



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT**  
**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**  
**CONNECTICUT PILOT COMMISSION**



**Minutes of November 9, 2006 Public Meeting**  
**U.S. Coast Guard Sector Long Island Sound**  
**120 Woodward Ave., New Haven CT**

The public meeting was called to Order at 8:05 a.m. Pilot Commission members Michael J. Eisele, Captain Charles Beck, Captain Vincent Cashin, David Pohorylo, William Gash, David Shuda, Joe Russo, and Captain Richard Barry were present. Also in attendance were Richard Jaworski, Alan Stevens, and Dave Rossiter (CT DOT), LCDR Alan Blume, U.S.C.G. (Chief, Prevention Department, Sector Long Island Sound), Captain Michael Ball and Captain Ken Warner (Block Island Pilots), Captain Bill Mulligan and Captain Ted Sanford (Connecticut State Marine Pilots, Inc.), Captain Charles Jonas, and Captain Ted Melancon (Interport Pilots).

The minutes of the New York Board for 10/06 were circulated for review. The minutes of the Commission's October 12, 2006 public meeting were unanimously approved as drafted upon the motion of Captain Beck, seconded by Captain Cashin.

Captain Beck reported on the status of the DOT's formulation of a Request for Proposals with respect to the management and operation of the Joint Rotation.

Mr. Eisele presented an Annual Report for the period July 1, 2005 – July 1, 2006, revised to reflect comments previously received from the Commission, DOT and the public. Captain Beck suggested several additional changes. On the motion of Captain Cashin, seconded by Captain Beck, the revised report was approved by the Commission for distribution.

The Commission continued its review of pilotage rates. The Joint Administrator provided the Commission with revenues and pilot distributions for the period 1/1/06 through 9/30/06, showing an upward trend over 2005. In addition, the Commission reviewed an APA survey of pilot earnings in Florida and Louisiana derived from public rate-making decisions as well as a detailed comparison of pilotage rates in competing east coast ports which had been prepared by Captain Warner. Mr. Eisele noted the lack of public information regarding pilot earnings in east coast ports. On behalf of the pilots, Captain Warner presented a specific proposal for a rate increase, to be phased-in over a three year period. The Commission discussed this proposal at length and heard public comment, including the issue of the temporary fuel surcharge and launch fees incurred in Bridgeport and New Haven. The Commission will consider further information and comments at the December public meeting with an intention to make a recommendation to DOT.

Upon the motion of Captain Beck, seconded by Mr. Gash, the Commission approved a schedule of public meetings for 2007. Captain Beck will forward the schedule to the Secretary of State.

LCDR Blume reported that the Coast Guard is continuing its investigation of the September 20, 2006 BARKALD / ESSENCE collision in cooperation with the Marshall Islands and Cayman Islands authorities.

LCDR Blume advised the Commission that the Coast Guard is forming a Harbor Safety Committee and will invite the pilots and Pilot Commission to participate.

LCDR Blume noted that FERC will likely issue a draft environmental impact statement in connection with the Broadwater LNG project by year-end. LCDR Blume also reported that the Coast Guard is working on contingency planning related to the Thames River bridge project and invited pilot participation.

The public meeting was adjourned at 9:20 a.m. The Commission did not meet in Executive Session. The Commission's next public meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 14th at 8:00 a.m., to be held at the Connecticut Department of Transportation, 2800 Berlin Turnpike, Newington.

Michael J. Eisele  
Chairman, Connecticut Pilot Commission