



RI STATE PILOTAGE COMMISSION

235 Promenade Street
Providence, RI 02908

PROPOSED MEETING MINUTES

RHODE ISLAND STATE PILOTAGE COMMISSION MEETING

held on Thursday, June 3, 2021 at 9:30am
through ZOOM Videoconferencing

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

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

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Chris Murray Ex. Director, NEMP Assn.
Sean Bogus, RI State Pilot Board, NEMP Assn.
Clint Walker, RI State Pilot Board, NEMP Assn.
Christina Hoefsmit, Esq., Legal Counsel for RISPC
Mary Dalton, RIDEM, Secretary for RISPC
Richard Astles, NEMP Assn.
Edward LeBlanc,

I. CALL TO ORDER:

A meeting of the RI State Pilotage Commission took place through Zoom videoconferencing on Thursday, June 3, 2021. The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:44am. After a roll call was taken, Chair McVay confirmed that a quorum was present.

II. April 1, 2021 MEETING MINUTES VOTE:

Commissioners reviewed the draft meeting minutes from the April 1, 2021 meeting. Chair McVay then entertained a **MOTION** to approve the draft minutes as written. Chief Hoxsie **MOVED** to accept the April 1, 2021 minutes. Capt. Fritz **SECONDED** the **MOTION**. Vote was **UNANIMOUS**, *4-0 to approve*.

There was no quorum present in May so no meeting was held.

III. OLD BUSINESS:

1) Communications:

Chair McVay asked the members if anyone had received any communications and there were none and stated that none were sent out by the Commission.

2. Review of pilot licenses, certifications and medicals for 2021.:

Chairman McVay explained that all of the pilots must maintain a variety of licenses and training that is sent to Capt. Murray and he maintains a spreadsheet for tracking of expiring dates.

Annually between October and January each pilot must see a Rhode Island licensed physician for an annual medical exam and upon receipt by the secretary, an annual medical certificate will be sent to the pilot.

3. Pilotage Commission accident investigation protocol and VDR recovery:

Chief Hoxsie stated that he and Attorney Hoefsmit had reviewed the draft investigation protocol and sent their changes to Chairman McVay for final approval. Chief Hoxsie further stated that he would do an evidence retrieval form as well. Chairman McVay suggested that the EPO's do a "ride along" on a car ship from Davisville to gain a better understanding and Chief Hoxsie suggested that even an opportunity for the EPO's to visit the bridge of a ship would be beneficial. Capt. Murray to coordinate with Chief Hoxsie.

4. New RI Pilot licenses:

Chair McVay stated probationary licenses were sent to Capt. Sanford and Capt. Stevens for Block Island Sound that had the verbiage "Plantations" removed and this version would be used going forward.

5. Update of Global Symphony operation:

Chairman McVay stated that Capt. Ed LeBlanc was unavailable to attend in person but sent a report to Vice Chairman Fritz regarding the Global Symphony's request to operate in Block Island Sound without a pilot. Capt. Bogus stated that he sailed the ship out of Providence and discussed the operation with the captain and crew and the transit went fine. He further stated that he felt that the captain was very qualified and that this was a quality operation with a ship that was suitable. Capt. Walker further added that it he felt it was a quality operation as well. Chairman McVay asked if there should be any changes to the procedure and Capt. Bogus stated he thought it went well but was dependent upon the capabilities of the ship and should be handled on a case-by-case basis. Capt. Edward LeBlanc joined the meeting and thanked the Commission for their assistance with the Global Symphony and the operation went smoothly and efficiently.

6. Pilot President/NEMP Executive Director report:

Capt. Murray stated that the state has issued the purchase order for the new PPU's and they were ordered.

Capt. Astles asked if the Commission would consider if the apprentices have not completed all the required training (especially the courses requiring them to leave the state) and is concerned if they can meet those requirements. Chairman McVay stated if Capt. Astles presented a case where the apprentices could not get all the requirements the Commission would consider.

Capt. Astles also gave an update that he was inbound on a cement ship and the ship lost propulsion but there was no incident.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

1. Narragansett Bay apprentices:

Chairman McVay stated that the State Pilot Board has not recommended them to the Commission yet so this will be tabled and left on the agenda.

2. Regulatory changes:

Vice Chairman Fritz stated that the annual “Rules of the Road” review has 50 questions with answer sheet and the pilots will be receiving it shortly. He further stated that the four members of the Rhode Island State Pilot Training Advisory Board will be meeting during the summer. Chairman McVay stated that because of an accident in Bellingham Bay with significant damage he would like to recommend to the Commission that the PPU be required during all ship movements in any harbor anywhere. Attorney Hoefsmit stated that the Commission should draft the proposed regulation so it can be put to a vote at the September meeting and then schedule public comment/hearing in October and could be finalized in November.

3. Return to in-person meetings:

Chairman McVay asked if September would be realistic to be back in person using the law enforcement conference room and allow people who wanted to participate via Zoom would be able to do so. There will be no July or August meetings unless there is a need.

V. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, The Chair entertained a **MOTION** to adjourn the meeting. Chief Hoxsie **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at approximately 10:15a.m. Vice Chairman Fritz **SECONDED** the **MOTION**. Vote was 3-0 to adjourn.

***Remainder of 2021 Meeting Schedule:**

September 2
October 7
November 4
December 2

*Meeting dates are subject to change.

/md

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