

RHODE ISLAND STATE PILOTAGE COMMISSION

Monthly Meeting September 2, 2004 9:30 am

Members present:

Mike Scanlon, Chairman

Donald McGovern, Secretary

Captain Howard McVay

Captain Peter Fritz

Others:

Gary Powers, Legal Counsel

Thomas Sullivan

Henrietta Nelson

Members absent: x

First order of business:

Approved the June 04 minutes. Brief discussion of new policy of how minutes are to be filed with the Secretary of States office.

Old Business:

Further discussion of proposed rate increase for pilots. Ms. Nelson of Goff and Page Shippers mentioned that the increase may have an adverse impact on the number of cruise (passenger) ships coming into Newport. Commission took her comments under advisement. Captain McVay stated he would present new proposal related to this matter from the pilotage board at the October meeting.

Discussed the cross bay pipeline issue at Port of Providence. Keyspan does not want to dredge the area surrounding the pipe but still wants to bring in 1,000 ships into port. Captain McVay stated that will not be possible and that the US Army Core is making them move the pipe to the proper depth.

Captain Fritz questioned how a pilot gets back into rotation after an extended leave. The commission may determine that the pilot be required to take a new "Rules of the Road" exam and he also may be required to take probationary trips with an active pilot.

New Business:

Captain Hadley will be retiring in December.

The vessel "Dorset" lost power in Mount Hope Bay in August while being piloted by Captain Lasnier. The vessel was immediately taken to an anchorage area by tugs until repairs could be made and an

inspection by the Coast Guard was conducted. Captain Lasnier performed his duties exactly as he should have under the circumstances thereby preventing a potential incident due to the precarious situation. Captain McVay suggested that the commission issue Captain Lasnier a commendation for his efforts. Chairman Scanlon agreed and will draft the related paperwork.

Captain Wirkala was approved for Block Island Sound apprenticeship program but he has not made an effort to make any of the required trips. I will send him a letter to find out what his intentions are concerning this issue.

Test scheduled for Captain Walker, Captain Kirby, and Captain Kelsey on September 9th at the North East Marine Pilot building.

Adjourned at 11:25.