The regular meeting of The New Jersey Maritime Pilot and Docking Pilot Commission was held on Tuesday, February 20, 2007 at One Penn Plaza East, 9th Floor, Newark, NJ 07105.

Pledge of Allegiance

Open Public Meeting Statement

Roll Call

Commissioner Timothy J. Dacey, present; Commissioner Thomas F. Daly, present; Commissioner Stanley E. Wiklinski, present; Commissioner Charles Wowkanech, present; Commissioner Richard L. Amster, present; Commissioner Joseph Azzolina, present.

Minutes of Prior Meetings

On a motion by Commissioner Daly and seconded by Commissioner Wiklinski that the minutes of the January 16, 2007 regular meeting be approved. All voted in favor.

Treasurers Report

On a motion by Commissioner Daly and seconded by Commissioner Wowkanech that the Treasurer’s report dated February 2007 be approved. All voted in favor.

Appearance of Proposed New Apprentice

Timothy Murray appeared before the Commission and gave a brief summary of his biography and a brief description of his training with Sandy Hook since he began his apprenticeship on February 1, 2007. Mr. Murray also thanked the Commission for the opportunity to serve as an apprentice with the Sandy Hook Pilots Association.

Resolution Approving the Appointment of a New Apprentice Pilot

On a motion by Commissioner Wowkanech and seconded by Commissioner Daly Resolution # 07-01 was passed to appoint
Timothy Murray as a Maritime Pilot Apprentice effective February 1, 2007. All voted in favor.

Resolution to approve the issuance of a Docking Pilot License to Captain Charles Jonas

On a motion by Commissioner Amster and seconded by Commissioner Wowkanech Resolution #07-02 was passed to approve the issuance of a Docking Pilot license to Captain Charles Jonas. All voted in favor.

Issuance of Oath to Captain Charles Jonas

Captain Charles Jonas was issued the oath and sworn in as a New Jersey State Licensed Docking Pilot by Commissioner Dacey.

Executive Directors Report

The proposed amendments to N.J.A.C. 16:64-5.5, 5.6, and 7.15 were published in the New Jersey Register on 2/20/07. They will be published on the Commission’s website by 2/21/07. The 60-day comment period ends on April 20, 2007. Depending on the extent of the comments received the Commission may be in the position to adopt the amendments at the May 2007 regular meeting. If they are adopted at the May meeting they will be published in the June 18, 2007 edition of the New Jersey Register and become effective on that date.

Melissa Liebermann has received a promotion and is no longer the Commission’s representative from the Governors Authorities Unit. Mr. Licata will inform the Commission once a new representative has been appointed.

The Commissioners were given a copy of an updated contact listing.

The Commissioners were given a copy of correspondence from Sandy Hook showing the newly elected board of trustees for the calendar year 2007.

Mr. Licata attended the 1/17/07 Harbor Ops meeting and presented the Commission with a copy of the agenda and a brief report on the meeting.

Mr. Licata attended the 1/24/07 NationsPort Membership meeting. Under the leadership of former DOT Commissioner Jack Letteire the organization has been reactivated and is being
reorganized. Mr. Licata will continue to attend the meetings and advise the Commission of its progress.

The Commission was given a copy of a memo from the Area Maritime Security Committee outlining the grant process for fiscal year 2007 along with the recommendations of the subcommittee.

As in previous years, the Commission was asked to endorse the Joint Statement of The Port Authority of NY/NJ; DOT; Empire State Development Corporation; and the NY City Economic Development Corporation, regarding the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers appropriations for fiscal year 2008. Mr. Licata reviewed the statement and, after consulting with Commissioner Dacey, the Commission’s endorsement was added to the statement.

The Commissioners were given a copy of a safety bulletin distributed by the New York Board regarding the unauthorized and improper use of a pilot’s laptop.

The Commissioners were given a copy of a thank you letter received from Ret. Captain Don Mercereau for the recognition ceremony for all New Jersey Retired Pilots held by the Commission at its November 21, 2006 regular meeting.

Captains Kenneth Sorensen, Richard Seeth and Peter Rooss are currently out on sick leave. Captain Christopher Weiss has taken a leave of absence.

Commissioners Dacey and Wowkanec met with Gary Rose the Governors Economic Development Head to discuss the Bayonne Bridge issue. Mr. Rose has promised to look into the issue and arrange a meeting with members of the Commission and the Port Authority.

Public Comment

Report from Captain Richard Schoenlank - President, The New Jersey Sandy Hook Pilots Association:

Sandy Hook has taken delivery of the first shipment of the new computers. The first training session was held last week with 6-7 pilots. Classes will take place every two weeks until all the new computers are in place. Sandy Hook is hoping to have the old computers phased out by June 2007. Commander Jack Olthius will demonstrate the new computers to the Commission at the March 20, 2007 meeting. Commissioner Daly will attend one of the training sessions.
The AK Railroad Bridge is going to be in operation beginning 3/5 or 3/6. There will be 2-4 closures per day.

The dredges in the Ambrose Channel will return in the spring to complete the south side of the channel.

The Area Maritime Security Committee has made one recent change to the security plan, the addition of the MTS-RAB – Maritime Transportation System - Recovery Advisory Board. The MTS-RAB is composed of 13 entities represented by a primary and alternate representative. The MTS-RAB will convene at any port closure or request of the COTP to provide advice and counsel to the COTP to help facilitate port recovery/reopening. The following Maritime Pilots and Docking Pilots are members of the board: R.J. Schoenlank (primary); A.W. McGovern (alternate); R. Flannery (primary); and S. Zorovich (alternate). A planned exercise will take place on May 2, 2007 to test the existence and function of the Board.

Beginning in the spring pilots and port workers will have to apply and produce documentation for the TWIC cards. To date no “reader” has been identified. Persons who apply for the cards will have to appear twice, first to complete the initial application and second to receive the card.

Captain Schoenlank attended a meeting with members of the Coast Guard Auxiliary on February 8th to discuss Operation Clear Channel. Three districts were represented. The pilots expressed their gratitude to the Auxiliary and discussed ways to try to improve the project. He felt that the meeting went well and the members of the auxiliary were pleased to receive recognition for their efforts.

Report from Captain Robert Flannery - President, Metro Pilots:

The 41-foot channel is open at Howland Hook.

The dredging of the Con Hook Range and the Port Newark Channel will begin at the same time. There will be a simulation exercise in Vicksburg before the dredging begins to iron out any problems this may cause.

As a result of the pilot/terminal roundtable meetings, Maher Terminal has begun to release daily work orders. This will help facilitate dockings.
Captain Flannery attended a meeting with the Port Authority and learned that no funds have been allocated to the operation and maintenance of the PORTS system.

Comment from Mr. Ed Kelly, Executive Director, the Maritime Association of New York and New Jersey:

To date NOAAH has not funded the PORTS system. Mr. Kelly will attend a meeting in DC next week to try to tackle the issue. Last year the system was funded by New York & New Jersey. New York stopped funding the system in June. Mr. Kelly attended a roundtable meeting of 15 executives throughout the port. They were asked to rank projects in the port. The executives ranked the PORTS system and the Bayonne Bridge issue as main priority projects.

Comment from Mr. Michael Riley, Manager, Office of Maritime Resources:

New Jersey can’t spend Bi-State funds unless New York does. New Jersey is in the position to continue to fund the PORTS system if New York resumes its support.

Committee Reports

A. Investigation Committee:

   I. **New Delhi Express** – 4/15/06 – Bottom Strike. This incident remains under investigation by Commissioner Daly and has been carried. The NTSB has sequestered vital data, which has inhibited the Commission’s investigation of this occurrence. Commissioner Daly was contacted by the NTSB at which time they informed him that they will be releasing the sequestered information in late March/early April.

   II. **Tug Miriam Moran** – 12/26/06 – Struck unknown object. Based on the attached investigation report, Commissioner Dacey recommended that the investigation be closed and the Docking Pilot be sent a letter of nonculpability. A motion was made by Commissioner Amster and seconded by Commissioner Daly to accept the recommendations. All voted in favor.

   III. **Meriom Sky** – 1/14/07 – Power Shutdown – Based on the attached investigation report, Commissioner Daly recommended that the investigation be closed and both the Maritime Pilot and the Docking Pilot be sent letters of nonculpability. A motion was made by
Commissioner Wiklinski and seconded by Commissioner Amster to accept the recommendations. All voted in favor.

Executive Session

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act provides that a public body such as The New Jersey Maritime Pilot and Docking Pilot Commission may meet in closed session to discuss personnel and litigation matters.

WHEREAS, the Commission desires to retire to closed session to discuss such matters.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Commission shall at this time meet in closed session to discuss such matters the substance of the closed session would be disclosed publicly only if it would not warrant an invasion of privacy.

On a motion by Commissioner Wowkanech and seconded by Commissioner Wiklinski the Commission went into Executive Session.

All voted in favor.

Return to Public Session

On a motion by Commissioner Daly and seconded by Commissioner Amster the Commission returned to Public Session. All voted in favor.

Upgrade of Pilot T.O. Ferrie from Sixth Grade Part A to Sixth Grade Part B

On a motion By Commissioner Daly and seconded by Commissioner Wowkanech that Captain Thomas O. Ferrie be promoted from a Pilot of the Sixth Grade Part A to a Pilot of the Sixth Grade Part B. All voted in favor.

Upgrade of Pilot M.J. Vanek from Sixth Grade Part B to Fifth Grade Part A

On a motion By Commissioner Wiklinski and seconded by Commissioner Wowkanech that Captain Michael J. Vanek be promoted from a Pilot of the Sixth Grade Part B to a Pilot of the Fifth Grade Part A. All voted in favor.
Adjournment

On a motion by Commissioner Amster and seconded by Commissioner Azzolina the meeting was adjourned. All voted in favor.