

APPROVED MINUTES

RI STATE PILOTAGE COMMISSION MEETING

June 9, 2011

held at 235 Promenade Street, Room 250

Providence, Rhode Island 02908

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Capt. E. Howard McVay Jr., Chair

Capt. J. Peter Fritz, Member

Larry Mouradjian, Member

Chief Steve Hall, Member

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Capt. Rick Comeau, Maritime Simulation Institute

Joanne Scorpio, Recording Secretary

Ed LaBlanc, US Coast Guard

Atty. Gary Powers, Legal Counsel

I. REVIEW OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:

Quorum being present, the chair called the meeting to order at approximately 9:30 a.m. Member Mouradjian made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 5, 2011 meeting. Member Capt. Fritz seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by assent.

II. OLD BUSINESS

A. Apprentice Pilot Update - No updates to report. Capt. Kirby of the State Pilot Board will update the Commission Chair in the quarterly report due in July. There is nothing to report to date. The Chair did state, however, that he anticipates an application for a Block Island Sound apprentice pilot.

B. Review of RI Statutes: The Commission continued discussions on yacht exemptions, §46-9-3 Vessels exempt from chapter. Chair McVay requested that Ed LaBlanc (USCG) send him the federal regulations to review environmental threats and certificate of financial responsibility. The Chair will then forward that to the Commissioners for their comments. Atty. Powers advised the Chair that he will research the bonding process and have that information within the next week or two.

C. Report by Attorney Powers on Bonding of Tug/Barge Units and Legal Opinion on Enforcement of State Pilots Aboard Coastwise tug/Barge Units: The Chair explained an incident that took place in Narragansett Bay the previous week regarding a cement barge and tug (Treasure Coast) that left anchorage headed to Canada that did not employ a pilot. Chair McVay felt that it may have been an oversight on the vessels behalf but wanted to inform them that they were in violation of state statutes. Member Chief Hall suggested sending a warning or letter or reprimand. The Chair suggested sending out a registered letter informing them of the violation.

Member Capt. Fritz advised the commissioners that a fine should be pursued. A motion was made by Member Capt. Fritz for the Commission to pursue charges against the tug. Larry seconded the motion. Chief Hall abstained. Voted 2-0 in favor.

D. State Pilot ID Badge Update: The Chair stated that he would like to have the RI State Pilots and Commission members' ID made up. Member Chief Hall said the Officer Jen Ogren is the only employee that can operate the ID card system at this time. The Chief will have Officer Ogren work on the project and print out plastic ID cards for both the pilots and commission members. Chief Hall also said that he would email a scanned copy of a draft (picture) ID to the members for any suggestions and/or approval.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. Statute Review: §46-9-5 – Pilots – RI Sound, Narragansett Bay, Sakonnet River, and Tributaries Commissioners discussed and made some draft revision to the above statute.

B. Commission Meeting Schedule Changes: July 7 and August 4, 2011, have been cancelled. The next RI Pilot Commission meeting has been scheduled for September 8, 2011.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

V. EXECUTIVE SESSION

No executive session

VI. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

The Chair updated the members on the 2010 RIPC Annual Report. Copies of the draft report were distributed to the members for their review. Member Capt. Fritz made a motion to accept the 2010 draft Annual Report. Member Chief Hall seconded the motion. Voted 4-0.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Member Mouradjian made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Member Capt. Fritz seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 11 o'clock a.m.

Next Scheduled Meeting:

The RI Pilot Commission plans to hold the next regular monthly meeting in the conference room of the Division of Law Enforcement (Rm. 250) at DEM headquarters located at 235 Promenade Street, Providence, RI on Thursday, September 8, 2011, starting at approximately 9:30 a.m.