

MEETING MINUTES
STATE OF WASHINGTON ~ BOARD OF PILOTAGE COMMISSIONERS
December 14, 2023

REGULAR MEETING – Call to Order

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Pilotage Commissioners was convened at 10:00am by Vice Chair Eleanor Kirtley online via Microsoft Teams.

Present via Teams:

Vice Chair: Eleanor Kirtley (Marine Environment)

Commissioners: Mike Anthony (Pilot), Sandy Bendixen (Pilot), Andrew Drennen (U.S. Shipping), Jason Hamilton (Public), Timothy J. Farrell (Public)

Administration: Jaimie Bever, Bettina Maki, Jolene Hamel

Assistant Attorney General: Albert Wang

Puget Sound Pilots: Charlie Costanzo, Ivan Carlson, Severin Knutsen, Pat Kelly

Puget Sound Pilot Candidate: Matt Cassee

Port of Grays Harbor: Mike Folkers

The Northwest Seaport Alliance: Lindsay Wolpa

Public: Ann LaRue

Northwest Marine Trade Association: Jay Jennings

Pacific Yacht Management: Monique Webber

BPC Staff Report.

- The WSDOT email system will be implementing an email archiving process beginning January 1, 2024. Board members and staff were reminded to tag emails with the desired retention period.
- November 1 was an anniversary date for BPC Executive Director Jaimie Bever (8 years) and BPC Program Analyst Bettina Maki (4 years).

Activity Reports. Deferred to the January 18, 2024 Regular Public Meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Pilot's Report of Marine Safety Occurrence: *SAN DIEGO BRIDGE*, 11/09/2023

Inbound to berth in the Blair Waterway, Tacoma	Bow thruster stuck in the open position at 90% to port after rotation to position for docking in the Blair Waterway. Issue resolved within 2 minutes. Pilot proceeded with 3 tugs to the berth with no further issues.	<u>Motion:</u> Anthony/Drennen – File as a Marine Safety Occurrence – Carried.
--	--	--

Pilot's Report of Marine Safety Occurrence: *CAPE RISE*, 11/12/2023

Underway to TA 7, Commencement Bay, Tacoma	Freeze plug on the Port Main Engine (PME) popped, resulting in loss of freshwater coolant. Tugs ordered to assist earlier than normal. The PME shut down. Pilot determined anchoring was safest course. Once anchored, VTS was informed, and repairs were made. The vessel then shifted to berth without further issue.	<u>Motion:</u> Drennen/Anthony – File as a Marine Safety Occurrence – Carried.
--	---	--

Pilot's Report of Marine Safety Occurrence: *GARDENIA K*, 11/09/2023

Underway, Westport Anchorage	Upon boarding and MPX, pilot noticed the vessel's AIS and GPS were not working correctly. USCG notified pilot that a Letter of Deviation was needed to proceed. Pilot received the letter that evening, and the following day safely shifted the vessel from Westport Anchorage to T2 in Aberdeen. Pilot noted and reported to the USGC ongoing navigational software deficiencies.	<u>Motion:</u> Anthony/Drennen – File as a Marine Safety Occurrence – Carried.
------------------------------	---	--

Pilot's Report of Marine Safety Occurrence: *ATB VISION*, 11/13/2023

Inbound, Hylebos Waterway	During the first leg of the waterway transit, vessel's rudders moved on their own ~20 degrees to starboard while full follow-up control lever was 5 degrees to port. Captain repositioned rudders but they again reverted on their own. Vessel switched to Non-Follow-Up (NFU) mode. After making some navigational adjustments, the vessel proceeded to berth without incident.	<u>Motion</u> : Farrell/Drennen – File as a Marine Safety Occurrence – Carried.
---------------------------	--	---

Meeting Minutes.

Motion: Bendixen/Hamilton – separate the November 16, 2023 Meeting Minutes from the KPI Workshop Minutes and approve the November 16, 2023, Meeting Minutes with one minor revision – Carried.

The KPI Workshop Minutes will be provided to the Board as a part of the January 18, 2024 meeting materials.

Committee Actions.

Trainee Evaluation Committee (TEC)

- **Consideration of Licensure of PSP Candidate: Captain Matthew Cassee.** On behalf of the Trainee Evaluation Committee (TEC), TEC Chair Captain Sandy Bendixen stated that Captain Matthew Cassee has completed all sections of his Training Program Agreement including successful Portable Piloting Unit (PPU) training and completion of his federal licensing requirements. The Board has received his TPTR Summary and all training comments. Captain Cassee started training in March 2021 and completed 332 trips.

Motion: Bendixen/Farrell – issue Captain Matthew Cassee state pilot license number 225 for the Puget Sound Pilotage District – Carried.

- The TEC met yesterday and reviewed upgrade programs and all trainee progress. There are 15 pilots in their upgrade window and no upgrade programs to consider this month. The licensure of Captain Cassee leaves 7 trainees in PS, and there are zero trainees in GH. Two trainees attended the TEC meeting yesterday to transition from Observation to Training, which now makes 4 trainees in Evaluation, 2 trainees in Training, and 1 trainee in Observation. One other trainee attended the TEC meeting as a part of their 6-month check-in. All trainees are progressing well. Trainees continue to face issues with the REC and NMC.

Pilot/Trainee Physical Examination Reports.

Motion: Farrell/Drennen – approve the pilot physical examination reports for Captains B.R. Jensen and N.K. McGourty for their annual pilot license renewals – Carried.

Motion: Farrell/Hamilton – approve the pre-licensing pilot physical examination report for Captain M.B. Cassee – Carried.

Committee Updates.

Vessel Exemption Committee (VEC)

- Commissioner Anthony reported that the VEC plans to meet after the first of the year.

Pilot Safety Committee (PSC)

- Commissioner Drennen reported that the PSC will meet on January 8.
- Commissioner Bendixen thanked BPC staff for the quick action in drafting and distributing a letter of support for pilots and trainees regarding unsafe transfer arrangements.

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee (DEIC)

- The Women on the Water conference hosted by Massachusetts Maritime Academy is coming up at the end of February, followed by Cal Maritime's Women in Maritime Leadership in mid-March.

Pilot Exam Committee (PEC)

- The first round of applications for Board review will be on the agenda for the January 18 meeting.
- A drop-in Teams meeting will be held after today's Board meeting at 11:30am. This is an unscripted opportunity for pilot aspirants to ask questions in a more casual setting. The BPC and PSP will host another drop-in Q&A session in January.
- Commissioner Bendixen thanked Commissioner Firth for observing and assisting with Simulator Development.

Oil Transportation Safety Committee (OTSC)

- Jaimie Bever reported that Kim Morley is no longer working in the Spills Program. Her replacement has not yet been announced. Jaimie thanked Kim for all her help and guidance and the BPC wishes Kim all the best.
- A public Meeting to present the final results of the Tug Escort and ERTV Risk Model Analysis was held November 30.
- The next OTSC meeting will be January 10th for Workshop #5. This will be followed by Workshop #5 for tribes on January 23rd and Workshop #5 for stakeholders on January 25th.
- 2024 will be busy. Jaimie will present a detailed update to the Board at the February meeting.

Confirmation of Next Regular Meeting Dates. Vice Chair Kirtley reminded everyone of the upcoming meetings on January 18 and February 15, as well as two WAC hearings at the January meeting. All meetings continue to be hybrid, and all are invited and encouraged to come in person.

Public Comment. Vice Chair Kirtley asked for public comment, but none was offered.

Adjourn. Vice Chair Kirtley adjourned the meeting at 10:35am.

Respectfully submitted,

Jaimie C. Bever, Executive Director

Sheri J. Tonn, Chair

Eleanor Kirtley, Vice Chair

Commissioner Timothy J. Farrell

Commissioner Andrew Drennen

Commissioner Richard Firth

Commissioner Sandy Bendixen

Commissioner Michael Anthony

Commissioner Jason R. Hamilton

Commissioner Nhi Irwin