



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
CONNECTICUT PILOT COMMISSION



Minutes of April 12, 2007 Connecticut Pilot Commission Public Meeting
Bridgeport Port Authority
330 Water Street, Bridgeport CT

The public meeting was called to Order at 8:02 a.m. Pilot Commission members Michael J. Eisele, Captain Vince Cashin, Vernon C. Miller, Jr., Captain Charles Beck, Dave Shuda, David Pohorylo, and Captain Rick Barry were present.

Mr. Eisele circulated minutes of the New York Board for the month of March.

On the motion of Captain Beck, seconded by Mr. Miller, the minutes of the Commission's February 8, 2007 public meeting were approved as drafted by a unanimous vote. Approval of the March minutes was not required due to the absence of a quorum at that meeting.

Captain Beck advised the Commission that the form of public notice regarding the proposed increase in pilotage rates was still under review at DOT. Following publication of the Notice and a thirty day comment period, DOT will make a final determination as to pilotage rates. Captain Warner advised the Commission that a parallel bill to increase LIS pilotage rates had been introduced in the New York legislature.

Captain Beck reported that the draft Request for Proposals with respect to the management and operation of the Joint Rotation is still under review at DOT and will be released as soon as possible.

The Commission reviewed a proposal for an Apprenticeship program drafted by Captain Jonas. Captain Barry, Captain Cashin, and Mr. Shuda agreed to form a subcommittee to review this proposal as well as other training and apprenticeship issues.

The Commission reviewed a proposal by the subcommittee of Captain Beck, Captain Cashin, and Captain Barry to recommend establishment of a heavy weather pilot station inside Block Island Sound for use by vessels transiting Montauk Channel. Upon the motion of Captain Cashin, seconded by Captain Barry, the Commission voted unanimously to make a recommendation that a heavy weather pilot station be established by regulation, to consist of a circle of a 2.5 nautical mile radius centered at 41-10.0 N, 071-44.0 W, that boarding/disembarking be permitted at the heavy weather pilot station only when weather or sea conditions pose a threat to pilot and pilot boat safety at the existing Montauk Point pilot station, that the heavy weather boarding station only be used with the agreement of a vessel master and by vessels in compliance

with Coast Guard navigational equipment requirements, and that pilots who board or disembark at any location other than the Point Judith or Montauk Point pilot stations be required to report to DOT the circumstances justifying a deviation. Mr. Eisele will draft a recommendation incorporating these points for review by the Commission and submission to DOT.

LCDR Alan Blume, U.S.C.G. reported that the Coast Guard had received substantial input into its waterways and buoyage analysis for New Haven. LCDR Blume further advised the Commission that a final Environmental Impact Statement for the Broadwater project was expected sometime this summer, that the Coast Guard was continuing its investigation of the Barkald/Essence collision, and that the Coast Guard was continuing its review of proposed regulations to establish a federal anchorage at New Haven. The Commission was advised that CAPT Boynton is expected to be relieved as COTP at a June 1 change-of-command, that CDR Plunkett will be relieved in July, and that LCDR Blume also expects to retire in June.

Captain Beck briefed the Commission on the status of dredging legislation. Mr. Eisele will draft a letter to the legislative leadership in support of the pending bills.

The public meeting was adjourned at 9:40 a.m. The Commission did not meet in Executive Session. The Commission's next public meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 10 at State Pier, New London CT.

Michael J. Eisele
Chairman, Connecticut Pilot Commission