

<u>APPROVED MINUTES</u> <u>RDE ISLAND STATE PILOTAGE COMMISSION MEETING</u> Thursday, January 3, 2019 Held at 235 Promenade Street, Room 250 Providence, RI 02908	
<u>MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE</u> Capt. E. Howard McVay, Chair Capt. Peter Fritz, Vice Chair Frank Floor, RIDEM, Member Dean Hoxie, RIDEM, Member	<u>OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE</u> Atty. Hoefsmit, RIDEM, Legal Counsel to the Commission Capt. Paul Costabile, Ex. Director, NEMPA Jo-Anne Scorpio, RIDEM, Commission Secretary

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, January 3, 2019 at the headquarters of the RIDEM, Division of Law Enforcement. A quorum was present; the Commissioners reviewed the December 6, 2018 minutes. Vice Chair Fritz **MOVED** to accept the minutes; Member Frank Floor **SECONDED** the **MOTION**. Vote was **UNANIMOUS**, 4-0 to approve.

II. OLD BUSINESS

- 1) **Commission Schedule**: No changes to the 2019 annual schedule*.
- 2) **Pilot Training Advisory**: The Chair advised that the Advisory Panel Chair, Peter Fritz, sent him a draft course description for the pilots. Chair McVay also stated that he and the Vice Chair will work on the “Rules of the Road” refresher class. They would like advice from the Maritime Simulator Institute on how much time the pilots will need on the simulator and what other training is required from the APA. Chair McVay said he will have something ready for next month’s meeting.
- 3) **Review of Pilot Certifications**: Commission secretary advised that all pilots are currently up to date with their requirements. Capt. Maco has been sent a reminder that his Radar Observer certificate expires on 4-2-19.
- 4) **Accident and Incident Protocol**: Commissioners discussed how the EPO’s will board the vessel and obtain the data. Commissioner Hoxie advised that the assignment should go to marine unit EPO’s who will need to be trained and perhaps the pilots can show them a car carrier in Davisville and a tanker in Providence. Chair McVay added once the protocol is established, the EPO will have a form with instructions. In the event of an oil spill, the protocol will be to notify the Coast Guard right away and then the Commission. The pilot then gets relieved from the vessel and if the ship is moving, another pilot must take over. The Pilot aboard during the incident will get drugged tested right away and then must meet with the insurance attorney. Capt. Costabile advised sending a Pilot or Commissioner Fritz with the EPO’s to one of the commercial ships.

Chair McVay then suggested that the EPO's should get on a (commercial) bridge to familiarize themselves with a commercial vessel and decide what they should bring with them. Member Hoxie said Commissioners will identify a group of EPO's and setup dates to get them on different ships.

- 5) **Pilotage Regulations**: Chair McVay stated that there are modifications that need to be made to the regulations, and he would like to send out his suggestions on what needs to be corrected. He would like to have a public hearing sometime in May or June.
- 6) **Pilot Nepotism Policy Letter**: Commissioners continued discussions on Nepotism. Chair McVay then stated that Atty. Hoefsmit will draft a policy letter for the Commission addressing Nepotism within the NEMP. Capt. Costabile explained the hiring process from the application period to selecting the most qualified candidate. He stated that all active state pilots are involved in the review process; however; because of scheduling conflicts, some pilots are not available. Commissioners discussed ways to resolve the issue.
- 7) **Probationary Exam and License Update**: The commission secretary prepared Capt. Dale Harper's "Probationary Class" license for Narragansett Bay from Brenton Reef to Davisville, Providence, and Mt. Hope Bay. His license will be active from Dec. 27, 2018 through Dec 27, 2019

III. NEW BUSINESS

Pilot Rate Adjustment: Capt. Costabile, NEMP, distributed and read the pilots' proposal requesting a 6% rate increase over the next three-years (2% in 2020, 2% in 2021, and 2% in 2022) **. He briefly explained their annual costs and said he will give the Commission a comparison breakdown. Discussions continued.

V. NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING AND REMAINING SCHEDULED DATES

The next scheduled meeting will take place on February 14, 2019, beginning at 9:30am at RIDEM, Law Enforcement., Rm. 250, 235 Promenade Street, Providence, RI 02908

*

Remaining Scheduled Dates:	Apr. 4	Jul. 11	Oct. 3
Feb. 14	May 2	Aug. 1	Nov. 7
Mar. 7	Jun. 6	Sep. 5	Dec. 5

VI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m. Commissioner Floor **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Hoxie **SECONED** the **MOTION**. Vote was **UNANIMOUS, 4-0 to adjourn.**

* meeting dates are subject to change

** Rate increase proposal has been filed in Commission Files