



RI STATE PILOTAGE COMMISSION

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APPROVED MEETING MINUTES RHODE ISLAND STATE PILOTAGE COMMISSION MEETING

Thursday, November 5, 2020 at 9:30am
Held through ZOOM Videoconferencing

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Capt. E. Howard McVay, Chair
Dean Hoxsie, RIDEM, Chief of Div. of Law Enf., Member
Jason McNamee, RIDEM, Dep. Director, Member
Capt. Peter Fritz, Vice Chair attended meeting from phone

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Paul Costabile, Ex. Director, NEMP Assoc.
Clint Walker, NE Marine Pilots, RI State Pilot Board
Chris Murray, NE Marine Pilots
Ed LeBlanc, Marine Affairs Mgr., Orsted
Sean Bogus, NE Marine Pilots, RI State Pilot Board
Atty. Christina Hoefsmit, Commission's Legal Counsel
JoAnne Scorpio, RIDEM, Commission Secretary
Dale Harper, NEMP Assoc.

I. CALL TO ORDER

A meeting of the RI State Pilotage Commission took place through Zoom videoconferencing and was called to order at approximately 9:30am on Thursday, November 5, 2020. After a roll call was taken, the Chair confirmed that a quorum was present.

II. October 1, 2020 MEETING MINUTES

Commissioners reviewed the October 1, 2020 draft meeting minute prior to the November 5th meeting. The Chair entertained a motion to approve the draft meeting minutes. Member Dean Hoxsie **MOVED** to approve the October 1, 2020 meeting minutes. Vice Chair Fitz **SECONDED** the **MOTION**. Vote was **UNANIMOUS, 4-0 to approve**.

III. OLD BUSINESS

- 1) **Capt. Harper Probationary License Status:** The Chair stated that he forwarded Commissioners a copy of Capt. Harper completed mandatory requirements needed for his full-branch license. Capt. Harper also submitted all of his completed trips (278) dating back to December 19, 2016 up to the present. Chair McVay entertained a motion to approve Capt. Harper's Full-Branch License. Vice Chair Fitz made the **MOTION**; Commissioner Hoxsie **SECONDED** the **MOTION**. Vote was **UNANIMOUS, 4-0 in favor**. The Chair then explained

E. Howard McVay, Chair
J. Peter Fritz, Vice Chair
Jason McNamee, Member
Dean Hoxsie, Member

the licenses are in the process of being reprinted to comply with the governor's executive order. Capt. Harper's full-branch license will be issued as soon as the commission receives the new licenses. The Chair also advised that he will send a letter to the State Pilot Board and also to the Northeast Marine Pilots advising of Capt. Harper's upgrade.

- 2) **Meeting Schedule:** The next monthly meeting will take place on Thursday, December 3, 2020 at approximately 9:30am via Zoom.
- 3) **Vote to Approve Apprentice Licenses:** Chair McVay stated that the State Pilot Board has requested two additional apprentice licenses for the Commission's approval. The Chair entertained that a motion be made to approve two licenses for the apprenticeship program. Capt. Fritz **MOVED** to approve two additional apprentice licenses for Block Island Sound. Member Dean Hoxsie **SECONDED** the **MOTION**. *Vote was Unanimous. 4-0 in favor.* The Chair advised that the apprenticeship begins on Block Island Sound and as the pilot advances through the program with the commission's approval, the pilot will eventually advance to full-branch status that will include Narragansett Bay.

Commissioners then discussed the interview process and how the interviews will be conducted adhering to all COVID19 guidelines. Atty. Hoefsmit advised that if all the commissioners are assembled, the interviews will be subject to open meeting laws. The members also discussed posting a recruitment notice for the two apprenticeships on the Commission's webpage and all DEM social networking accounts.

The Chair asked NEMP Ex. Director to inform the Commission of any applicants and documentation on the RI Point system that allows the commission to evaluate the candidate's qualifications. Chair McVay also requested that the Pilot Board send a letter to the commission with their recommendations for the two qualified candidates.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

- 1) **Orsted's Proposal to Modify Exemption Operating Area*:** The Chair advised that Orsted sent a request regarding the exemption that the Commission granted permission for survey work to be performed in RI waters. The Commission and Marine Affairs Mgr. Ed LeBlanc discussed the modified area in the Chartlet submitted by Orsted. The area of concern to the Commission was in the Northwest corner in the chartlet. Commissioner Fritz expressed his concern implying that the rocky areas and shoals would be of great risk. He insisted that a Pilot be on the vessel. He also requested that Orsted send another chartlet showing more details of the proposed area before making any decisions. E. LeBlanc (Orsted) said if he can produce another chartlet detailing the area of concern

**During discussions, IV. New Business 1) Orsted's Proposal..., the ZOOM meeting ended abruptly for approximately two minutes due to timing restrictions*

(NW corner), he will send it to the Commission. Mr. LeBlanc also requested that the Commission grant Orsted permission (11-5) a partial extension of the original chartlet to preform survey work. The Chair advised that the vote to approve survey work would-be put-on hold until the next meeting so Commissioners can look at a revised chartlet depicting details in the area of concern.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, The Chair made a **MOTION** to adjourn the meeting. Vice Chair Fritz **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at approximately 10:30 a.m. Member Dean Hoxsie **SECONDED** the **MOTION**. Vote was **UNANIMOUS**. 4-0 to adjourn.

Remainder of 2020 Meeting Schedule:

Regular Monthly Meeting Schedule for 2020	
Th, Dec 3	

*Meeting dates are subject change.

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