

APPROVED MINUTES  
RHODE ISLAND STATE PILOTAGE COMMISSION MEETING

Thursday, May 2, 2019  
Held at 235 Promenade Street, Room 250  
Providence, RI 02908

<u>MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE</u>	<u>OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE</u>
Capt. E. Howard McVay, Chair Capt. Peter Fritz, Vice Chair Dean Hoxie, RIDEM, Dep. Director, Member	JoAnne Scorpio, Commission Secretary Atty. Hoefsmit, RIDEM, Commission's Legal Counsel Capt. Paul Costabile, Executive Director, NEMP Capt. Dale Harper, Probationary Pilot, NEMP
<u>EXCUSED FROM ATTENDANCE</u>	
Frank Floor, RIDEM, Chief, Parks and Rec., Member	

I. REVIEW OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

A regular monthly meeting of the RI State Pilotage Commission was called to order at approximately 9:30am on Thursday, May 2, 2019 at the headquarters of the RIDEM, Division of Law Enforcement. A quorum was present; the Commissioners reviewed the April 5, 2019 minutes. Member Dean Hoxie **MOVED** to accept the minutes. Vice Chair Fritz **SECONDED** the **MOTION**. Vote was **UNANIMOUS**, 3-0 to approve.

II. OLD BUSINESS

- 1) **Capt. Harper, Probationary Pilot upgrade**: The commissioners discussed upgrading Capt. Harper's restrictions in gross tonnage and next step up in draft (from 32-ft to 34-ft). Chair McVay said the commission can vote in advance to grant Capt. Harper's upgrade as soon as he notifies the commission that he has met all the state requirements. Commissioner Hoxie **MOVED** to approved Capt. Harper's upgrade in advance on the precondition that he has conducted the minimum required number of trips and has submitted his Probationary Evaluation forms demonstrating supportive results along with any other necessary documents that will certify his upgrade. Vice Chair Fritz **SECONDED** the **MOTION**. Vote was **UNANIMOUS**, 3-0 to approve. Chair McVay advised Capt. Harper that he can email all the necessary documents to the Commissioners. After documents have been reviewed and approved, the Chair will notify Capt. Harper that his upgrade has been approved and is effective immediately.
- 2) **State Pilot Accident Investigation Procedure/Protocol**: VDR data recovery – Member Dean Hoxie stated that talks are still on hold until the new incoming Chief of Law Enforcement begins working. That person will be part of this discussion and planning.

*Monthly meeting recessed (09:37am) for the Annual Public Hearing and then resumed at 09:59am.*

*Commissioner Hoxie was excused from attendance at approximately 10:00am.*

- 3) **Commission Meeting Schedule:** No changes to the annual schedule.
- 4) **Pilot Training Advisory Panel:** Vice Chair Fritz said that he is receiving comments from the pilots on the “Rules of the Road” refresher. Commission Secretary advised that three pilots have confirmed that they have reviewed all materials and have taken the test.
- 5) **Review of Pilot Certificates and Expirations Dates:** Commission secretary stated that she sent Capt. Astles a reminder that his RADAR re-certification expires on June 26, 2019.
- 6) **Pilot Rates:** Atty. Hoefsmit advised Capt. Costabile that the rate increase is in the regulations in draft form and those has been posted for public comment. After that, everything gets filed with the Office of Regulatory Reform (ORR). Once they approve it, everything will take effect in 30 days.

**III. NEW BUSINESS**

- 1) **Pilot’s request for waiver for RADAR re-certification:** Chair McVay advised that one of the pilots whose RADAR certificate expires in June has asked the commission to be waived from taking the class for recertification. The state pilot has asked the Chair if he can appear before the commission to discuss his request.

**IV. OTHER COMMENTS**

- 1) Capt. Costabile advised of an issue where the owner of a non-commercial yacht traversing through RI waters has said that he is not required to employ a pilot. The ship’s owner who resides in Conn. has claimed that his yacht is 200 ft LOA, however; information on the vessel clearly indicates that the boat is 206 ft and is therefore obligated to board a pilot. Capt. Costabile said Connecticut Pilots will be sending the owner a letter advising him about hiring a pilot. He is asking the Commission if they will also draft a letter advising the vessel owner of his obligation to board a pilot in RI waters.

Chair McVay said he will draft a letter from the Commission and have it ready for the next meeting. He said the commissioners can vote to send the letter out that time.

**V. ADJOURMENT**

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at approximately 10:30 a.m.

<b>Remaining Scheduled Dates:</b>		Th, Aug. 1	Th, Nov. 7
	Th, Jun. 6	Th, Sep. 5	Th, Dec. 5
	Th, Jul. 11	Th, Oct. 3	

Meeting dates are subject to change

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