

APPROVED MEETING MINUTES  
RHODE ISLAND STATE PILOTAGE COMMISSION MEETING

Thursday, March 5, 2020  
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 Hoxsie, RIDEM, Chief of DLE, Member Frank Floor, RIDEM, Chief, Parks and Rec., Member	Paul Costabile, Ex. Director, NEMP Assn. Atty. Hoefsmit, RIDEM, Commission's Legal Counsel JoAnne Scorpio, RIDEM, Commission Secretary Amanda Wuoti, Extern, RIDEM Legal Services

I. REVIEW OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

A meeting of the RI State Pilotage Commission convened at 9:30am on Thursday, March 5, 2020 at the headquarters of the RIDEM, Division of Law Enforcement. A quorum was present; Commissioners reviewed the draft February 6, 2020 meeting minutes. Commissioner Hoxsie **MOVED** to accept the February meeting minutes. Commissioner Floor **SECONDED** the **MOTION**. Vote was **UNANIMOUS**, 4-0 to approve.

II. OLD BUSINESS

- 1) **Training Update**: Vice Chair Fritz advised that Capt. Mike Campbell, Master of T/S Kennedy, has accepted membership to the Advisory Training Panel. Also Panel Member Joe Murphy will soon be submitting the "Annual Rules of the Road Refresher". A copy of this will be given to all Northeast Marine Pilots.
- 2) **Review of Pilot Certificates and Expiration Dates**: All pilots are up to date with licensure/certification. Members discussed re-issuing a pilot's state license every five years that will display the issuance/expiration date on their license. Commissioner Floor made a **MOTION** for the commission to re-issue a pilot's Full Branch state license every five years. Commissioner Hoxsie **SECONDED** the **MOTION**. Vote was **UNANIMOUS**, 4-0 in favor.
- 3) **Capt. Harper Probationary License Status**: Chair McVay advised that Capt. Harper has met the criteria for an upgrade in Providence completing a total of 28 trips (in Providence) including six trips in Davisville. He also advised, however, that Capt. Harper does not meet the minimum requirements for Davisville. Commissioners discussed Capt. Harper completing at least two more high-wind trips in Davisville (25 knots) and extending his Probationary Unlimited License in Providence to June (2020). Commissioner Hoxsie then made a **MOTION** for Capt. Harper to complete two high-wind dockings in Davisville and extend his probationary license to June 2020. Should he complete those dockings with satisfactory results before June 2020, the Commission will then issue his Full Branch License at that time. Commissioner Floor **SECONDED** the **MOTION**. Vote was **UNANIMOUS**, 4-0 in favor.

### III. NEW BUSINESS

- 1) **Annual Public Hearing:** Atty. Hoefsmit advised that the regulation revisions have been approved by ORR and the Notice of Public Hearing will go out on Monday (3-9-20). The comment period will end 4:00pm on April 8. The Public Hearing for the regulations will take place on April 2 along with the Annual Public Hearing.
  
- 2) **Capt. Harper Incident Report:** The Chair advised of an alleged incident that occurred on 2-14-20 involving Capt. Harper undocking Tanker STI Venera at the Sprague Terminal in East Providence. Capt. Harper submitted his Incident Report to the Commission along with his statement detailing what he witnessed that evening while undocking the tanker. Commissioners and Capt. Costabile (NEMP) then discussed the terminal's claim asserting that the tanker was responsible for damage to the pilings during Capt. Harper's undocking.
  
- 3) **Letter from the American Pilots' Association:** the APA sent a letter to the RISPC regarding a pilot's safety and dangers that can occur during embarkation. Chair McVay stated that the letter is also a reminder that a pilot can refuse to board a ship if they feel the transfer arrangement is unsafe. The letter was sent in the aftermath of a fatal accident that took place in December with a Sandy Hook Pilot. Commissioners discussed sending the pilots a letter informing them of the APA's advisory. Member Frank Floor made a **MOTION** for the Commission to draft a letter advising pilots of the APA's message and encourage them to exercise their best judgement when determining their safety of a ship's transfer arrangement. Vice Chair Fritz **SECONDED** the **MOTION**. Vote was **UNANIMOUS. 4-0 in favor.**

### IV. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at approximately 11:00 a.m. Member Dean Hoxsie made a **MOTION** to adjourn the meeting. Member Frank Floor **SECONDED** the **MOTION**. Vote was **UNANIMOUS. 4-0 to adjourn.**

#### Remainder of 2020 Commission Meeting Schedule:

Regular Monthly Meeting Schedule for 2020	
	Th, Jul 2
	Th, Aug 6
	Th, Sep 3
Th, Apr 2	Th, Oct 1
Th, May 7	Th, Nov 5
Th, Jun 4	Th, Dec 3

\*Meeting dates are subject change.