

Connecticut Pilot Commission Regular Public Meeting November 1, 2022
Connecticut Port Authority Office - Remotely
Old Saybrook, CT

Meeting Minutes

In response to concerns regarding the spread of coronavirus disease, and in the interest of the safety and well-being of participation, the meeting was held remotely by conference call (as permitted by Executive Order 7B).

1. Call to Order – The public meeting was called to order by Chairman Bill Gash at 09:00 am.

CPC members in Attendance: Mike Eisele, Wynn Bohonon, Captain Maco, Ulysses Hammond, Bill Gash, Dave Pohorylo, Captain Peszke

CPC Members Absent: Ralph Gogliettino, Chris Clark

Port Authority Staff: Joe Salvatore

Public: Captain Meade, Captain Murray, Captain Richardson, Captain Astles

2. Summary Report – Approval of July 12, 2022

Motion: Maco
Second: Eisele
Abstained: none
Approved: Yes

3. Public Comments

Captain Meade:

CGA Proposed Bill #5259 Extension of Route for Bridgeport and New London. Will this Bill get re-introduced for the 2023 Legislative Session, and what is the process.

CPA is reviewing this and other proposed legislative agenda items for the next session.

MITAGS training last month, will be submitting a full package for reimbursement to CPC.

Captain Richardson/Astles:

Department of Commerce, NOAA 50 CFR Part 224, Amendments to the North Atlantic Right Whale Vessel Strike Reduction Rule. (Federal Register/Vol. 87, No. 146/ Monday, August 1, 2022/Proposed Rule)

NMFS is proposing changes to the North Atlantic right whale vessel speed regulations to further reduce the likelihood of mortalities and serious injuries to endangered right whales from vessel collisions. Changes to include most vessels greater than or equal to 35-ft and less than 65-ft in length, not allowed vessel speed over 10 knots to include pilot boats. The current rule is mainly voluntary, this rule change is more restrictive. Shippers use vessel speed/rules for labor stand-by at the ports. Variations in the vessel arrival times makes it tougher to maintain consistent schedules. Interport Pilots did submit comments on the rule.

4. U.S. Coast Guard - None

5. Continuing Business

- A. Discussion-Pilot Safety Equipment & Training Reimbursement Regulations CGS 15-14-1c
Additional Fees.
Points of Discussion.
- Captain Meade will be submitting MITAGS training completed for reimbursement (October).
- B. CT Pilot Apprentice Training Discussion and Progress Update (Interport)
- Interport Pilots reports that Captain McCallum has made several trips with them. He is working on testing for his federal license. He attained New Haven and is working on LIS.
 - Captain Dillman and Cooney are trying to schedule time with the pilot organization. They are in contact with each other.
- C. CT Pilot General Update – None
- D. Discussion/Review – Renewal Pilotage Rate Increase Proposal 5-year plan submitted May 28, 2022, by Interport Pilots.

CPA to notice in the CT Law Journal for 30-days for comment. Then back to CPA Board for final approval. Will be on the CPA December agenda for approval.

- E. Update on Involving CT Pilot and the Grounding of M/V Great Comfort on February 15, 2022.

Executive Director Hammond refrained from all discussions on this matter except to state that the hearing is scheduled for November 2, 2022. There was a pre-hearing on October 27th and discussed a possible stipulated agreement. Future updates as warranted in future.

6. New Business

- A. 2023 Pilot License Renewals – Sent out to the CT Pilots on October 31, 2022.

7. Adjourn

Motion: Wynn

Second: Maco

Time: 9:29 am

Next Meeting:

9:00 AM Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Location: Remote