

State of California

Board of Pilot Commissioners

for the Bays of San Francisco, San Pablo, and Suisun

Draft Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Pilot Commissioners held on May 15, 2025, at 9:30 a.m.

Members of the public are encouraged to participate in meetings of the Board, either in person or via telephone.

Location:

Board of Pilot Commissioners
660 Davis Street
San Francisco, California 94111

To participate via telephone please use:

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SERVING THE PEOPLE OF CALIFORNIA SINCE 1850



**Board of Pilot Commissioners (BOPC)
for the Bays of San Francisco, San Pablo, and Suisun
Board Meeting
Thursday, May 15, 2025, at 9:30 a.m.**

Board Meeting Minutes

ATTENDANCE

Board Members Present (in person and by phone)

Karen Tynan, President, Public Member
Joanne Hayes-White, Vice President, Public Member
Captain William Benedict, Pilot Member
Captain Robert Carr, Pilot Member
Captain Lynn Korwatch, Dry Cargo Industry Member
Sam Rodriguez, Public Member
Christine Casey, Designee for the Secretary of the California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA)

Board Members Absent

Vacant, Wet Cargo Industry Member

Board Staff Present (in person and by phone)

Allen Garfinkle, Executive Director
Matthew Millspaugh, Assistant Director
Alethea Wong, Licensing and Training Programs Manager
Greg Shepherd, Records Management and Program Support Coordinator
Mari McNeill, Administrative Coordinator
Nina Lincoff, Board Counsel
Roma Cristia-Plant, Consultant to the Board (by phone)

Identified Public Present (in person and by phone)

Captain John Carlier, San Francisco Bar Pilots (SFBP) President and Port Agent
Captain Anne McIntyre, SFBP Business Director
Kevin Baldwin, SFBP General Counsel
Captain Paul Ruff, SFBP
Matthew Stevens, SFBP
Captain Daniel Thinger, SFBP
Captain Christian Barron (and Family), SFBP
Jennifer Cohen, Pacific Merchant Shipping Association (PMSA) Vice President of Governmental Affairs
Rex Clack, esq., Rex M Clack (RMC) Law

OPEN MEETING

1. Call to Order and Roll Call. (President Tynan)

President Tynan called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Board Administrative Coordinator, Marjorie (Mari) McNeill called the roll and confirmed a quorum.

2. Public comment on matters on the agenda or not on the agenda.

Ms. Cristia-Plant noted that she was participating remotely by phone.

3. Review and approval of Board meeting minutes from the meeting held on April 24, 2025. (President Tynan)

Possible Board action to approve the minutes from the Board meeting held on April 24, 2025.

MOTION: Commissioner Hayes-White moved to approve the draft April 24, 2025, Board meeting minutes. Commissioner Carr seconded the motion.

VOTE: YES: Tynan, Hayes-White, Benedict, Carr, Korwatch, and Rodriguez.

NO: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ACTION: The motion was approved.

4. President Announcements and Activities. (President Tynan)

President Tynan requested the Board discuss agenda item 11 after agenda item 5, in closed session.

President Tynan stated she received an unsolicited book, on May 15, 2025, from a politician running for governor. She emphasized that this was an unsolicited gift with a value of less than \$30, so she didn't need to report as a gift on her Form 700 but had elected to note it to the Board in the spirit of full disclosure.

5. Board Member Announcements and Activities. (Board Members)

None.

Agenda item 11 was discussed prior to agenda item 6.

11. Incident Review Committee (IRC) - Reportable Piloting Events. (Executive Director Garfinkle/Vice President Hayes-White) (Reportable piloting events occurring up to the start of the meeting will be reported on.)

Closed session began at 9:37 a.m.

Closed session ended at 9:42 a.m.

Open session resumed at 9:43 a.m.

- A) Present IRC report regarding the September 25, 2024, event involving the bulk carrier Motor Vessel (M/V) KONA TRADER which made unintended contact with the pier in the Port of Stockton.**

Board deliberation on the Incident Review Committee's recommendations to the Board and determination regarding the event of September 25, 2024, involving the M/V KONA TRADER, which made unintended contact with the pier in the Port of Stockton. If the report is not presented, the IRC may request an extension. If that is the case, possible Board action to extend the M/V KONA TRADER report to the next monthly Board meeting.

The Board may go into closed session for the deliberation of the confidential portions of the incident report presented under this item pursuant to Harbors and Navigation Code section 1180.6 and Government Code section 11126, subdivisions (c)(3) and (e)(1).

Board Counsel Lincoff stated that the Board would consider a motion to continue agenda item 11a in the June 2025 Board meeting.

MOTION: Commissioner Korwatch moved to grant the Incident Review Committee (IRC) an extension to present its report on the M/V KONA TRADER at the next Board meeting, on Thursday, June 26, 2025. Commissioner Hayes-White seconded the motion.

VOTE: YES: Tynan, Hayes-White, Benedict, Carr, Korwatch, and Rodriguez.

NO: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ACTION: The motion was approved.

- B) Progress report on IRC report regarding the October 14, 2024, event involving the Motor Tanker (M/T) PLATANOS which made unintended contact with the pier at Shell Martinez.**

Possible Board action to extend the M/T PLATANOS report to the next monthly Board meeting.

Executive Director Garfinkle recommended the Board to extend the M/T PLATANOS to the Board Meeting on June 26, 2025. He stated this incident resulted in damage to vessel's hull but not the pier.

SFBP General Counsel Baldwin expressed the SFBP's concerns regarding the length of time being taken for investigations to be concluded.

MOTION: Commissioner Rodriguez moved to grant the IRC an extension to present its report on the M/T PLATANOS at the next Board meeting, on Thursday, June 26, 2025. Commissioner Carr seconded the motion.

VOTE: YES: Tynan, Hayes-White, Benedict, Carr, Korwatch, and Rodriguez.

NO: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ACTION: The motion was approved.

6. Directors' Report. (Executive Director Garfinkle/Assistant Director Millspaugh)

A) Correspondence and activities since the Board meeting held on April 24, 2025.

Executive Director Garfinkle reported the following activities:

- On Tuesday, April 29, 2025:
 - Board staff received SFBP's 2024 Section 237(d) report.
 - Executive Director Garfinkle received comments on the IRC report from Commissioner Carr, used in part in preparing the addendum to the M/V KONA TRADER report.
- On Wednesday, April 30, 2025, Board staff received an email from The California Highway Patrol (CHP)'s Small Business (SB)/ Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise (DVBE) Advocate-Liaison commending the Board for its efforts on "maintaining the required [SB/DVBE] participation numbers." Currently, the Board's participation rate is greater than 50% for both SB and DVBE.
- On Friday, May 2, 2025, Executive Director Garfinkle approved the wire transfer of the April surcharges from SFBP.
- On Tuesday, May 6, 2025, Board staff received SFBP's 2024 Fatigue Risk Management System (FRMS) submission.
- On Friday, May 9, 2025:
 - Commissioner Rodriguez provided Board staff with the California Trade Report for March 2025.
 - Board staff received a copy of an amended accusation against Captain Greger.
- On Monday, May 12, 2025, Executive Director Garfinkle attended a meeting of the Finance Committee.
- On Wednesday, May 14, 2025, Executive Director Garfinkle attended the open session of the Pilot Evaluation Committee.

B) Report on pilot licensing matters since the Board meeting held on April 24, 2025.

Executive Director Garfinkle reported that, since the April 2025 Board meeting, the Board issued a license renewal to the following Board licensee: Captain Weiss.

C) Report on Board surcharges.

Executive Director Garfinkle reported that the SFBP wired \$1,054,500.61 to the Board for surcharges collected in April 2025, itemized as follows:

Operations Surcharge:	\$248,629.52
Pilot Training Surcharge:	\$33,499.04
Trainee Training Surcharge:	\$89,227.42
Pilot Boat Surcharge:	\$683,144.63

D) Report of pension fiduciary.

Executive Director Garfinkle reported that as of April 30, 2025, there were 85 pensioners.

Surcharge Rate for the Quarter:	\$0.04595 per gross registered ton
Rolling Look Back Period:	January 2024 to December 2024
Monthly Tonnage for April 2025:	27,794,286.00 tons
Surcharge Billing Total:	\$1,277,147.32
Administrative Costs for the Month:	\$2,603.00
Amount Distributed to Pension Beneficiaries:	\$1,274,544.32
Total Monthly Target Rates:	\$1,272,771.84
Amount Over/Under Target:	\$4,375.48 (above target)

The last Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) increase to the pension was April 1, 2023.

E) Report on legislative activities and contractual matters.

Assistant Director Millspaugh reported:

Legislative Activities

Board staff are not currently tracking any legislation but will monitor the legislative session for bills that may affect the Board.

Contractual Matters

Assistant Director Millspaugh reported the following regarding contractual matters:

Trainee Selection Exam Contracts

- **California State University Maritime Academy (CMA) – Trainee Selection Exam Services (Contract # To Be Determined (TBD))**

Board staff continue to pursue an inter-agency agreement with CMA for use of their simulator and facilities for the simulator portion of the 2026 pilot trainee exam. Board staff met with CMA on May 1, 2025, and reviewed the draft Scope of Work (SOW). Staff expect to have draft finalized in June 2025.

- **Trainee Selection Exam Services (Contract # TBD)**

Board staff met with prospective contractor Dainis & Company (Dainis) to discuss the draft SOW for development of the 2026 pilot trainee exam. Dainis is currently reviewing the SOW and staff expect to meet with Dainis before June 1, 2025, to discuss next steps toward entering into an agreement.

- **California Department of Human Resources (CalHR) – Trainee Selection Exam Services (Contract # TBD)**

Board staff continue to work toward development of a SOW and budget for the Pilot Trainee Training Program Exam related to services from CalHR. The SOW and budget are anticipated to be agreed upon in June 2025.

- **State Controller’s Office (SCO) – Pilot Boat Program Audit**

Board staff have been developing a new Inter-Agency agreement between the Board and the SCO, in support of the Pilot Boat Program Performance Audit. Board staff met with SCO May 1, 2025, regarding the SOW, and confirmed that the SOW is under review by SCO senior management.

- **Pilot and Pilot Trainee Fitness Assessment with University of California San Francisco (UCSF) (Contract # TBD)**

The development of a new three-year agreement with a term date of July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2028, is in process. Board staff provided UCSF with a proposed SOW and budget in December 2024. Board staff received a proposed budget update on May 14, 2025, and anticipate submitting the SOW to CHP for review/approval in June 2025.

Maritime Investigator Services Contracts

- **Marine Investigator Services – Invitations for Bids (IFB) (Contracts # 24M900003)**

The Board received one response from the IFB for maritime investigative services and is in the process of developing a contract with that individual. Board staff are in the process of working with the CHP Contracts Unit to post a new IFB for maritime investigator services to attract additional contractors. The IFB is expected to be released in June 2025.

- **Pilot Trainee Random Drug Testing Services (Contract # TBD) Maritime Investigator Services Contracts**

Board staff are currently negotiating a fair and reasonable contract for pilot trainee drug testing services. The term of the contract is expected to be July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2028.

7. Port Agent’s Report. (Port Agent Carlier)

A) Report on absent pilots, Minimum Rest Period (MRP) exceptions, required fatigue risk mitigation reporting, pilot boats, and vessel moves.

Port Agent, Captain Carlier, reported that, as of May 15, 2025:

- The following pilots were Absent for Medical Reasons (AFMR), and their initial absence dates were:
 - Captain Cvitanovic since February 14, 2025.
 - Captain Lingo since March 12, 2025.
 - Captain Long since March 19, 2025.
- The SFBP continuously monitors the dispatch list for possible 12-hour MRP exceptions. If the potential exception is likely to result in a rest period of less than 10 hours, mitigating measures

are employed. These measures include, but are not limited to, suspending continuing professional development protocols, cancelling scheduled meetings or committee assignments, cancelling previously granted compensation time requests, deferring scheduled training sessions, or calling in off-watch pilots.

Fatigue Risk Mitigation Report

There are currently 51 licensees on the SFBP roster.

Work periods over 12 hours: There were 21 occurrences, no occurrences over 14 hours, and the maximum period was 13.5 hours.

Night work periods over 10 hours without rest opportunity: There were 4 occurrences.

Night-time hours over 18 hours in a 72-hour period: There were no occurrences.

Rest periods of less than 12 hours (MRPs): There were 22 occurrences, and the minimum period was 9.6 hours.

B) Report on SFBP ship piloting business activity.

Port Agent, Captain Carlier, reported that, as of May 15, 2025:

- The status for each of the SFBP-owned pilot boats were reported as:
 - Normal operations for Pilot Vessels (P/V) CALIFORNIA, PITTSBURG, and SAN FRANCISCO.
 - P/V DRAKE resumed service, as a run-boat, on April 7, 2025.
 - GOLDEN GATE remained dockside at the shipyard since April 17, 2025, for 6,000-hour main engine service.
- Vessel moves were as follows:
 - Bar Crossings: 456
 - Bay Moves: 132
 - River Moves: 61
 - Total Moves: 649
- Gross Registered Tonnage (GRT): 28.8 million
- Year-over-year, when comparing the same period in 2024 to the same period in 2025, total moves were down 2.7% and GRT was down 2.4%.

C) Confidential written report of licensed pilots who have been Absent for Medical Reasons (AFMR). The Board may go into closed session to discuss the contents of the Port Agent's confidential report and other relevant confidential medical information, as authorized by Harbors and Navigation Code (HNC) section 1157.1.

None.

8. Pilot Evaluation Committee. (Committee Chair Captain Ruff)

A) Report on the Pilot Evaluation Committee (PEC) meeting held on May 14, 2025.

PEC Chair Ruff presented the PEC Chair's Report on the following:

- The PEC met on May 14, 2025. The members present were Captains Slack, Bridgman, Stultz, Wehr, and Ruff. Executive Director Garfinkle joined the PEC in the open session in which the following was discussed:
 - Captain Barron's possible issues with completion of training and issuance of a state license.
 - The previous PEC meeting discussed Captain Ahrens' Leave of Absence (LOA) request. The PEC did not support granting a LOA for the reason given (training in another pilot program).
- The five active trainees include Barron, Gallo, Johnson, Johnston, and Thinger. The trainees' time in the program ranges from six to 21 months.
- Trainees are completing trips to obtain their first-class pilotage endorsement for unlimited tonnage upon San Francisco Bay. They have been observing, part handling, and handling ships under direct supervision of a licensed SFBP pilot.
- Trainees Barron and Gallo completed testing for their First-Class Pilot (FCP) with the United States Coast Guard (USCG) and are fully licensed with unlimited FCP for San Francisco Bay.
- The trainees are testing various routes in the area.
- In closed session, trainees were individually interviewed and counseled on their progress in the training program. Time was spent answering their questions and concerns.
- Four trainees presently meet recommended benchmarks and are progressing at their own rate.
- Captain Johnston is below benchmarks in two categories. Discrepancies in recordkeeping were discovered, making it appear Captain Johnston was working more than he was. Captain Johnston reported less time off than what was taken. He was counseled to correct these errors. Captain Johnston being below benchmarks was, in part, due to an injury, USCG FCP test requirements being changed, and a slower work pace. Captain Johnston was counseled to stop river trips, to only do lower bay work, and to get thirty-five jobs submitted within the month.
- Captain Barron completed his third month in evaluation status with no pilot intervention or coaching needed, leading to the PEC's recommendation for state license.
- The next PEC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 18, 2025, at 7:30 a.m. at the Board office.

Board Members and attendees discussed Captain Johnston's recordkeeping discrepancies, possible preventative measure for future trainee tracking, and emphasized the importance to the program for pilots and trainees to have good moral character. PEC Chair Ruff stated that there was no question of jobs completed. The discrepancy was that the days off and hours worked didn't align. PEC Chair Ruff stated that the benchmark is 30 jobs per month, but Captain Johnston only logged 22.

B. Possible PEC recommendation to place one or more Pilot Trainee Training Program trainees on probation or dismiss one or more trainees from the program.

Possible Board action to place one or more Pilot Trainee Training Program trainees on or off probation or dismiss one or more trainees from the program.

PEC Chair Ruff stated that the PEC recommended dismissal of Captain Ahrens from the training program. The PEC did not support a LOA request to train in another state pilot area.

The Board agreed that letting Captain Ahrens choose to return or resign was more appropriate than a dismissal. Some discussion points that led to this were:

- Executive Director Garfinkle stated that the meeting document corresponding to agenda item 8E, the LOA request from Trainee Ahrens, stated the reason for the LOA request as the desire to pursue training & employment through Puget Sound Pilots and, to his knowledge, no precedent exists for this type of LOA request. In the past, the Board has accepted LOA requests due to health or family issues. When considering LOA requests, the Board can grant a shorter LOA, no LOA, the LOA as requested, or dismiss the trainee from the program (dismissal without cause can be done in the first year of the program). The temporary leave granted would be without stipend. Since the LOA request from Trainee Ahrens was received too late to include in the April 2025 Board meeting, a temporary leave (without stipend) was granted until the Board's review and decision could be made in the May 2025 Board meeting.
- Board members agreed that an additional LOA should not be given beyond what was already granted and Trainee Ahrens should be given the opportunity for an immediate return.
- Commissioner Korwatch stated that Trainee Ahrens should have to decide whether to stay in the Board's program (as the sure thing) or pursue training with the Puget Sound Pilots (where he hasn't started yet).
- President Tynan expressed a desire to ensure the response would not be punitive, as it would be inappropriate to punish a request submitted through the proper procedures.

Agenda item 8E was discussed prior to Agenda item 8C.

E) Review request for a Leave of Absence (LOA) from Trainee Ahrens and possible Board action on request.

Possible Board action on a request for a Leave of Absence (LOA) from Trainee Ahrens.

The Board continued the discussion regarding motion considerations for Trainee Ahrens' LOA request. Discussion points included:

- Executive Director Garfinkle stated that the motion including a date of return of June 1, 2025, and a mechanism to force a choice to accept or resign, would be appropriate.
- PEC Chair Ruff stated that, upon his return, Trainee Ahrens would be behind, and it would be difficult to complete the trainee program in the time remaining, especially if there was any additional time off. Trainee Ahrens would have to resume work immediately upon his return.
- Board Members, Board Counsel Lincoff, and attendees discussed language for the motion and

other considerations.

- Trainee Ahrens thanked the Board for their time and consideration regarding his LOA request and President Tynan thanked Trainee Ahrens for his time as well.

MOTION: Commissioner Benedict moved to deny Trainee Ahrens' Leave of Absence (LOA) request and to order a return to work or submission of a letter of resignation to Executive Director Garfinkle by June 1, 2025. If a letter of resignation is not submitted, the Board will consider any resulting necessary action at the June meeting. Commissioner Carr seconded the motion.

VOTE: YES: Tynan, Hayes-White, Benedict, Carr, Korwatch, and Rodriguez.

NO: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ACTION: The motion was approved.

C) Possible PEC recommendation as to whether a trainee has, or trainees have successfully completed the Pilot Trainee Training Program.

Possible Board action to award a Certificate of Completion to a trainee who has completed the Pilot Trainee Training Program.

PEC Chair Ruff stated that the PEC unanimously voted to recommend that the Board award a Certificate of Completion to Captain Barron.

Executive Director Garfinkle stated that he verified Trainee Barron meets the requirements in the regulation (California Code of Regulations, Title 7. Harbors and Navigation Division 2, Article 4, sections 214 and 215), including training for more than one year and maintaining an average score of 4.0, on a scale of 5.0 by the PEC, in the last three months. Executive Director Garfinkle recommended the Board grant a certificate of completion.

MOTION: Commissioner Benedict moved to award a Certificate of Completion to Captain Barron as of May 15, 2025. Commissioner Rodriguez seconded the motion.

VOTE: YES: Tynan, Hayes-White, Benedict, Carr, Korwatch, and Rodriguez.

NO: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ACTION: The motion was approved.

Commissioner Carr praised Captain Barron's performance.

Board Members applauded Captain Barron, in congratulations for his completion of the training program.

D) Possible recommendation from the Executive Director for the Board to issue a state pilot license to a trainee who holds a Certificate of Completion from the Pilot Trainee Training Program.

Possible Board action to accept a recommendation from the Executive Director that a trainee holding a Certificate of Completion from the Pilot Trainee Training Program be licensed as a state-licensed pilot, and issue said state license.

PEC Chair Ruff stated that the PEC recommended issuing a state license to Captain Barron.

Executive Director Garfinkle recommended that the Board grant Captain Barron a license conditioned on receipt of an approved fit for duty medical assessment from UCSF.

MOTION: Commissioner Korwatch moved to issue a state pilot license to Captain Barron as of May 15, 2025, conditioned on a receipt of a fit for duty medical assessment. Commissioner Carr seconded the motion.

VOTE: YES: Tynan, Hayes-White, Benedict, Carr, Korwatch, and Rodriguez.
NO: None.
ABSTAIN: None.

ACTION: The motion was approved.

Captain Barron was sworn in by President Tynan.

Recess began at 10:38 a.m.

Meeting resumed at 10:51 a.m.

9. Finance Committee (Commissioner Rodriguez)

A) Report on the Finance Committee meeting held on May 12, 2025.

Commissioner Rodriguez thanked everyone involved in the Finance Committee process, including President Tynan, Board staff, and Finance Committee Members McIntyre and Jacob.

B) Finance Committee recommendations to the Board on the following Board surcharges:

- i. To adjust or not adjust the Board Operations Surcharge rate (currently at 5.75% of all pilotage fees, effective January 1, 2025. The Board received a letter dated March 20, 2025, from the Department of Finance (DOF) stating DOF “will not take action” on the Board’s proposal to adjust the rate to 6.5%, effective April 1, 2025).**

Possible Board action to adjust the Board Operations Surcharge rate.

Commissioner Rodriguez stated that the Finance Committee recommended the Board raise the Board Operations Surcharge to 6.5%, effective July 1, 2025. The Finance Committee discussed that this change was previously rejected by DOF but did not anticipate it being rejected again.

Assistant Director Millspaugh reported that DOF had declined to approve the Board's request for an Operations Surcharge rate increase until such time as the legislative authority is granted to support the increase's underlying the request.

MOTION: Commissioner Hayes-White moved to increase the Board Operations Surcharge rate of all Pilot fees from 5.75% to 6.5%, effective July 1, 2025. Commissioner Carr seconded the motion.

VOTE: YES: Tynan, Hayes-White, Benedict, Carr, Korwatch, and Rodriguez.

NO: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ACTION: The motion was approved.

ii. To adjust or not adjust the Pilot Continuing Education Surcharge rate (currently at \$45 per move, effective January 1, 2025).

Possible Board action to adjust the Pilot Continuing Education Surcharge rate.

No action.

iii. To adjust or not adjust the Trainee Training Surcharge rate (currently \$20/trainee/move, effective January 1, 2025).

Possible Board action to adjust the Pilot Trainee Training Surcharge rate.

No action.

iv. To adjust or not adjust the Pilot Boat Surcharge rate (currently at \$0.020 per gross registered ton, effective April 1, 2025).

Possible Board action to adjust the Pilot Boat Surcharge rate.

No action.

As a Finance Committee Member, Captain McIntyre thanked Assistant Director Millspaugh and Records Management and Program Support Coordinator Shepherd for revising the way the finance documents were presented. She acknowledged it was a lot of work, very helpful, and impressive work quality.

10. Reported Safety Standard Violations. (Executive Director Garfinkle) (Reported safety standard violations occurring up to the start of the meeting will be included.)

Executive Director Garfinkle stated that there were no new violations between the April 2025 and May 2025 Board meetings.

Commissioner Carr stated that the International Maritime Pilot Association (IMPA) started a pilot ladder survey on May 15, 2025, which would be held open for two weeks. Starting next week, pilots will be participating online by reporting ladder conditions and any safety equipment not up to

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standard. The increased awareness resulting from participating in this survey may result in additional safety standard violation reports submitted to the Board.

12. Status report on the Board's Information Technology Modernization Project (ITMP). (Assistant Director Millspaugh)

Assistant Director Millspaugh stated that Project Approval Lifecycle (PAL) Stage 2 is under review. Board staff continue work on the Scope of Work (SOW) for the purchasing and Information Technology (IT) solution. Although Stage 2 is behind schedule, the progress on Stage 3 (solution procurement) has remained on schedule to submit proposals in the fall, be in contract in 2026, and then allow about one year for implementation of the project. Assistant Director Millspaugh and President Tynan agreed to having another status overview in September 2025.

13. Stakeholders' report on subjects that may be of interest to the Board, including reports on shipping activity regionally and within the Board's jurisdiction, and the status of the next pilot boat build. (Mike Jacob, Pacific Merchant Shipping Association (PMSA)/Captain Anne McIntyre, SFBP)

Ms. Cohen reported industry related updates, on behalf of PMSA, including:

- The state budget did not incorporate agriculture tariffs into the proposed budget baseline, because they weren't adopted prior to the budget development, but there was a \$7.8 billion decrease and a redirect of tax revenue. The projections reflected an incomplete impact analysis of tax and capital gains.
- Revenue has decreased due to market volatility. The Port of Long Beach released an economic impact report earlier in the week that showed profound impacts on employment, labor income, gross product, economic output, and federal, state, and local taxes. 15% of all United States' container cargo moves through the Port of Long Beach. This includes:
 - 2.7 million jobs tied to the port activity.
 - \$176 billion in income.
 - \$309 billion to Gross Domestic Product (GDP).
 - \$84.4 billion in local, state, and federal taxes in 2023.
- Trade policy fluctuations continue, and trade has not recovered, despite the trade deal with China, announced May 12, 2025. There was a temporary spike in hires, instead of layoffs. Prior to this trade deal announcement, there were 46 cancelled (blank) sailings for May and 31 for June between Oakland, Los Angeles, and Long Beach, and 17 in the Northwest Seaport Alliance (NWSA), 25 more than 2024. The May 12, 2025, announcement did not reverse or smooth over the damage, disruption remains, and the Office of the United States Trade Representative's (USTR) ship fees are still scheduled for later in 2025. There was not an instant return to prior traffic; instead, it was a replenishment spike to get ahead of what's to come. The fluctuations are anticipated to go back and forth between empty and overcapacity. The instability will be challenging.
- Some countries have rerouted the source of their exports, previously sourced from the United States. It is unclear if these exports, such as soybeans sold to China (now sourced from Brazil), will be sourced from the United States again.

Captain McIntyre stated:

- Due to the fluctuations Ms. Cohen mentioned, the SFBP has faced difficulty with revenue and forecasting projections. The pandemic created cash flow management challenges due to a significant decrease in vessel traffic. The SFBP recorded lessons learned from these challenges, such as the operation costs that don't change. The SFBP will continue to carefully watch the industry impacts in relation to the cash flow management (cash versus billing) and will notify the Board of significant findings.
- The SFBP anticipates releasing a Request for Proposals (RFP), for the pilot boat program, on June 2, 2025. Five shipyards have already expressed interest in submitting bids for the program.
- The SFBP cash management process includes the SFBP sending an invoice to the customer (after vessels are escorted in/out of ports). Most customers pay the invoice within 30 days. Collections can be more volatile than the billing. Due to the delay between billing and payment, predictions are made one to two months out; so, the first impact from the tariff changes will be seen in June 2025. The SFBP reports to the Board when customers become significantly past due (which is usually due to administrative issues instead of financial difficulties) because, if the SFBP doesn't collect, then the Board doesn't get paid.

14. Discussion regarding the contract for Surcharge Collection, Pilot Education and Pilot Trainee Training between the SFBP and the Board, and issues related to reimbursement of the SFBP by the Board. (Captain McIntyre)

SFBP General Counsel Baldwin stated that there was nothing new to report and that they reported last month that the claim was approved.

President Tynan requested the agenda item remain until the claim has been paid.

15. Closed session for the Board to confer with legal counsel regarding potential significant exposure to litigation against the Board involving an inactive licensee. (Board Counsel)

The Board is authorized to discuss this matter in a closed session pursuant to the Open Meeting Act, Government Code section 11126, subdivisions (e)(1) and (e)(2)(B).

Commissioner Carr and President Tynan requested a closed session to discuss the new letter from Board Counsel that was mentioned in the Directors' report.

Closed session began at 11:14 a.m.

Closed session ended at 11:21 a.m.

Open session resumed at 11:22 a.m.

President Tynan stated that there was nothing to report from the closed session.

16. Proposals for the next Board meeting agenda. (President Tynan)

President Tynan requested that agenda item 14 remain on the agenda until the claim has been paid.

Commissioner Benedict stated that two trainees remain and recommended a new trainee be added to the training program. President Tynan asked that an agenda item be added to the next Board meeting to discuss adding a new trainee.

Executive Director Garfinkle agreed to:

- Adding an agenda item to address the number of trainees.
- Scheduling a Pilot Fitness Committee meeting.
- Scheduling an Ad Hoc Committee to Review the Pilotage Rate Setting Process meeting.

President Tynan requested that agenda item 12, the Board's Information Technology Modernization Project (ITMP), remain on the agenda, with the potential for a closed session status update.

Commissioners Korwatch and Carr expressed a desire to discuss the number of pilots and impact of shipping activity at the June 2025 meeting.

Commissioner Korwatch requested the Pilot Fitness Committee meeting be scheduled prior to the June 2025 Board meeting.

Captain McIntyre requested an agenda item to discuss regulations on the rule making and rate hearing process.

17. Comment by the public and Board members on matters not on the agenda.

None.

18. Adjournment.

President Tynan adjourned the meeting at 11:26 a.m.

Submitted by:



Allen Garfinkle
Executive Director

ACRONYM INDEX

Acronyms / Abbreviations	Definition
AFMR	Absent For Medical Reasons
Blank Sailings	Cancelled Sailings
BOPC/Board	Board of Pilot Commissioners
CalHR	The California Department of Human Resources
CalSTA	The California State Transportation Agency
CHP	The California Highway Patrol
CMA	The California State University Maritime Academy
COLA	Cost of Living Adjustment
DOF	The Department of Finance
DVBE	Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise
FCP	First Class Pilot (federal license test)
FRMR	Fatigue Risk Mitigation Report
FRMS	Fatigue Risk Management System
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GRT	Gross Registered Tons
HNC	Harbors and Navigation Code
IFB	Invitation for Bids
IMPA	International Maritime Pilot Association
IRC	Incident Review Committee
IT	Information Technology
ITMP	Information Technology Modernization Project
LOA	Leave of Absence
MRP	Minimum Rest Period
M/T	Motor Tanker / Motor Tug
M/V	Motor Vessel
NWSA	The Northwest Seaport Alliance
PAL	Project Approval Lifecycle
PEC	Pilot Evaluation Committee
PMSA	The Pacific Merchant Shipping Association
P/V	Passenger Vessel / Pilot Vessel
RFP	Request for Proposals
RMC	Rex M Clack Law (Law firm)
SB	Small Business
SCO	The State Controller's Office
SFBP	San Francisco Bar Pilots
SOW	Scope of Work
TBD	To Be Determined
UCSF	The University of California San Francisco
USCG	The United States Coast Guard
USTR	Office of the United States Trade Representative

This and other documents for this meeting can be found on the Board's website www.bopc.ca.gov.

