

**BOARD FOR BRANCH PILOTS MEETING
MINUTES**

The Virginia Board for Branch Pilots met on Tuesday, April 30, 2013, at the Virginia Port Authority, 600 World Trade Center, Norfolk, Virginia, with the following members present:

Charles R. Amory, Jr.
Captain Robert H. Callis, III
Captain J. William Cofer
Captain Milton B. Edmunds
Thomas P. Host, III
Patrick B. McDermott
Captain John A. Morgan, Jr.
Christine N. Piersall
Meade G. Stone, Jr.

Staff present for the meeting was:

Kathleen R. (Kate) Nosbisch, Executive Director

Joshua Lief, Senior Assistant Attorney General, was present from the Office of the Attorney General.

Finding a quorum of the Board present, Mr. Stone, President, called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

Call to Order

Mr. McDermott moved to approve the agenda. Mr. Host seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by Messrs., Mme. and Captains: Amory, Callis, Cofer, Edmunds, Host, McDermott, Morgan, Piersall and Stone.

**Approval of
Agenda**

Mr. Host moved to approve the minutes from the March 13, 2013, board meeting. Mr. McDermott seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by Messrs., Mme. and Captains: Amory, Callis, Cofer, Edmunds, Host, McDermott, Morgan, Piersall and Stone.

**Approval of
Minutes**

There were no public comments.

**Public Comment
Period**

Mr. Stone called Captain Counselman forward and presented him with a resolution for his years of service as a Branch Pilot and to the Virginia Pilot Association.

**Presentation of
Resolution to
Captain William
L. Counselman**

RESOLUTION TO
Captain William Lee Counselman

WHEREAS, Captain William Lee Counselman did faithfully and diligently serve as a Virginia Branch Pilot from July of 1966 to May of 2013;

WHEREAS, Captain William Lee Counselman did devote generously of his time, talent and leadership to the Virginia Pilot Association, serving as Vice-President from 1995 to 2013; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Board for Branch Pilots wishes to acknowledge its gratitude for devoted service of a person who is held in high esteem by the members of the Board, the Virginia Pilot Association and the citizens of the Commonwealth;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Virginia Board for Branch Pilots this thirtieth day of April, 2013, that Captain William Lee Counselman be given all honors and respect due him for his outstanding service to the Commonwealth and its citizens; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution be presented to him and be made a part of the official minutes of the Board so that all may know of the high regard in which he is held by this Board.

Captain Cofer informed the Board that it was Captain Counselman's last day at the Virginia Pilot Association, as he was retiring after 47 years, the last 18 of which he served as Vice-President. He also reported that the United States Coast Guard plans to recognize Captain Counselman for his outstanding service. Captain Cofer also shared that Captain Counselman is the person who handles issues regarding homeland security and weather related emergencies. Mr. Host stated that from a shipping agent's prospective, Captain Counselman has been a pleasure to work with.

Captain Counselman thanked the Board for the recognition of his service.

Captain Callis provided the Board with a report of the examinations conducted by the Examination Administrators on April 30, 2013. The following report was made:

Exam
Administrators
Report

William G. Saunders, Jr.

William G. Saunders, Jr. answered oral questions related to the raise in grade. The subjects included: safe anchoring positions in Lynnhaven and Sewell's Point, anchoring deep draft vessels, overtaking situations, limitations of navigation equipment, usage of the deep water route in the southeast sealanes, vessel squat, under keel clearance and safe vessel speed. Captain Saunders stood a good examination and was found to be qualified. Captain Callis moved that Captain Saunders be raised from a Golf classification (55,000 gross tons and 42 feet maximum draft) to a Hotel classification (64,000 gross tons and 46 feet maximum draft). Mr. Host seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by Messrs., Mme. and Captains: Amory, Callis, Cofer, Edmunds, Host, McDermott, Morgan,

Piersall and Stone.

Mr. Lief provided an update on the Walter Hugh McCrory, Jr. appeal. Mr. Lief reviewed the case stating that the Circuit Court reversed the Board's decision, then the Circuit Court's decision was reversed by the Appeals Court. The Supreme Court refused the case, the decision has been published and there are no further appeals options.

Other Business

Captain Callis commended Mr. Lief on his work with the case and appeal. Mr. McDermott noted that he was in attendance at the Appeals Court when the case was presented, and stated that he was impressed with Mr. Lief's oral argument.

Mr. Stone requested counsel review the regulations and bring recommendations to the July 31 meeting, of sections of the regulations that may require revision.

Conflict of Interest forms and travel vouchers were completed by all members present.

Conflict of Interest Forms

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Adjourn

Meade G. Stone, Jr., President

Gordon N. Dixon, Secretary