

PEC (Pilot Evaluation Committee) Chairman's Report to BOPC (Board of Pilot Commissioners)

October 15, 2025

The Pilot Evaluation Committee met on Wednesday, October 15th, 2025. The members present were Captains Wehr, Slack, Bridgman, Stultz and Ruff. At 0730 Captain Garfinkle joined us in open session.

- Discussed meeting procedure, Captain Garfinkle suggested we have topic discussions in closed and vote on said topic in open session. Dainis, psychometrician clearing hurdles for proctoring test in 2026. Advertising for 2026 test. Sea service letter template for next round of applicants. Competing with PS pilots for candidates, timing for their test vs. BOPC.

At 0740 open session completed, we moved to small room for closed sessions.

Agenda Item A:

There are four trainees including Captains Gallo, Johnson, Thinger and Roberts. The trainees time in the program range from 26 months to two months. They are observing, part handling and handling under the direct supervision of a licensed San Francisco Bar Pilot. Captains Gallo and Johnson have completed all testing for first class pilotage and continue learning the fine art of pilotage. Captain Thinger has one test remaining, Stockton, and with the federal government shut down no appointment can be made to take the last exam. Fingers crossed. Captain Roberts has started his third and last month of forty-five jobs per month. At this point in the training program, I am reminded of a quote from Mark Twain, "I knew that boats ran all night, but somehow, I never happened to reflect that somebody had to get out of a warm bed to run them. I began to fear that piloting was not quite so romantic as I imagined it was. There was something very real and work like about this phase of it." From Life on the Mississippi. In individual closed session meeting, all trainees are meeting the benchmarks set forth in the training guidelines and are progressing. The next PEC meeting is scheduled for November 12th, 2025, at 0730, in this office

Agenda item B: Probation or dismissal

No action currently

Agenda item C: Completing training program

No action currently

Agenda item D: Issue state license

No action currently

Respectfully given Captain Paul Ruff