

Maine Pilotage Commission



MaineDOT ~ Room 216 Conference Room
June 18, 2024

Minutes of Pilotage Commission Meeting

In compliance with MRSA 38 § 85 and in fulfillment of the Maine Pilotage Commission's duties addressed in MRSA 38 § 90, a meeting of the Maine Pilotage Commission was held on June 18, 2024.

Maine Pilotage Commission Members constituting a quorum were:

Carrie Norton	– Public Member (Chair)
David Gelinas	– Pilot Member
Adam Philbrook	– Pilot Member
Jerry Morrison	– Pilot Member
Lindsey Pinkham	– Public Member
Shawn Moody	– Industry Member
Brian Downey	– Pilotage Commission Administrator

Interested Parties present were:

Mark Klopp	– Klopp Marine Services
Susan Klopp	– Klopp Marine Services
Calvin Klopp	– Klopp Marine Services
Skip Strong	– Penobscot Bay and River Pilots
Dave Smith	– Penobscot Bay and River Pilots
Greg Smith	– Penobscot Bay and River Pilots

Maine DOT staff present were:

Chris Mayo	– MaineDOT
John Belisle	– Maine Attorney General's Office

Call to Order (Carrie Norton)

Carrie Norton opened the meeting at 11:20 a.m. and acknowledged a quorum.

Review/Approval of the Minutes from October 19, 2023 (Carrie Norton)

After considering the content of the April 10, 2024 Pilotage Commission meeting minutes, Jerry Morrison moved to accept the minutes as drafted; Adam Philbrook seconded the motion. Hearing no objections or abstentions, it was thus:

RESOLVED to accept the minutes of the April 10, 2024 Maine Pilotage Commission meeting.

Finance (Brian Downey)

Mr. Downey gave a synopsis of the current state of funding for both the Ports and Marine Account as well as the Pilot Training Fund. The *Ports and Marine Accounts* has a current balance of \$5,241.04 which reflects both disbursements and income since April 2024. License income and insurance expenses flow through this account. Chris Mayo advised the forum that the Commission will now be funded with a \$40,000 annually recurring allocation in the form of a MaineDOT program fund which will assure long term financial stability for the Commission.

The *Pilotage Training Account* currently has a balance of \$78,641.81. The balance does not include the allocation of funds used for May Electronic Navigation Training or Legal Aspects of Pilotage Training delivered to 9 pilots in May. Additionally, the balance does not include simulator training for Adam Philbrook conducted in May.

Ports & Marine Account Cash			
Cash Balance			
19 Oct 2023	Beginning Cash Balance		\$5,241.04
Incoming Cash Receipts			
			00.00
	Total Cash		\$5,241.04
Cash Disbursements			
	Operating Expenses	Board Member Mileage	\$00.00
31 Dec 2023	Ending Cash Balance		\$5,241.04
Pilotage Training Fund			
Pilotage Training Fund Balance			
19 Oct 2023	Beginning Pilotage Training Fund Balance		\$78,641.81
Incoming Training Fund Receipts			
			\$00.00
	Total Fund		\$78,641.81
Training Disbursements			

	Training Reimbursement		\$00.00
31 Dec 2023	Current Pilotage Training Fund Balance		\$78,641.81

Training Plan Update (Brian Downey)

Mr. Downey discussed the current training plan, specifically emphasizing two May course offerings through MITAGS on May 8-9. The courses (Legal Aspects of Piloting and Electronic Navigation) were offered at the International Marine Terminal, in Portland. There was strong interest in securing Clay Diamond of the American Pilots’ Association for another round of Legal Aspects of Pilotage for the pilots who were unable to attend the May offering.

Mr. Downey also briefed the group that Doug Fournier is planning to take a Manned Model Course at Maritime Pilot Institute in the Fall.

The forum was also reminded that Mr. Mayo and Mr. Downey have engaged with Maine DEP to renew the Training MOU. The MOU is drafted and in the DEP approval process. The MOU has already been vetted through the Maine Pilotage Commission legal counsel and Commission Chair and is ready for signature from the Commission’s perspective. Mr. Mayo suggested that in the next iteration of the MOU that the Commission pursue an increase in the annual allotment. The current allocation of \$20,000 annually has remained static for well over 10 years and needs to be increased to maintain purchasing power for world class training.

Mr. Downey also revisited a suggestion from Adam Philbrook to establish a “per-pilot” annual training budget in which each pilot would be budgeted a pre-approved sum of training funds. Instead of the Administrator organizing regular training, each pilot would be responsible to organize their own individual training provided the training meets Commission expectations and that 5-year renewal of the American Pilots’ Association recommended courses (ECDIS(p) and BRM(p)) are completed. This item was anecdotally discussed and will be further considered at future meetings.

New Pilot Applicant (Calvin Klopp)

Mark Klopp (sponsor) formally introduced Calvin Klopp as a candidate for State Pilotage on the Kennebec River in accordance with Part A.1. a of the Pilotage Rules. Calvin Klopp has completed all of the pre-requisites for State Pilotage and holds a Coast Guard issued federal First-Class Pilotage endorsement for the Kennebec River on his Merchant Mariner Credential. Mr. Downey offered that his application package was received and reviewed and was approved for a proctored written examination that will be offered on June 19, 2024. Calvin Klopp has been training on the Kennebec River for pilotage since 2016 and has piloted all manner of vessels (as an apprentice and licensed federal pilot) that frequent the river including Arleigh Burke destroyers, Stealth combatants, as well as tug and barge traffic. His training experience also includes entering and exiting the Bath Intron Works floating drydock. Calvin Klopp has been employed as a full time Portland pilot since 2019 and now serves as the President of Portland Pilots Inc.

Lindsey Pinkham moved to accept the pilotage application and approve the administration of the Kennebec River state pilot examination on June 19, 2024, Jerry Morrison, seconded the motion. Hearing no objections or abstentions, it was thus:

RESOLVED to approve the application of Calvin Klopp as a licensed Kennebec River Pilot pending a passing score on the written pilotage examination.

Investigation Workgroup Report (Brian Downey)

Mr. Downey updated the Commission regarding a pilotage Commission investigation policy/procedure document that remains outstanding for final Workshop review.

Opportunities for Improvement (Carrie Norton)

No opportunities for improvement were offered and none had been received via the web-link.

Commission/License Status (Brian Downey)

Mr. Downey reviewed the current status of commissions and licenses as noted below.

Commission/License Status (Brian Downey)

- Commission Renewals
 - Pinkham (August 18, 2025)
 - Norton (August 18, 2025)
 - Philbrook (August 18, 2024)
 - Gelinias (August 18, 2025)
 - Moody (May 17, 2023) (Re-filed)
 - Morrison (August 18, 2024)
 - Ross (August 18, 2024) (Re-filed)
- License Renewals – None.
- Upcoming Renewals
 - Lord June 19, 2024 (State) July 1, 2024 (Federal)
 - Smith, G. August 14, 2024 (Federal only)
 - Philbrook September 3, 2024 (State only)
 - Strong October 10, 2024 (Federal) December 1, 2024 (State)

New Business/Old Business (Carrie Norton)

Mr. Downey updated the Commission members regarding the letter that was directed to be drafted to the Director of the Maine Port Authority, the Commissioner of the Maine Department

of Transportation, and the Commissioner of the Maine Department of Community & Economic Development to educate the agencies on Maine pilotage and the potential negative impacts of the recent Federal District Court's "Bar Harbor decision." The letter was drafted and delivered to the targeted recipients but no responses have yet been received.

Mr. Downey asked if there were any comments from the Pilotage Commission regarding the Baltimore bridge strike incident. The general consensus of the Commission members was that the Commission should wait for the investigation to be completed and released before having a formal discussion.

Adjourn (Carrie Norton)


Lindsey Pinkham moved to adjourn, Shawn Moody, seconded the motion. Hearing no objections or abstentions, it was thus:

RESOLVED to adjourn the Maine Pilotage Commission meeting. Carrie Norton adjourned the meeting at approximately 12:20 p.m..

Next Meeting: July 2, 2024 at 10:30 a.m.

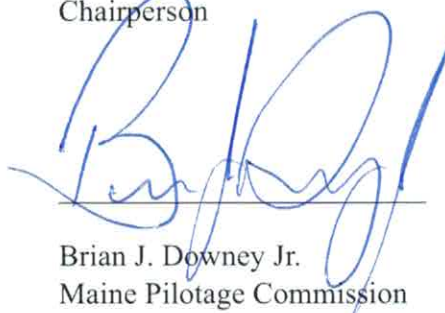
Maine DOT
Room 216
24 Child Street
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Respectfully submitted:



Carrie Norton
Maine Pilotage Commission
Chairperson

Respectfully submitted:



Brian J. Downey Jr.
Maine Pilotage Commission
Administrator