

BOARD FOR BRANCH PILOTS MEETING

MINUTES

The Virginia Board for Branch Pilots met on Thursday, August 1, 2002, at the Virginia Port Authority, 600 World Trade Center, Norfolk, Virginia, with the following members present:

Captain Robert H. Callis, III
Bruce R. Cherry
Captain J. William Cofer
Captain Milton B. Edmunds
Edgar A. Massenburg
Robert T. Hasler, Jr.
Captain W. Hugh McCrory, Jr.

P. Warren Spratley, Jr., and Meade G. Stone, Jr., were not present at the meeting.

Staff present for the meeting were:

Louise Fontaine Ware, Director
Sandra Whitley Ryals, Chief Deputy Director
Mark N. Courtney, Assistant Director
Marian H. Brooks, Regulatory Board Administrator

Richard B. Zorn, Senior Assistant Attorney General, was present at the meeting.

Finding a quorum of the Board present, Mr. Hasler, President, called the meeting to order at 9:31 a.m. Call to Order

Judge Massenburg moved to approve the agenda as written. Mr. Cherry seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by Messrs. and Captains: Callis, Cherry, Cofer, Edmunds, Hasler, Massenburg, and McCrory. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Cherry moved to approve the minutes from the May 2, 2002, Board meeting as amended. Captain McCrory seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by Messrs. and Captains: Callis, Cherry, Cofer, Edmunds, Hasler, Massenburg, and McCrory. Approval of Minutes

Captain Callis provided the Board with a report of the examination conducted by the Examination Administrators on July 31, 2002. The following report was made: Examination Administrators Report

Herbert R. Green

Mr. Green has successfully completed his first two years of the Apprenticeship Program. Mr. Green answered several oral questions related to initial licensure. The subjects included the duties of a branch pilot, courses and distances from Cape Henry to Town Point and Newport News, proper vessel speed, anchoring techniques, positions, and regulations, proper scope of anchor chain, docking and undocking situations, bridge clearances and restrictions, license limitations, and master/pilot exchange of information. Mr. Green successfully completed written radar plotting problems. Mr. Green stood a good examination and was found to be qualified. Captain Callis moved that Mr. Green be granted a Limited Branch Pilot License with an Alpha classification (200 ship units and a maximum draft of 23 feet or 125 ship units and a maximum draft of 25 feet). Judge Massenburg seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by Messrs. and Captains: Callis, Cherry, Cofer, Edmunds, Hasler, Massenburg, and McCrory.

Mr. Hasler presented Mr. Green with his initial limited branch pilot license.

Charles I. Boggs

Captain Boggs answered several oral questions related to the raise in grade. The subjects included anchoring vessels in Lynnhaven and Sewell's Point Anchorages, positive command and control of vessel movement, proper vessel speed, and docking and undocking situations with tugboats. Captain Boggs successfully completed written radar plotting problems. Captain Boggs stood a good examination and was found to be qualified. Captain Callis moved that Captain Boggs be raised from the Echo classification (475 ship units and a maximum draft of 33 feet) to the Foxtrot classification (550 ship units and a maximum draft of 35 feet or 375 ship units and a maximum draft of 38 feet). Mr. Cherry seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by Messrs. and Captains: Callis, Cherry, Cofer, Edmunds, Hasler, Massenburg, and McCrory.

Kevin D. Hartz

Captain Hartz answered several oral questions related to the raise in grade. The subjects included anchoring vessels in Lynnhaven and Sewell's Point Anchorages, positive command and control of vessel movement, proper vessel speed, and docking and undocking situations with tugboats.

Captain Hartz successfully completed written radar plotting problems. Captain Hartz stood a good examination and was found to be qualified. Captain Callis moved that Captain Hartz be raised from the Echo classification (475 ship units and a maximum draft of 33 feet) to the Foxtrot classification (550 ship units and a maximum draft of 35 feet or 375 ship units and a maximum draft of 38 feet). Mr. Cherry seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by Messrs. and Captains: Callis, Cherry, Cofer, Edmunds, Hasler, Massenburg, and McCrory.

Gustave B. Schill

Captain Schill answered several questions related to the raise in grade. The subjects included anchoring vessels in Lynnhaven, Sewell's Point and Newport News, positive command and control of vessel movement, and proper vessel speed. Captain Schill successfully completed written radar plotting problems. Captain Schill stood a good examination and was found to be qualified. Captain Callis moved that Captain Schill be raised from the Delta classification (400 ship units and a maximum draft of 31 feet) to the Echo classification (475 ship units and a maximum draft of 33 feet). Judge Massenburg seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by Messrs. and Captains: Callis, Cherry, Cofer, Edmunds, Hasler, Massenburg, and McCrory.

Frank M. Rabena

Captain Rabena answered several questions related to the raise in grade. The subjects included anchoring vessels in Newport News and Sewell's Point, docking and undocking without tugboats, overhead clearances of bridges, dockmaster/pilot relationships, and proper vessel speed. Captain Rabena successfully completed written radar plotting problems. Captain Rabena stood a good examination and was found to be qualified. Captain Callis moved that Captain Rabena be raised from the Charlie classification (325 ship units and a maximum draft of 29 feet) to the Delta classification (400 ship units and a maximum draft of 31 feet). Mr. Cherry seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by Messrs. and Captains: Callis, Cherry, Cofer, Edmunds, Hasler, Massenburg, and McCrory.

Jonathan D. Worth

Captain Worth has successfully completed the Apprenticeship Program. Captain Worth answered several questions relating to the raise in grade. The subjects included deep draft vessels, naval terminology and chain of command, safe speed and underkeel clearance of large container vessels.

Captain Worth provided a chart sketch of the sealanes and surrounding waters east of Cape Henry. Captain Worth stood a good examination and was found to be qualified. Captain Callis moved that Captain Worth be raised from the Hotel classification (725 ship units and a maximum draft of 41 feet or 550 ship units and a maximum draft of 45 feet) to an Unlimited Branch Pilot License. Mr. Cherry seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by Messrs. and Captains: Callis, Cherry, Cofer, Edmunds, Hasler, Massenburg, and McCrory.

After discussion regarding the draft legislation concerning confidentiality of information resulting from chemical testing previously approved by the Board, Captain McCrory moved that the draft be approved for submission for consideration to be included in the administration's legislative package for the 2003 General Assembly session. Captain Callis seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by Messrs. and Captains: Callis, Cherry, Cofer, Edmunds, Hasler, Massenburg, and McCrory.

**Discussion of
Legislation**

Mr. Courtney informed the Board members that the Board's revised Public Participation Guidelines became final and effective on July 8, 2002.

Other Business

Mr. Courtney also informed the Board members that draft and final minutes are being posted on the Department's web-site pursuant to legislation adopted during the 2002 General Assembly Session. By consensus, the Board members directed staff to continue sending the draft minutes to them via mail.

Captain McCrory expressed concern regarding licensees' home addresses being posted on the Department's web-site via the Regulant Lookup. Mr. Courtney informed Captain McCrory that the Regulant Lookup now only displays the city and state, and not a complete address.

The Board members directed staff to send a letter acknowledging receipt of incident letters that have been received by the Board office.


Captain Callis inquired about the possibility of state-issued identification cards for branch pilots. Captain Cofer stated that he had made arrangements with the Virginia Port Authority for the issuance of identification cards.

Conflict of Interest forms were completed by all members present and are attached herewith.

**Conflict of Interest
Forms**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

Adjourn



Robert T. Hasler, Jr., President



Louise Fontaine Ware, Secretary

COPY TESTE:

Custodian of Records