# **BOARD FOR BRANCH PILOTS** Tentative MEETING AGENDA June 13. 2024 at 10:30 a.m. **VPA Board Room** Norfolk, Virginia

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Safety Evacuation Instructions
- 3. Welcome/Introductions/Announcements
- 4. Approval of Agenda
- 5. Approval of Minutes
- Minutes March 14, 2024, Board Meeting Minutes April 30, 2024, Serious Incident Communication Plan Committee Meeting Minutes April 30, 2024, Regulatory Review Committee Meeting Minutes 'omment Period\* 'n: Captain Robert H. Callis M •
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- Public Comment Period\* 6.
- 7. Resolution: Captain Robert H. Calli
- VPA Maritime Incident Response 7 8.
- Exam Administrator's Repo 9.
- 10. Regulatory Update
- Notification Letter- Captain Johnson-USS HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN 75) 11.
- unication Plan Update 12. Serious Incident Com
- 13. 2025 Meetin
- Financial Statements 14.
- 15. Other Business

Board Member Training Conference- October 10-11, 2024, Williamsburg, VA New Board Member Information Sheet

Sonflict of Interest Forms / Travel Vouchers

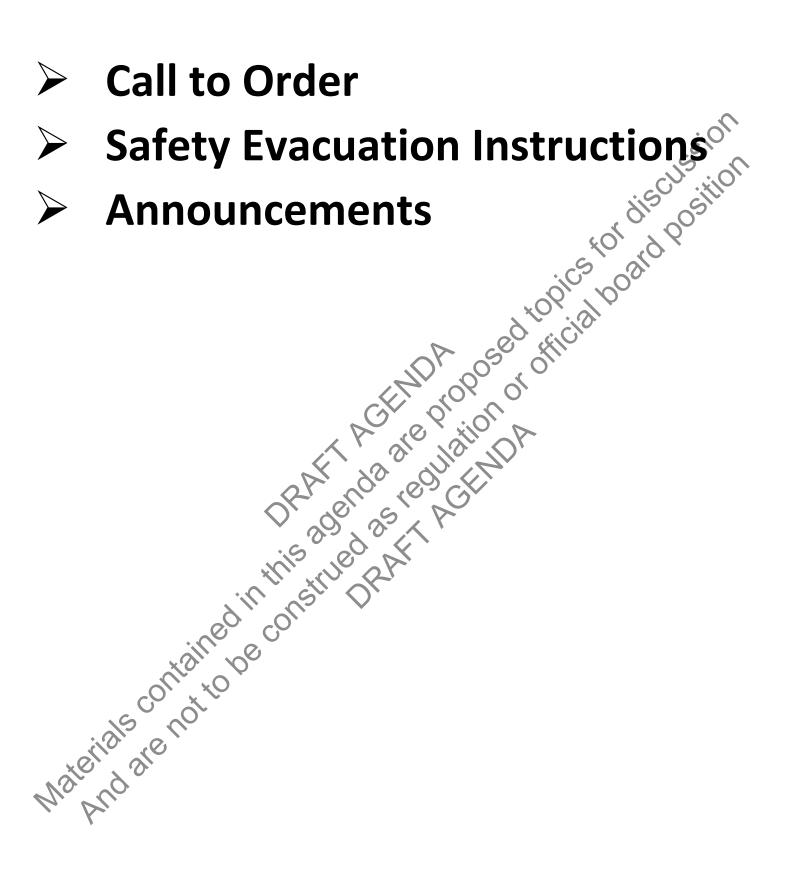
Adjourn

\*Five minute public comment, per person, with the exception of any open disciplinary or application files. See page two for instructions on providing public comment.

\*\*The meeting is open to the public; however, a portion of the Board's business may be discussed in closed session pursuant to Va. Code § 2.2-3711(A)(8).

## NEXT BOARD MEETING SCHEDULED FOR September 12, 2024 AT 10:30 A.M.

Agenda materials made available to the public do not include written advice of legal counsel or other information protected by the attorney-client privilege pursuant to Va. Code § 2.2-3705.1(2).



#### **BOARD FOR BRANCH PILOTS MEETING MINUTES**

topics tor discussion The Virginia Board for Branch Pilots met on March 14, 2024, at the Virginia Port Authority, 600 World Trade Center, Norfolk, Virginia, with the following members present:

Aaron Anseeuw Captain E. Waightstill Avery I. Vincent Behm, Jr Captain Robert H. Callis, III Captain J.W. Whiting Chisman, III Michael W. Coleman Captain January N. Collins Patrick B. McDermott Christine N. Piersall

Staff present for all, or part of the meeting were:

Kishore S. Thota, Director Steve Kirschner, LRPD Deputy Director Tom Payne, CID Deputy Director Kathleen R. Nosbisch, Executive Director John Robertson, IV, Communications and Digital Media Manager Ecila Williams, Administrative Coordinator emmalyn Hewlett, BPOR Liaison

Brian Wolford, Chief Deputy Director, was not present with regrets.

Elizabeth Peay, Assistant Attorney General with the Office of the Attorney General, was not present with regrets

Member of the Audience included:

Mark Coberly, Manager, Maritime Law Department, Representative from Wood **Rogers Vandeventer Black PLC** 

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

Ms. Nosbisch advised the Board of the emergency evacuation procedures.

<u>Safety</u> Evacuation Instructions

Ms. Nosbisch introduced John Robertson, IV as the new Communications Announcement and Digital Media Manager for DPOR and Ms. Hewlett as the BPOR Liaison for the Board.

Board for Branch Pilots Meeting Minutes March 14, 2024 Page 2 of 5

Mr. Coleman informed the Board that a Pilot launch was involved with a

- Board for Branch Pilots Public Hearing Minutes, December 11, 2023 ii.
- iii. Board for Branch Pilots Major Incident Response Plan Committee Meeting Minutes, December 11, 2023, 2023

Ms. Piersall seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by Messrs., Mme. and Captains: Anseeuw, Avery, Behm, Callis, Chisman, Coleman, Collins, McDermott and Piersall.

Captain Avery moved to make amendments to the December 11, 2023, Major Incident Response Plan Committee Meeting Minutes: Captain Chisman seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by Messrs., Mme, and Captains: Anseeuw, Avery, Behm, Callis, Chisman, Coleman, There was no public comment. Collins, McDermott and Piersall.

Captain Callis provided the Board with a report of examinations conducted by the Exam Administrators on March 13, 2024. The following committee members were present, Captains: Avery, Callis, Chisman, and Collins; and Director Thota, Mr. Kirschner, Ms. Nosbisch, and Mr. Robertson, DPOR

# Public Comment Period

Exam Administrator' s Report

Board for Branch Pilots Meeting Minutes March 14, 2024 Page 3 of 5

Staff. The following report was made:

Line raise in grade. The Line raise in grade. The Line irom Cape Henry to Wolf Trap and Lineatham Annex, safe anchoring positions in Sewell's Lineatham Annex, safe anchorage regulations in the Regulated Area, quarantine anchorage, pipeline, cable and restricted areas, opening restrictions and characteristics of the George P. Coleman Memorial Bridge, rules regarding meeting Ultra Large Container Vessels and LNG vessels in York Spit Channel, Cape Charles harbor, safe anchoring distance and under keel clearance, precautions in reduced visibility, local traffic and local knowledge, limitations of bow thrusters and determining the need for tugboat assistance for docking/undocking and safe vessel speed.

feet maximum draft), and initial license to include upon the Chesapeake Bay from Sea to Wolf Trap to include Cape Charles Anchorage and from Sea to Cheatham Annex upon the York River. Ms. Piersall seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by Messrs., Mme. and Captains: Anseeuw, Avery, Behm, Callis, Chisman, Coleman, Collins, McDermott, and Piersall.

Matthew C. Morse answered oral questions related to the raise in grade. The subjects included courses and distances from Cape Henry to Wolf Trap and from Cape Henry to Cheatham Annex, safe anchoring positions in Sewell's Point, Lynnhaven, York River and Cape Charles, anchorage regulations in the Regulated Area, quarantine anchorage, pipeline, cable and restricted areas, opening restrictions and characteristics of the George P. Coleman Memorial Bridge, rules regarding meeting Ultra Large Container Vessels and LNG vessels in York Spit Channel, Cape Charles harbor, safe anchoring distance and under keep clearance, precautions in reduced visibility, local traffic and local knowledge, limitations of bow thrusters and determining the need for tugboat assistance for docking/undocking and safe vessel speed.

After considering the results of the examination, Captain Callis moved Matthew C. Morse for a raise in grade to a Charlie license (38,000 gross tons and 32 feet maximum draft), and initial license to include upon the Chesapeake Bay from Sea to Wolf Trap to include Cape Charles Anchorage and from Sea to Cheatham Annex upon the York River. Mr. McDermott seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by Messrs., Mme. and Captains: Anseeuw, Avery, Behm, Callis, Chisman, Coleman, Collins, McDermott, and Piersall.

Board for Branch Pilots Meeting Minutes March 14, 2024 Page 4 of 5

Director Thota arrived at 10:48 a.m.

Ms. Nosbisch informed the Board that there has been no movement at this time regarding fee adjustments.

Ms. Nosbisch informed the Board that public comment for General Regulatory Review ended January 3, 2024, and there were no comments. After a brief discussion, Captain Collins moved to adopt the regulations and authorize staff to file the proposed stage. Captain Callis seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by Messrs., Mme. and Captains: Anseeuw, Avery, Behm, Callis, Chisman, Coleman, Collins, McDermott, and Piersall.

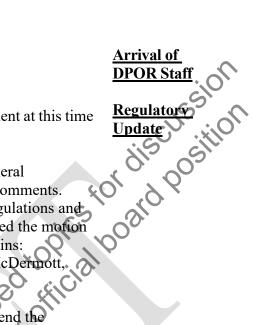
Ms. Nosbisch informed the Board that public comment for Amend the Reporting Requirements ended January 19, 2024, and there were no comments. After a brief discussion, Mr. Behm moved to adopt the regulations and authorize staff to file the final stage. Mr. Anseeuw seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by Messrs, Mme. and Captains: Anseeuw, Avery, Behm, Callis, Chisman, Coleman, Collins, McDermott, and Piersall.

Mr. Payne presented to the Board the final Major Incident Response Plan for information purposes. After a brief discussion, the Board agreed by consensus for the Major Incident Response Plan Committee to reconvene along with DPOR staff to review the plan. Captain Avery and Mr. McDermott were appointed to the committee along with the original committee members Mr. Anseeuw, Mr. Behm, and Captain Chisman. A meeting date for the committee and DPOR staff will be confirmed before the next board meeting.

Captain Chisman informed the Board that a new contract with Acorn Care Primary & Urgent Care has been secured to provide state chemical testing of the branch pilots. Captain Chisman explained to the Board that the new provider will satisfy both federal and state comprehensive drug screening requirements.

Ms. Nosbisch stated the financial statements were provided for informational purposes.

Ms. Nosbisch informed the Board that Board Member Training Conference is scheduled for October 10, 2024, to October 11, 2024, at Great Wolf Lodge in Williamsburg, VA



Major Incident Response Plan Update

State Chemical Testing

<u>Financial</u> Statements

**Other Business** 

Director Thota informed the Board that Ms. Nosbisch was recognize for her contributions to DPOR by the Governor of the Commonwealth on March 13, 2024.

Mr. Kirschner presented to the Board a presentation on the regulatory process.

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Michael Coleman, President

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Trainin

Conflict

<u>Adjourn</u>

Interest Forms and Travel Vouchers

Kishore S. Thota, Secretary

### **Serious Incident Communications Plan Committee of the BOARD FOR BRANCH PILOTS MEETING MINUTES**

MINUTES
The Serious Incident Communications Plan Committee of the Virginia Board for Branch Pilots
met on April 30, 2024, at the Virginia Port Authority, 600 World Trade Center, Norfolk,
Virginia, with the following members present:
Aaron Anseeuw
Captain E. Waightstill Avery
I. Vincent Behm, Jr
Captain J.W. Whiting Chisman, III
Michael W. Coleman
Patrick B. McDermott
Kishore S. Thota, Director, Brian Wolford, Chief Deputy Director, and Steve Kirschner, LRPD
Deputy Director, were not present at the meeting with regrets.

Deputy Director, were not present at the meeting with regrets

Staff present for all or part of the meeting were

Tom Payne, CID Deputy Director Kate Nosbisch, Executive Director Ecila Williams, Licensing Operations Administrator John Robertson, IV, Communications and Digital Media Manager

Elizabeth Peay, Assistant Attorney General, was not present with regrets.

Member of the Audience included: Bill Burket, Senior Director, Maritime Incident Response Team, Virginia Port Authority (VPA)

Mr. Coleman called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Mr. Burket advised the Committee of the emergency evacuation procedures.

Emergency Evacuation

> Approval of Agenda

**Call to Order** 

r. Bekin moved to approve the agenda with an amendment for Mr. Burket's VPAMaritime Incident Response Team presentation to be presented to the Committee. Mr. Anseeuw seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by Mr. Anseeuw, Mr. Behm, Mr. Coleman, Mr. McDermott and Captains Avery and Chisman.

There was no one present for public comment.

**Public Comment** Period

Serious Incident Communications Plan Committee of the Board for Branch Pilots Meeting Minutes April 30, 2024 Page 2 of 2

Mr. Burket shared with to the Committee a presentation regarding the VPA Maritime Incident Response Team for informational purposes.

Ms. Nosbisch informed the Committee that Director Thota, Deputy Director Wolford, and Mr. Kirschner, LRPD Director send their regrets. Ms. Nosbisch

The Committee began a review of the draft of the Serious Incident Serious Incident Communications Plan. A discussion took place regarding the Serious Incident Communication Team, preparation and guidel' tasks at the end of a serious

An updated draft of the Serious Incident Communications Plan will be presented to the Board at the next board meeting.

Ms. Nosbisch suggested to the Committee that a one pager should be drafted for new Branch Pilots board members for future reference and will be presented to the Board at the next board meeting

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:32 p.m. Mr. Burket will present the VPA Maritime Incident Response Team presentation

Conflict of Interest forms and travel vouchers were completed by all board

**Conflict of Interest** Forms/Travel Vouchers

Adjourn

Michael Coleman, President

Kishore S. Thota, Secretary

**Serious Incident** Communications **Plan Review** 

**Other Business** 

**Incident Response Team Presentation** 

**VPA Maritime** 

### **Regulatory Review Committee of the BOARD FOR BRANCH PILOTS MEETING MINUTES**

Aaron Anseeuw Captain E. Waightstill Avery Captain J.W. Whiting Chisman, III Michael W. Coleman Kishore Thota, Director, Brian Wolford, Chief Deputy Director, and Steve Kirschner, LRPD Deputy Director, were not present at the meeting with regrets. Staff present for all or part of the meeting were: Kate Nosbisch, Executive Director Ecila Williams, Licensing Operation John Robertson, IV, Communication zabeth Peay, Assistant Att

Mr. Coleman called the meeting to order

Ms. Nosbisch advised the Committee of the emergency evacuation procedures.

Captain Avery moved to approve the agenda. Mr. Anseeuw seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by Mr. Anseeuw, Mr. Coleman and Captains Avery and Chisman.

There was no one present for public comment.

The Committee began a review of proposed additional regulatory changes suggested by Mr. Haughwout, Regulatory Affairs Manager. The Committee reviewed the suggested changes and took no further action, however the Committee identified four additional changes for further consideration.

There was no other business.

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

Call to Order

Emergency Evacuation

**Approval of** Agenda

**Public Comment** Period

**SRRC Regulatory** Review

### **Other Business**

**Conflict of Interest Forms/Travel Vouchers** 



# Public Comment

- Resolution
- Captain Robert H. Callis Illion Maritime Incident 500 and Postion ponse Team Present 500 and Postion
- r Robe itime Indi Itim VPA Maritime Incident

**Response Team Presentat** 

- 's Report

# Virginia Board for Branch Pilots Serious Incident Communications Plan

# Purpose

The Virginia Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation (DPOR)/Virginia Board for Branch Pilots Serious Incident Communications Plan outlines the roles, responsibilities, and procedures that will guide DPOR and the Board in promptly sharing information with the appropriate channels, individuals, and departments in the event of a serious incident.

For the purposes of this plan, a serious incident is defined as an event that involves casualties (injuries to one or more individuals that result in hospitalization and/or death) and/or significant economic or environmental damage that occurred while a licensed branch pilot is conducting a vessel. The incident may prompt significant, often sustained, news coverage and public scrutiny.

# Objectives

Our guiding principle will be to communicate facts as quickly as possible, updating information regularly as circumstances change, to promote safety for the Commonwealth and its citizens. Prompt communications are the most effective means to ensure public safety. It is imperative to speak with accuracy about what is known and not to speculate about unknown details.

We will use multiple means of communication to share timely information. This is especially important in the first hours and days following an incident. Our goal is to be transparent, accountable, and accessible to all audiences, while also being mindful of privacy concerns and potential legal issues.

# Serious Incident Team

This team shall consist of:

DPOR Director Branch Pilot Board President Technical Review Expert (determined by Board, mostly like Board VP) DPOR Chief Deputy Director DPOR Branch Pilots Board Executive Director DPOR Licensing & Regulatory Programs Deputy Director DPOR Compliance and Investigations Deputy Director DPOR Director of Investigations - Central Operations DPOR Director of Investigations - Field Operations DPOR Investigator – Tidewater Region DPOR Investigations – Field Supervisor DPOR Communications & Digital Media Manager External Stakeholders: Virginia Pilot Association (VPA) Virginia Maritime Association (VMA) Virginia Port Authority (Maritime Incident Communications Team)

The Serious Incident Team recognizes that it may have to liaison/communicate directly with federal, state, and/or local agencies, which may include, but are not limited to: U.S. Coast Guard U.S. Navy U.S. Environmental Protection Agency U.S. Army Corps of Engineers National Transportation Safety Board Federal Bureau of Investigation Virginia Department of Environmental Quality Virginia Department of Transportation Internal Steps

DPOR's Communications Manager shall maintain a updated roster of the Serious Incident Team members, emergency contacts, and other agencies' public information officers. The Communications Manager will also maintain a first-hour emergency checklist and message communication plan.

# Timeline for Responding to a Serious Incident

Branch Pilot President shall communicate a serious incident immediately to the DPOR Director and Branch Rilots Board Executive Director to determine the severity of the situation and whether to initiate this plan. Once a serious incident has been determined to have occurred, the DPOR Director or DPOR Branch Pilots Board Executive Director will:

1. Inform the communication team to address the serious incident and create holding statements.

communicate with in-house staff and board members regarding the Serious incident and planned communications.

- Materials 3. Notify DPOR Investigation Team to start an inquiry into the serious incident and direct the DPOR Investigator to obtain a statement from the vessel master before the vessel leaves the port, to the extent possible.
  - 4. Develop a process to communicate to external audiences and members with the serious incident communication team.
  - 5. Ensure spokesperson preparation.
  - Update internal staff of the serious incident prior to public announcements. 6.

- 7. Update the public about the serious incident.
- 8. After the serious incident has subsided, hold a review meeting to discuss improvements to the plan.

# Serious Incident Communication Team

The DPOR Serious Incident Communication Team will handle all communications in a topics poard time of the serious incident, subject to any directives from the Secretariat or Governor's Office. The DPOR Director and Communications Manager will lead the Crisis Communication Team.

The team shall consist of:

**DPOR Director** Branch Pilot Board President the Board VP) DPOR Chief Technical Review Expert (determined by the Board, likely Deputy Director DPOR Branch Pilots Board Executive Director DPOR Licensing & Regulatory Programs Deputy DPOR Compliance and Investigations Deputy Directo **DPOR Communications Manager** Designees from the Governor's Office State Emergency Communication Public Information Officer(s)

## **Communication Steps**

Upon assembly the Serious incident Communications Team, the team will proceed to:

Designate a secretary who can maintain meeting notes, to-do lists, and information files on the ongoing serious incident and other items.

Assign communicators to handle calls, speak with media, and/or speak at a press conference. Use script, key messages, and facts developed by the Serious Incident Communications Team.

Log all calls and interview requests from media.

Monitor alimedia regarding incident.

# Keep a list of facts.

**Release a holding statement** as soon as appropriate of a confirmed serious incident via social media, press release, and website.

**Cancel** any off topic scheduled social media posts.

Develop several key messages to be included in all communications. All communications must be approved by the DPOR Director.

**Determine who will act as head spokesperson**. Generally, the DPOR Director or Communications Manager will take on this responsibility.

**Determine if press conference and/or on-scene presence is needed.** This can be

**Coordinate with other responding agencies** (local law enforcement, state police, DEQ, Virginia Attorney General's Office, Virginia Secretary of Labor's Office, Virginia Department of Emergency Services, Virginia Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security, and/or federal agencies like the U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Navy, EPA, or Department Homeland Securit icial board

Issue press release and updates as the incident develops.

# Preparation and Guidelines for Public Communications

The spokesperson is designated by the DPOR Director and the Serious Incident Communications Team. The spokesperson will be responsible for responding directly to the public in real time. The spokesperson will be prepared and guided by the Serious Incident Communications Team and will be expected to represent DPOR. The serious incident will prepare sample Q&A statements for the spokesperson and prepare them for public speaking, particularly for news/televised interviews. This also includes preparation for quotes and press releases.

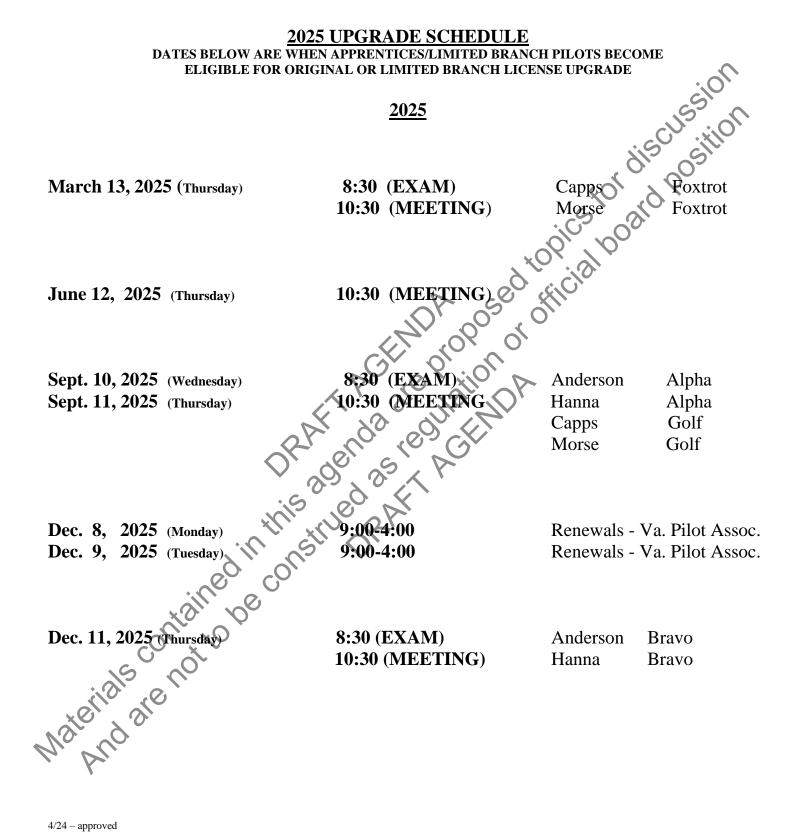
# Location:

The Serious Incident Communications Team headquarters for any serious incident will be at the DPOR Office and must be approved by the Director. Some situations may require a communication from the field or scene of a serious incident, or from the Virginia Port Authority. This will be determined by the Serious Incident Communications Team and approved by the OPOR Director.

# End of Serious Incident

The DPOR Director will determine when a serious incident has subsided and that routine communication processes can resume. Within one business week of the end of the Serious incident, the Serious Incident Communications Team will convene to review performance and discuss ways to improve the Serious Incident Communications Plan. The recommended actions will be summarized in an after-action report that will be presented to the DPOR Director.

# DRAFT



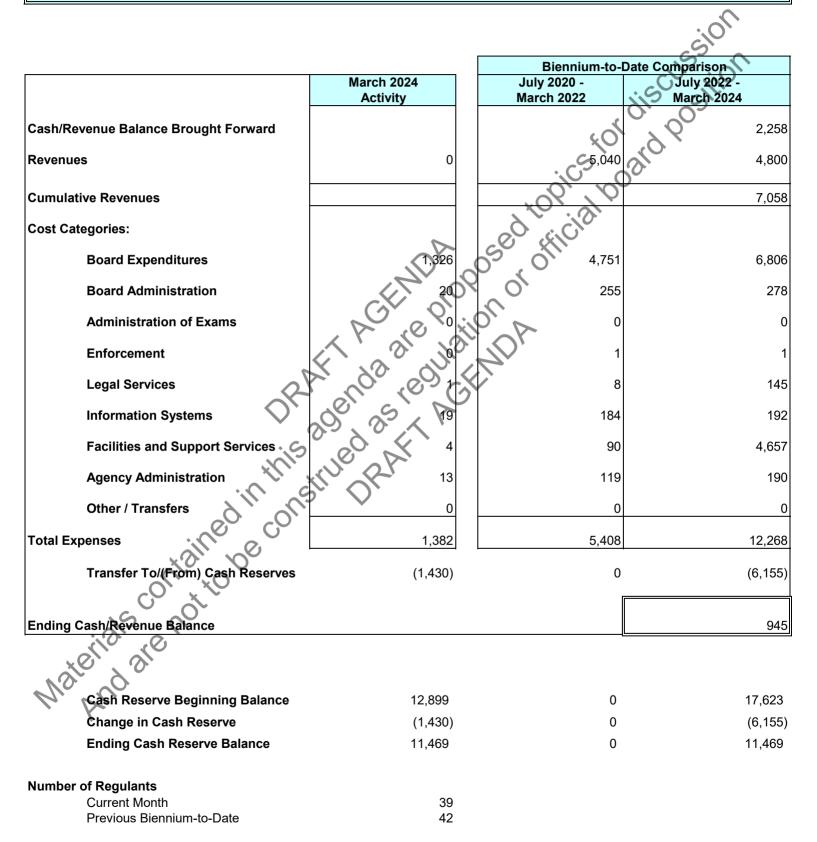
4/24 - approved

#### Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation Statement of Financial Activity

#### Board for Branch Pilots 954190

2022-2024 Biennium

March 2024



	Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation Supporting Statement of Year-to-Date Activity Board for Branch Pilots - 954190 Fiscal Year 2024														Þ			
	Jul	Aug	San	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Ann	Mov	C	Fiscal YTD Charges	Planned Annual	Current Balance	Projected Charges at 6/30	Projected Favorable (U Amount	Variance Infavorable) %
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Board Expenditures	0	3	422	451	2	1,032	147	1	1,326	0	X	SX 8	3,385	4,665	1,280	4,506	159	3.4%
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Other / Transfers	0	0	0	×		Se o	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Total Charges	29	41	5,041	472	37	1,093	303	46	1,382	0	0	0	8,444	5,158	-3,286	11,232	-6,074	-117.8%

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- **Other Business** 
  - Board Member Training Conference October 10-11, 2024, Williamsburg, VA
  - New Board Member Information Sheet
- New board Wember Information Shee
   Conflict of Interest Forms /Travel Voucher
   Adjourn
   Adjourn
   Adjourn
   Draft Active proposed official
   Adjourn
   Materials contained in this study proposed of the proposed