

**Connecticut Pilot Commission
Summary Report July 16, 2013 Public Meeting
Coast Guard Sector Long Island Sound
New Haven, CT**

- 1.) The public meeting was called to Order at 10:02 a.m. by the Chairman, Bill Gash. Pilot Commission members Chuck Beck, Alan Blume, Wynne Bohannon, Bill Borek, Mike Eisele, Phil Gaughran, Ralph Gogliettino and Dave Pohorylo were also present. Also attending were CDR Amy Beach, Capt Ed Cubanski, Paul Costabile, Tom Dubno, Charlie Jonas, Brad Pimer, Dave Rossiter and Alan Stevens.
- 2.) A motion was made to approve the summary report of the June 18, 2013 meeting by Ralph Gogliettino and seconded by Mike Eisele. The motion passed with 8 affirmative votes. Dave Pohorylo abstained.
- 3.) Public Comments – None offered.
- 4.) U.S. Coast Guard – CDR Amy Beach advised that the new CG Sector Commander, Captain Ed Cubanski was on a conference call with the First CG District but would pop in as time allowed. She also announced that the CARNIVAL SPLENDOR Report of Investigation (ROI) was available via a link for those interested. Lastly, CDR Beach advised that The Public Comment Period on the Port Ambrose LNG Terminal had been extended to August 8, 2013.
- 5.) Rotation System Administrator Report –No report offered by Administrator Paul Costabile.
- 6.) Rotation System Executive Board (RSEB) Report - No report offered by Phil Gaughran since an RSEB meeting had not been held since last May.
- 7.) Connecticut Department of Transportation – After Alan Stevens advised he had nothing to report, Chuck Beck stated that a steel ship had called on the State Pier Facility last week.
- 8.) Executive Session: None called.
- 9.) Continuing Business:
 - A. Investigative Processes for Marine Incidents/Accidents – The Chairman thanked Mike Eisele and Alan Blume for drafting a letter and providing an Outline of Procedures related to conducting marine investigations. The Chairman then turned the discussion over to Mike who asked “What do we hope to achieve by sending the letter to CTDOT”? He opined that perhaps the purpose was to get the resourcing process started by getting CTDOT to understand the statutory requirements and resources needed for the CPC to investigate marine casualties. He added that he was interested in Chuck Beck’s thoughts as the CTDOT Commissioner’s designee to the CPC. Before responding the Chairman acknowledged the new appointment of Wynne Bohannon to the CPC and summarized the topic for his benefit. Mike Eisele stated that he didn’t think the CPC letter was asking for funding at this time. Chuck Beck responded that any request for assistance to the CTDOT was actually a request for funds either directly or indirectly. There was a discussion on whether the investigative process should be a regulation or a policy or some other document. Chuck Beck stated that he would defer to the CTDOT staff attorney adding that the regulatory process could be more cumbersome than establishing the investigative process by policy. Alan Blume agreed but emphasized that either way what was needed is something in writing; i.e. official. His concern was having an official document that could be used as leverage to obtain information from other entities. He added that at the very least there will be upfront costs in setting up the investigative process ranging from DOT or CPC staff time to contracting out the

preparation of the process. He cautioned against merely "borrowing" another entities process as the investigative process will need to be CT specific. The Chairmen added that the letter needed to point out that what was needed was to establish a level of expertise to conduct a marine investigation not found within the CPC members. It also had to be recognized that the CPC Commissioners could not afford to take 2 weeks off to conduct an investigation. The alternative to CTDOT providing the necessary resources is to change the statute to eliminate the CPC requirement.

There was a discussion on how the Outline document prepared by Alan Blume should be incorporated into the draft letter. Chuck Beck suggested that instead of edits to the letter, perhaps the letter as drafted would merely attach the Outline document. Mike Eisele stated that he would prefer to have one document thus, incorporate the important points of the Outline into the draft letter. The Chairman asked for the permission of the CPC Commissioners to sign and send the revised draft letter. Chuck Beck made a motion that after Mike Eisele redrafts the letter by incorporating parts of the Outline document that the Chairman be authorized to sign and send it to the CTDOT. The motion was seconded by Alan Blume. After some additional discussion on the two documents the motion was passed by a unanimous vote. Mike Eisele committed to having the redrafted letter to the Chairman by the close of business today (Tuesday 7/16/13).

B. Pilotage Rates and Fees – Status of Pilotage Rate Increase Regulation - Chuck Beck reported that the Regulatory Review Committee had scheduled a hearing on July 23rd.

10) New Business:

A. CT State Marine Pilot Licensing Requirements – Chuck Beck stated that he had distributed excerpt of the State Statute and the State Regulations that deal with licensing requirements with the meeting package email so all could prepare for the discussion. In response to a question by Chairman Gash, Phil Gaughran stated that he was not prepared to discuss the licensing requirements. The Chairman then asked for the pilots ideas to be submitted before the next CPC meeting and tabled further discussion until the next CPC meeting in September.

B. P.O.R.T.S – Chuck Beck provided a summary of the exchange of telephone calls and emails he has had with Darren Wright and Brent Pounds of NOAA concerning the tide stations in LIS. Beck stated that LCDR Pounds has solicited information from the waterway users related to perceived gaps in the National Water Level Observation Network (NWLON). Beck encouraged all in the room to provide information to LCDR Pounds. He further stated that the NWLON survey was separate from the P.O.R.T.S. funding issues related to the New Haven station. Chuck Beck advised that he/DOT was working on a solution to funding the New Haven P.O.R.T.S. station through an upgrade/maintenance plan. In response to a question/comment from Phil Gaughran about shifting O&E funding from the Bridgeport or New London tide station to the New Haven station, Beck responded that he had inquired but learned that the stations were funded by specific/directed appropriations. Beck added that he will raise the issue with NOAA again and report back.

Chairman Gash reminded all that attending CPC meetings on the CG Base was not an invitation to conduct other business unless prearranged with the appropriate CG official.

11.) Adjourn - A motion was made by Alan Blume to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Wynne Bohannon and passed by unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 1031.

Just after adjournment Capt Ed Cubanski entered the room, introduced himself, provided background on his career and invited all to contact him on any matter but specifically matters related to the safe movement of commerce within his AOR.

The Commission's next public meeting is scheduled for **10:00 a.m. on Tuesday September 17, 2013 at the U.S. Coast Guard Sector Long Island Sound in new Haven, CT**