

## **Minutes April 22, 2004**

The Board of Pilot Commissioners for the Bays of San Francisco, San Pablo and Suisun regular meeting was held in the Board of Pilot Commissioners office, Pier 9, Suite 102, San Francisco, CA, commencing at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, April 22, 2004 Commissioner Falaschi presiding. A quorum was present, including Commissioners Bayer, Lundeberg, Wagner, Welch and Winn. Also in attendance were Port Agent Pete McIsaac, Board Counsel Raymond Paetzold, Executive Director Patrick Moloney and Secretary Alice Evans and various members of the public.

Request approval of Minutes of the March 25, 2004 regular Board meeting. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Correspondence and Activities since the March meeting--Executive Director Moloney

1. The Board received a letter dated April 2, 2004 from SFBP Port Agent Captain McIsaac that Captain Bill Greig will serve as Acting Port Agent from April 8 through April 15, 2004.
2. The Board received a letter dated April 14, 2004 from SFBP Acting Port Agent Captain Greig forwarding a summary of MRP violations. Commissioner Falaschi noted that this was in response to a request made by Commissioner Rosequist at the March 25 meeting. He then thanked the SFBP for providing the report in a timely manner. He commented that the information is most helpful to the Board.

Other Pilot Matters--Executive Director Moloney

1. The Board issued license renewals to Captains Dohm, Hoburg, Lemke, Melvin and Pinder during the month of April.
2. The Board has received the manpower reports and statements for pilotage fees and surcharges collected from SFBP and Inland Pilot Slough through February 2004. Copies are available in the Board office.

Port Agent's Report -- Port Agent Captain McIsaac

1. There are currently three pilots NFFD:  
Captain J. Weiss is recovering from a non-work related condition;  
Captain Larwood is recovering from knee surgery;  
Captain Rhodes is being treated for a condition not related to work and is expected to remain NFFD for an extended period of time.
2. The SFBP has taken delivery of the two replacement rigid hull inflatable rescue boats. To date, one has been put into service and performance reports from the crews have been very positive.
3. The P/V GOLDEN GATE was taken out of service on April 21 to change out the wheels and have the hull inspected. As expected a few small stress fractures were found in the hull and are being repaired. The boat is expected to be back in service later today.

4. Through March 2004; Compared to 3 year daily average

Bar Crossings	-2.4%
Bay Moves	-12.6%
River Moves	-15.1%
Total Moves	-5.1%
Gross Tons	+5.0%

Captain McIsaac noted that the Bay moves are negative in part because in the first quarter of 2003 SFBP did a large number of Bay moves in conjunction with the Carquinez Bridge construction project.

Unfinished Business

1. Open Incidents --Executive Director Moloney

a. S/S MAUI, grounding, entrance to Oakland Estuary, January 28, 2003 SFBP Captain J. Weiss; update information on hearing date (set for September 20-23) – Executive Director Moloney noted that the hearing date remains as scheduled.

b. S/S KENAI, allision with dock, Amorco, March 11, 2004 – Executive Director Moloney reported that this is being investigated.

2. Pilot Ladder reportable incidents --Executive Director Moloney said there have been no reportable incidents since the last report.

3. Rules and Regulations Committee--Commissioner Welch -- report on status of proposed rulemaking re amendments to Continuing Professional Development Program and Pilot Trainee Selection Procedures; **possible Board action re same**

Commissioner Welch reported that the Committee met April 13 in consultation with the Selection Appeals Committee regarding changes to Section 213 “Pilot Trainees”. Discussion outlining the Appeals Committee’s input resulted in draft language. The recommended changes from the Ad Hoc Trainee Selection Committee produced further discussion and also resulted in work on draft language.

Regarding the recommended changes to Section 218 “Duties of the Port Agent”, discussion also produced draft language.

A second meeting is set for today immediately following this meeting, with a third meeting scheduled prior to next month’s Board meeting.

4. Finance Committee--Commissioner Winn -- report on April 22, 2004 Committee meeting; possible recommendation to the Board for Pilot Vessel Surcharge rate adjustment from 6.11 mils to approximately 6.6 mils effective July 1, 2004; **possible Board action re same**

Commissioner Winn reported that the Committee met today and reviewed the SFBP variance report and reported that the gross from piloting is up 1%, expenses up 6% and net is down 6%, partially due to completion of the Carquinez Bridge project and reduction in income from the contract with the Coast Guard in the Sea Marshals program; fuel, insurance, land transportation and personnel costs are higher. The Board Fund Condition was reviewed and noted that the reserve is currently 2.73M and slowly decreasing.

The Committee reviewed the Pilot Vessel Surcharge. It noted that as of March 2004 the reserve is \$44,532. The Committee feels that it is advisable to maintain a reserve of approximately \$80,000. The Committee recommends in the form of a motion to increase the Pilot Vessel Surcharge rate from 6.11 mils to 6.6 mils effective July 1, 2004. Commissioner Falaschi asked for discussion. There was no further discussion. The motion passed unanimously. The Committee also reviewed the Pilot Training Surcharge and the SFBP Financial Statements as of December 31, 2002 and 2003. No unusual items were noted.

5. Pilot Training Curriculum Committee--Commissioner Wagner said there is no report.
6. Ad Hoc Committee on Trainee Selection--Commissioner Bayer said there is no report.
7. UPRR Bridge Working Group -- Executive Director Moloney -- report on April 13, 2004 meeting – Executive Director referred to Board Counsel Paetzold who summarized the review of compliance with the protocol, the overall success in reducing the incidents of vessel delays caused by communication problems with the Bridge (none reported in the last 6 months), and reduction in train delays due to improved cooperation and communication. The working group also recognized the importance of continued vigilance in utilizing the protocol. According to VTS, most participants are following the protocol most of the time, although there is a continuing need to improve outreach efforts to the towboat industry. Executive Director Moloney described the Board’s assistance in this effort.  
  
Captain McIsaac reported that on April 14-15 the bridge was closed to traffic because of mechanical problems for approximately two days. This caused the delay of seven vessels. Cdr. Cooke VTS USCG, who was in the audience, noted that it is anticipated that in June 2004 the bridge will again close for additional mechanical repairs to replace the remaining lift cables.
8. Pilot Evaluation Committee--Capt. Melvin -- Report on trainees’ progress in training program; report on April 14, 2004 Committee meeting – no report
9. Vessel Interactions--Review incident frequency, Board’s role in addressing the problem-- Commissioner Falaschi/Executive Director Moloney – no report
10. Pilot Security -- Commissioner Falaschi – no report
11. Ad hoc Committee for Pilot Fitness – Commissioner Falaschi to announce assignment of Committee members – Commissioner Falaschi noted that the Committee membership would be announced at the next Board meeting.

#### New Business

1. M/V CSL TRAILBLAZER grounding Light #5 Stockton Deepwater Channel, April 1, 2004
2. M/V RICKMERS NEW ORLEANS grounding at Stockton Deepwater Channel, April 10, 2004
3. Public Comment on matters not on the agenda – there were none.

3. Proposals for additions to next month's agenda – Commissioner Wagner requested that the SFBP Retirement Survey be placed on the agenda for review. This will allow the SFBP and Commissioners to adequately plan for the future.

Schedule next regular meeting – the next meeting is scheduled for May 27, 2004 at 9:30 a.m.

Adjournment – the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alice A. Evans  
Secretary