



RI STATE PILOTAGE COMMISSION

235 Promenade Street
Providence, RI 02908

APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

RHODE ISLAND STATE PILOTAGE COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING & MEETING

held on Thursday, November 17, 2022 at 9:30am

Room 425A, 235 Promenade Street, Providence RI 02903 and via Zoom

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr. Jason McNamee, Deputy Director, RIDEM, Chair
Capt. Peter Fritz, Vice Chair
Capt. Vincent Kirby, RISP
Lt. Michael Schipritt, RIDEM, Division of Law
Enforcement

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Chris Murray Executive Director, NEMP Assn.
Mary Dalton, RIDEM, Secretary for RISPC
Joseph LoBianco, Esq., Legal Counsel for RISPC via
Zoom
Rich Astles, NEMP Association via Zoom

CALL TO ORDER

A meeting of the RI State Pilotage Commission took place in Room 425A, 235 Promenade Street, Providence, RI and via Zoom on Thursday, November 17, 2022 at 9:30 a.m. The Chairman called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. After a roll call was taken, Chairman McNamee confirmed that a quorum was present. Chairman McNamee requested a motion to accept the agenda as presented. Vice Chairman Fritz **MOVED** to accept the agenda as presented. Lt. Schipritt **SECONDED** the **MOTION**. Vote was **UNANIMOUS, 4-0 to accept**.

I. OCTOBER 6, 2022 MEETING MINUTES VOTE

Commissioners reviewed the draft meeting minutes from the October 6, 2022 meeting. Vice Chairman Fritz **MOVED** to accept the minutes as presented. Capt. Kirby **SECONDED** the **MOTION**. Vote was **UNANIMOUS, 4-0 to approve**.

II. COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE COMMISSION

The Commission received letters requesting probationary upgrades to Step 4 from Theodore Sanford and Matthew Stevens along with supporting documentation.

III. COMMUNICATIONS SENT BY THE COMMISSION

Chairman McNamee stated that the Commission's letter regarding the NARW vessel speed rule was submitted to NOAA. He further stated that he does not expect any action soon due to pending lawsuits.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

The Commission received requests for upgrades for probationary pilots Theodore Sanford and Matthew Stevens. Capt. Murray stated that there have been some trips since the probationary pilots submitted their requests and he did not want to see them lose credit for these trips due to the timing of the Commission meeting. Chairman McNamee requested that legal counsel follow up on this. Capt. Astles stated that these upgrades are supported by the pilots.

Vice Chairman Fritz **MOVED** to upgrade probationary pilots Theodore Sanford and Matthew Stevens to Step 4. Capt. Kirby **SECONDED** the **MOTION**. Vote was **UNANIMOUS**, 4-0 to approve.

V. OLD BUSINESS

a. Review of pilot licenses, certifications and medicals for 2022.:

Ms. Dalton stated that reminders had gone out to the pilots regarding their annual medical exams and she has started to receive some medicals.

b. Pilot President/NEMP Executive Director

Capt. Murray stated that one of the pilot boats would need an engine rebuilt and other modifications and will be out of service for approximately 2 months. Capt. Astles stated they are seeing a lot of different vessels with the wind farm including cable laying barges and this will be ongoing.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

a. Continued discussion on Pilotage Commission advisory bodies

Capt. Kirby provided a handout to the Commission regarding the Rhode Island Pilot Advisory Board (RIPAB) and the Pilot Training Advisory Panel (PTAP) that gave both the definition/mission and composition of these advisory bodies based on research he conducted. He further provided discussion points for the PTAP to include that there is not a current member of the NEMP rotation on the PTAP. He stated that this was important because a current pilot would be able to provide input regarding current challenges that the working pilots are facing.

Vice Chairman Fritz shared the current members of the PTAP and their qualifications as well as historical information on the PTAP.

Chairman McNamee stated that the Commission would not take action at this meeting but requested to hold further discussion at the next meeting.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Capt. Kirby **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at approximately 10:42 a.m. Vice Chairman Fritz **SECONDED** the **MOTION**. Vote was **UNANIMOUS** 4-0 to adjourn.

2022 Meeting Schedule:

December 1

*Meeting dates are subject to change.
/md