

PEC Chairman's Report to the BOPC
June 25, 2020

The Pilot Evaluation Committee met at this office on June 17, the members present were Captains Haggerty, Robinson, Slack and myself. At the request of the committee, Captain Garfinkle initially joined the meeting so we could provide him with an overview of this past month. In closed session, all trainees were individually interviewed and counseled on their progress in the training program.

The eight current trainees include Adams, Benedict, Burchard, Deisher, Murney, Nelson, Rogers, and Stevens. The trainees range of time in the program span from 2 to 35 months with one trainee, Burchard, presently in evaluation stage. Trainees Burchard, Nelson and Stevens have their full unlimited Coast Guard pilotage endorsement and are handling vessels as much as possible along with the occasional observation trip to watch a licensed pilot perform their duties. Four trainees: Adams, Benedict, Deisher and Rogers, are in the final stages of acquiring route trips and are handling vessels in areas where they meet the present requirements to do so. The most recent trainee, Murney, is gathering route trips and is beginning to handle vessels in areas where he meets the present requirements to do so. These five are in a holding pattern with testing for federal pilotage routes while the Coast Guard has suspended testing during the present pandemic situation. I have contacted the local REC inquiring about the resumption of testing. Their response, as of Friday June 19, is they do not have any information as to when testing will resume. All individuals are meeting the recommended benchmarks in the training program and are progressing at their own rates.

The next PEC meeting is scheduled for July 15, 2020 at 0730 at this office.

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I have a recommendation to make on agenda item B:

The committee has authorized me to make a recommendation to replace a member of the PEC. Captain John Carlier has been a seated member of the committee since June 2018 and will be stepping down this month by his own decision due in part to presently being Not Fit For Duty. John has been a solid member of this committee during his 2 years of service. He has contributed in not only training, evaluating and recommending trainees for licensing, but also for assisting in developing, vetting and administering trainee entrance exams. I would like to extend to John a personal and professional "Thank You" for all he has done to make the training program successful during his time on the committee.

At this time, the committee has unanimously agreed and authorized me to recommend Captain Shane Wehr as John's replacement. Shane initially began his maritime career in the local commercial fishing fleet. He then moved to Westar Marine Services where he worked for 13 years aboard their tugs in all licensed and unlicensed capacities. Immediately prior to entering the Board's pilot training program, he worked for Foss in the Bay as captain aboard tractor and conventional tugs conducting ship assist, tank vessel escort operations and oil barge movements. Shane was licensed by the Board in June of 2008. I would like to recommend to the Board that Captain Wehr be appointed to the Pilot Evaluation Committee for a 4 year term.

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I have no action to take on agenda item C.

I have no action to take on agenda item D.

Respectfully submitted, Captain Steve Teague