avenue, New Haven CT.

Michael J. Eisele
Chairman, Connecticut Pilot Commission