UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

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GREAT LAKES PILOTAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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TUESDAY

SEPTEMBER 26, 2017

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The Committee met at the USCG National Maritime Center, Martinsburg, West Virginia, at 8:00 a.m., John Tanner, Chairman, presiding.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

CPT JOHN TANNER, Chairman

JOHN BAKER, JR., Member

CPT JOHN BOYCE, Member

CPT DANNY GALLAGHER, Member

CPT JOHN SWARTOUT, Member

ALSO PRESENT:

RAJIV KHANDPUR, Designated Federal Officer, GLPAC

JEAN AUBRY-MORIN, Vice President, Canadian Seaway

MARK BOBAL, Passenger Vessel Safety Specialist, USCG

VINCENT BERG, Operations, Great Lakes Pilotage Office

ALYCE CALLAHAN, Admin Assistant to Director of Marine Transportation Systems

CLAY DIAMOND, American Pilots' Association, GLPAC

ALI GUNGOR, Coast Guard Economist for USCG TODD HAVILAND, Director, Great Lakes Pilotage, USCG

ROBERT LEMIRE, Chief Executive Officer, Great Lakes Pilotage Authority

CPT KIRSTEN MARTIN, USCG

MICHAEL MOYERS, Ratemaker, Great Lakes Pilotage Office

TIMOTHY PAVILORIS, CG-SPW, USCG

GEORGE QUICK, Vice President, Pilots Membership Group, Masters, Mates & Pilots

TRACI SILAS, DHS, Committee Management Officer

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P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

8:07 a.m.

DFO KHANDPUR: All right. Good morning. Let's get started. Nice to see everybody.

Thanks for taking the time to come to this lovely venue in West Virginia. It was a great drive to here. I left this morning at 5:15 or so and got here about quarter to 7:00.

Beautiful drive, a lot of fog, though. But I know most of you guys got in yesterday. So, welcome.

I'm just going to a few administrative remarks and, then, we would proceed to the business.

First, I would like you to turn off your cell phones, if you will, please.

This is a public meeting and the public will have the opportunity to speak at the end of the meeting. But we will also, after each topic, we have got a segment there for the public to participate and provide us your comments.

So, there are sign-in sheets down at 1 2 the bottom. Before you came in, I think you all signed in there. I don't know. 3 Mike, are you --4 MR. MOYERS: Here? 5 DFO KHANDPUR: Yes. Are you setting up another sign-up sheet here or? 6 7 MR. MOYERS: Yes. The sign-in sheet is downstairs. I could bring it up here. 8 9 DFO KHANDPUR: That's okay. I mean, 10 if you've got it, that's fine. We do need to have a record of all the attendees. 11 12 Just by looking around, we have got 13 Mr. John Baker, Jr., who has been reappointed. 14 So, you're already sworn-in. I don't think I need to do that again. I don't know; somebody 15 16 help me here. Todd, do you know? You don't 17 think so? Okay. 18 And the other member, for your 19 information, is Mr. Mike Klein, but he is not 20 here today. So, obviously, he is not a member of 21 the Committee until he gets sworn-in. So, right

now, we're operating with six members of the

_	Committee.
2	So, we are to do the oath
3	CPT GALLAGHER: Should we wait for Mr.
4	Fisher? Is he late in traffic or?
5	DFO KHANDPUR: He told me yesterday
6	that he was not coming.
7	CPT GALLAGHER: Oh, okay. It seems
8	like he would have a lot to say, but he hasn't
9	shown at these meetings.
LO	DFO KHANDPUR: Correct. I had a long
L1	conversation with him yesterday, tried to
L 2	encourage him and persuade him to come, but he
L3	told that he was not going to come.
L 4	So, I think, then, we probably need to
L5	execute the oath of membership. Please stand and
L6	raise your right hand, and repeat after me.
L7	(Mr. Baker was sworn-in.)
L8	Thank you.
L9	So now, I would like the Committee
20	members to maybe introduce yourselves, starting
21	off with Mr
22	CPT GALLAGHER: Dan Gallagher,

1	President of the District 2 Pilots.
2	CPT BOYCE: John Boyce, President of
3	the District 1 pilots.
4	CHAIRMAN TANNER: John Tanner.
5	DFO KHANDPUR: Rajiv Khandpur, DFO.
6	CPT SWARTOUT: John Swartout,
7	President of Western Great Lakes Pilots.
8	MR. BAKER, JR.: John Baker, Jr.,
9	President of the Great Lakes District Council
10	ILA.
11	DFO KHANDPUR: So, as we mentioned, at
12	this point there are six members appointed to the
13	Committee that have sworn-in and taken the oath.
14	Only five are present. But, with that, I declare
15	a quorum and we're ready to proceed.
16	Captain Martin just walked in.
17	Captain, would you like to come in and give us a
18	little welcome?
19	CPT MARTIN: Sure. Can everyone hear
20	me okay?
21	(Chorus of "yeses".)
22	Great, great. Good morning, everyone.

Welcome to wild and wonderful West Virginia
International Maritime Center.

We're very happy to host you for your two-day meeting this week. If there is anything you need, please don't hesitate to give us a shout, reach out to Mike. He can coordinate with us. I assume everyone knows Mike Moyers.

We usually have wifi. Has anyone passed you on a -- they did? So, you have the wifi password. Great.

Facilities are well-marked in terms of the restroom. There is a soda machine in our small galley space right here. The water fountain is around the corner.

Should we have to evacuate the building -- sometimes we do have a fire alarm -- basically, you will exit through the stairs, out the door you came in, in the front, and just gather in the parking lot directly across from where we're at right now. So, I think we have a roster of all the attendees, and we'll do that. We don't foresee that, but you never know.

If you have any questions on -- I 1 2 don't know what people have for a lunch plan, et cetera, but I think you have a list of our local 3 There's a wide number right 4 restaurants here. 5 there on the strip, which is Edwin Miller Boulevard. 6 7 There was some discussion about a 8 possible tour or tours. If there is interest and 9 if you do have time, we're happy to kind of show you our world of work here. We would just need 10 11 to work with your agenda and find time for that. 12 Also, if anyone needs to talk to the 13 staff here, feel free to reach out to us, let us 14 know how we can maybe accommodate that 15 If someone asks about credentialing discussion. 16 or maritime training provider questions, we can 17 connect you with that. 18 So, any questions for me while you 19 have me here? 20 (No response.) 21 So, our office, myself and

Deputy Director Ike Eisentraut, we might pop in a

1 little later. We're just down on the right. Ιf 2 you have any other questions, you know, you're welcome to stop in or give us a shout. 3 4 But I hope you have a good, productive 5 meeting. If it does get a little hot in here, 6 7 just give us a shout. It was pretty cool yesterday, but we've had pretty warm temps. 8 9 it feels a little hot in here right now to me. So, the AC should be kicking in. If not, we have 10 And just give us a call if it's not, 11 fans. 12 because we will make sure -- you know, we don't 13 want things to get too heated in here. We've got 14 to turn down and make sure we've got some AC in But, yes, just give us a call. 15 16 So, thanks again. Welcome, and, yes, 17 have a good rest of your day. 18 DFO KHANDPUR: Thank you, Captain. 19 I'll take a poll to see if members are interested 20 to take a look at how the credentials are made. 21 CPT MARTIN: Sure, sure. 22 DFO KHANDPUR: And see if they're

interested to take a walk around. 1 2 CPT MARTIN: Yes. No, that's great. DFO KHANDPUR: And I'll let you know. 3 4 CPT MARTIN: Okay. Thank you very much. 5 DFO KHANDPUR: Thank you. 6 CPT MARTIN: 7 Take care, all. 8 Okay. As the DFO, the DFO KHANDPUR: 9 Designated Federal Officer, I'm responsible for ensuring all provisions of the Federal Advisory 10 11 Committee Act regarding the operation of the 12 Committee. 13 Also, in my role as the DFO for the 14 Committee, I work with agency officials to ensure 15 all appropriate ethnics regulations are 16 satisfied. As we begin this morning, there are a few routine formalities I do need to address for 17 18 the record. 19 The Great Lakes Pilotage Advisory Committee was established on November 13th, 1998, 20 21 in the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 1998,

Public Law 105-383.

The U.S. Government establishes
advisory committees so that non-governmental
citizens can provide advice and input on specific
issues. In this instance, the Coast Guard, not
the Committee members, own the Great Lakes
Pilotage Advisory Committee. We expect this
Committee to provide us with its candid opinions
and feedback, but the members must understand
that you are present today to help us tackle big
issues.

This meeting was announced to the public in The Federal Register on -- I've got the notice here somewhere -- September 8th. I think all of you have that notice.

The Committee has a full agenda today. The times on the agenda are approximate, but we'll progress sequentially and see how far we can go. We will, obviously, strive for adequate time for presentations and any deliberations and public comments.

So, let me just briefly go through the agenda: introduction and welcome, call to order,

reports from subcommittees, Coast Guard 1 2 contracted studies, compensation practices, individual pilot compensation. 3 4 MR. MOYERS: Rajiv? DFO KHANDPUR: 5 Yes? MR. MOYERS: How about maybe using the 6 7 microphone just so we can hear a little better. 8 DFO KHANDPUR: Oh, you can't hear? 9 Thanks. Sorry. 10 Can you hear me now? Okay. 11 Staffing and dispatch, weighting 12 factors. We'll have a break. Authorized pilot 13 charges, and, then, a formal public comment 14 period. And then, adjourn for the day. 15 Tomorrow we start again at eight 16 o'clock, and we'll talk about audits, the Working 17 Capital Fund, Coast Guard communications with 18 external stakeholders. And then, a break. 19 Reports and updates, general update on the 2017 20 shipping season, the Klein migration update, 21 working groups, lunch. Then, Pilot Association 22 training plans and completed training; reports on

ongoing Association projects, District 1,
District 2, District 3; public comments, and
then, closing remarks and adjournment.

So, we have a pretty robust agenda.

We'll go through it, see if we can save time, if
that helps. But, obviously, we're going to
discuss each until everybody is satisfied.

I also have to say that none of these is a particular matter for the purposes of the criminal conflict of interest statute.

We've talked about the facilities and lunch, and stuff like that.

You have the meeting agenda -- it's available on the tables -- as well as The Federal Register notice. You've met Mike Moyers.

Michelle Birchfield has left. Mike is filling in until such time when he may be permanently filling in. So, we'll see as we go along. But, right now, if you have any invitational orders, questions, or any other questions, please reach out to him.

The public meeting is being recorded

for a permanent record, and please use your microphones each time you speak in order to be fully heard and identify yourself, so that the court reporter here can take your name down.

As I mentioned earlier, in accordance with FACA, we will offer the public the opportunity to provide general comments before the Committee; for members of the public, the questioning time to make a public statement.

Remarks need to be limited to five minutes.

In accordance with FACA requirements, the minutes of this meeting will be prepared for entry into the official record and ensure minutes of these meetings are recorded and clarified by the Chairman within 90 calendar days of this meeting.

Coast Guard leadership continues to value your participation and expertise in this important Advisory Committee. We have new -- Captain Kiefer replaced Captain Barata, whom some of you are familiar with. And he was planning to come today, but he got sidetracked with some

1 other issues, and so, Mr. Anderson will replace. 2 Mr. Rasicot, he has traveled. He is out of the country. So, Kiefer had to kind of fill-in for 3 4 So, he was unable to come today. I don't 5 know, he may be able to show up tomorrow, but we'll see. 6 7 Again, I thank you for your time and 8 your efforts, and I'm looking forward to the 9 discussion today. I'll hand it over to Mr. Chairman. 10 11 CHAIRMAN TANNER: Thank you very much. 12 My name is John Tanner, Chair of this Committee. 13 14 We have an active agenda. So, let's move right in. I would like the Committee to 15 16 address the minutes of our last meeting, which 17 was June 24, 2016. Any discussion? 18 (No response.) 19 Motion to approve? 20 CPT GALLAGHER: So moved. 21 CHAIRMAN TANNER: Motion to approve. 22 (Seconded.)

1 Seconded. 2 Any other questions? (No response.) 3 All those in favor of the minutes? 4 5 (Chorus of ayes.) We have approval of our minutes from 6 June 24, 2016. 7 8 Over the past year we've established 9 two subcommittees. So, right now, I'd like to ask Captain Gallagher to address his Change Point 10 11 Subcommittee. 12 CPT GALLAGHER: Okay. Thank you, Mr. 13 Chairman. 14 Before we get going, Mr. Chairman, I'd 15 like to ask the Coast Guard to consider an 16 important issue regarding one of the Great Lakes 17 Pilotage Advisory Committee members. I also have 18 a question I would like to pose to the DFO and 19 other Coast Guard DHS representatives in the 20 room. 21 I understand from his public clients 22 that Mr. Steve Fisher is a federally-registered

lobbyist for Federal Marine Terminals, which has offices in Montreal and terminals in Hamilton, Ontario and Thorold, Ontario.

(Indication that people cannot hear.)

It's on (referring to the microphone).

Want me to start over?

CHAIRMAN TANNER: Yes, please.

CPT GALLAGHER: Okay. Mr. Chairman,

I'd like to ask the Coast Guard to consider an

important issue regarding one of the GLPAC

members. I will also have a question that I

would like to pose to the DFO and other Coast

Guard DHS representatives in the room.

I understand from the public clients that Mr. Steve Fisher is a federally-registered lobbyist for Federal Marine Terminals, which has offices in Montreal and terminals in Hamilton, Ontario and Thorold, Ontario. More importantly, Federal Marine Terminals is a subsidiary of Montreal-based Fednav, LTD., which is a foreign company incorporated under the laws of Canada. Fednav is Canada's largest oceangoing dry-bulk

ship-owning and chartering company. 1 2 While registered lobbyists are permitted to serve on federal advisory 3 4 committees, it seems inappropriate that a 5 lobbyist with ties to a foreign company and to foreign shipping interests should sit as a member 6 7 of the Great Lakes Pilotage Advisory Committee. 8 I would like to ask the government 9 representatives here today if the Coast Guard was aware of Mr. Fisher's foreign ties and if the 10 11 Coast Guard has fully examined whether it is 12 proper that Mr. Fisher still sit as a member of 13 the Great Lakes Pilotage Advisory Committee, as a 14 U.S. federal advisory committee. 15 DFO KHANDPUR: I've got Ms. Tracy 16 Silas. 17 MS. SILAS: Do you want me to speak? 18 Sure. 19 DFO KHANDPUR: Yes, please. 20 MS. SILAS: Hi. Good morning, 21 everyone. I'm Director Tracy Silas.

Director of Partnership and Engagement at

Headquarters, Main DHS.

So, thank you so much for the comment. What you discuss is an administrative matter. We will table it for the administrative session.

Right now, let's hop into the public meeting as best we can. We can always talk offline at the break, but as far as membership, that's more administrative than open session. So, thank you.

CHAIRMAN TANNER: Let's go to what was supposed to be the Subcommittee report. We can come back to that later.

CPT GALLAGHER: Okay. Ready, John?
CHAIRMAN TANNER: Yes.

CPT GALLAGHER: Okay. Dan Gallagher again.

"I am writing on behalf of the Great
Lakes Pilotage Advisory Subcommittee. The Change
Point Subcommittee, consisting of Chairman Dan
Gallagher, John Baker, Sr., John Swartout, John
Boyce, Jim Hartung, William Yockey, Chad Allen,
and Jean Aubry-Morin, and Robert Lemire,
unanimously recommends that the following change

points should remain the same with a few exceptions:

"Eliminating Gros Cap and replace it with Buoy 33, and add Iroquois Lock as a change point. The change points would be as follows: Snell Lock, Iroquois Lock, Cape Vincent, Port Weller, Port Colborne, Detroit/Windsor, Port Huron/Sarnia, Detour, Buoy 33, Chicago with respect to assignments ridging at Detour or Port Huron/Sarnia, Duluth/Superior, and Thunder Bay, Ontario with respect to assignments originating at Gros Cap.

"In conclusion, we have discussed the issue in great detail and strongly agree that the change points referenced above should be established."

For any further questions, you can talk to the members.

We talked to them. Gros Cap was the designated change point for the last -- what? -- three decades, I guess, or longer. Buoy 33 has been a change point. The reason District 3 does

Buoy 33 is that's where the designated/undesignated waters meet. So, that's a logical change point.

We looked at -- District 3 has spent a great deal of time securing the lease on a new dock, and John will probably talk about that later. So, they do have a facility above the locks that they will be using when they can get their dock built, but they have finally secured the lease.

And one of the members thought maybe we should look at this. I think the last time this was looked at was quite a while ago. One of the members thought maybe we should look at it periodically.

CPT BOYCE: Did you want to bring up the other? MacArthur Lock?

CPT GALLAGHER: Oh, yes. Also, in our discussion we talked about the MacArthur Lock.

We didn't know if it was within our scope, this Subcommittee, but we thought the MacArthur Lock, they will not allow any of the full-sized ships

to transit the MacArthur Lock. The lock is 84foot wide, the same as the seaway-sized locks.
There's a lot of delays that we think could be
eliminated. So, we would like to recommend to
the Committee here to write a letter to the Corps
of Engineers recommending that the Soo Locks
allow the 78-foot-wide ships in and out of the
MacArthur Lock.

I think John Swartout can give some more background on that.

CPT SWARTOUT: John Swartout, Western Great Lakes Pilots.

MacArthur Lock is the same width as
Sault 15 of the seaway locks that saltwater ships
come through before they head to it. There is a
old regulation, probably written about the time
of the lock was built in 1944, that limits the
width of ships that can use it to 75 feet. We
don't know of any physical reason why wider ships
can't use it. In fact, they have used it on many
occasions because of dispatching errors. They've
dispatched a wider ship through there and they

have gone through with no problem.

So, this restriction has caused a lot,

I mean hundreds, if not thousands, of hours of

delays every year at the Soo Locks, ships that

could use the Mac having to wait to use the Poe,

which is congested. So, we would like, under

Executive Order 13777, to encourage the Corps of

Engineers to look at that regulation

33 CFR 207.440, paragraph v, to consider that

regulation for review and revision.

Everybody is interested in promoting the maritime trades, and although this is a little outside of the scope of the Subcommittee, we couldn't see another way to get it addressed. So, we want to recommend to the Committee, the full Committee, that the Coast Guard go to the Corps of Engineers and suggest making this regulatory change, and that the Committee itself write to the Corps of Engineers and ask them to look at it. Since the public can submit these suggestions, we're kind of acting as the public in this regard by sending a letter directly to

1	the Corps of Engineers and asking for them to
2	look at it. And I've got two draft letters, one
3	from the GLPAC to the Corps of Engineers and one
4	from the GLPAC to the Admiral to take care of
5	that.
6	CPT GALLAGHER: Okay. Any other
7	discussion from the Committee?
8	(No response.)
9	And whoever outside the Committee has
10	to have a copy of this for the record, the court
11	reporter or everybody? Everybody in the room.
12	Well, we'll have to visit the printer.
13	CHAIRMAN TANNER: Okay. Does that
14	conclude your
15	CPT GALLAGHER: John, I have the
16	letter from the Subcommittee. Give it to you?
17	CHAIRMAN TANNER: Yes.
18	CPT GALLAGHER: Does everyone need a
19	copy also?
20	CHAIRMAN TANNER: Yes.
21	CPT GALLAGHER: Okay.
22	CHAIRMAN TANNER: We'll open it now to

1 the general public. Any questions on this? 2 MS. SILAS: Well, we haven't received 3 it yet. 4 CHAIRMAN TANNER: Right. The copy is 5 coming. Yes, I mean, I'll just 6 MR. DIAMOND: 7 take a minute. 8 Could you use a CHAIRMAN TANNER: 9 microphone? I would just want to say 10 MR. DIAMOND: 11 that I think this issue with the restrictions in 12 the lock is a great example of the kind of thing 13 that the Committee can do to really help 14 facilitate things on the lakes. This is a 15 win/win for both sides. It is certainly 16 something shipping could be interested in, 17 something that the pilots are pushing. 18 And I really hope that, in looking at 19 the scope of the Committee's authority in this area or jurisdiction in this area, that kind of a 20 21 broad kind of look would be taken, because I

would hope that the Committee is able to reach

out directly to the Corps, because this is a 1 2 great issue. 3 CHAIRMAN TANNER: Thank you. Since both subcommittees 4 CPT BOYCE: 5 are put together in one, can I go on to mine? will be quick. 6 CHAIRMAN TANNER: 7 Go ahead, Todd. 8 MR. HAVILAND: I don't know if I'm out 9 of order or not, but could I recommend maybe a five-minute break while we get the copies made 10 and circulated? 11 12 CHAIRMAN TANNER: Well, we can do 13 that. We can ask John to Report on the other 14 Subcommittee at this time, and we will come back. 15 Okay? 16 Go ahead, John. 17 CPT BOYCE: Yes, mine will be much 18 quicker. 19 There hasn't been any action from the 20 Regulatory Review Subcommittee. Shortly after it 21 was formed or during it, two contentious issues 22 came out real quick, being the Martin study and

the rate. It seemed counterproductive to try to enter into something with any sort of agreement coming out of it right after that.

Also, I had a couple of clarification issues. After what Mr. Gallagher went through trying to schedule his last Subcommittee conference call, I figured it would be easy to talk to Mr. Fisher and a couple of other people at this meeting, but he's not here and, well, Michelle's gone now. So, it might get a little easier to get clarification on things, but we can move forward on that. So, there's been no actual action. There seemed to be some hesitation from Mr. Fisher to move forward with it, but I think we can resolve that somehow.

CHAIRMAN TANNER: Okay. Any questions from the Committee pertaining to this Executive Order of the Board?

(No response.)

General public, any questions on this Subcommittee?

(No response.)

Go ahead, John.

CPT SWARTOUT: John Swartout.

I'm not on this Subcommittee, thanks to a change in the Committee Charter which I don't recall ever being discussed in the Committee, disallowing more than two ILA Association Presidents to serve on a subcommittee. I don't know why that change was made or who made it, but I think any future changes to the GLPAC Charter should be fully transparent and discussed in the Committee.

I don't know if this is the right forum to bring it up, but it's on the agenda that we're going to talk about input to this Subcommittee. And I have some input for the Committee. I'll give it to John Boyce, since he's Chairman of the Committee.

And there is one item, in particular, that I would like to bring up here, if this is the right place to --

CHAIRMAN TANNER: You're bringing up the Subcommittee material?

OMB Control No. CPT SWARTOUT: Yes. 1625-0086, concerning data collection in the Great Lakes Pilotage Management System, also known as GLPMS or Klein System, was obtained from the OMB on false pretenses. In a Request for Comments in The Federal Register, Volume 71, No. 190857986, October 2nd, 2006, the Coast Guard included in its Paperwork Reduction Act submission form in which it claims, "There is no added burden respecting the collection of information. The Great Lakes Electronic Pilot Management System software provides the three U.S. pilot associations an electronic capability to collect data that up until now has been conducted on a manual basis."

In the last renewal of this

Information Collection Request, ICR, July 24th,

2017, Federal Register 2017, page 15 of 15,400,

Regulations Guide Gov Docket No. USCG-2016-0801,

the Coast Guard estimates the annual burden of

this data collection at 19 hours.

The GLPMS creates an enormous burden

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on the pilot associations, especially since it's never worked properly since inception in 2006. In 2016, Western Great Lakes Pilots Association engaged in well over 80 manhours of training and travel just to continue using the system. In 2017, Western invested well over 300 manhours of training and travel for this GLPMS system.

Data entry to maintain the system currently requires over 600 hours a year. The Coast Guard expects the system to be kept updated and near-real-time for 16 hours a day. That's 4,320 hours a year. It requires vastly more time than the former method of manual data collection. The Coast Guard grossly underestimates the time required to satisfy this requirement.

The system should be greatly simplified, preferably by abandoning the Klein System which was built for the GLPA and only slightly invests the Great Lakes Pilot Authority in Canada, and only slightly modified for the U.S. Great Lakes pilots, and replacing with a system from SeaPro Solutions, Inc., customized

1	for each District and funded by the Coast Guard.
2	That is the system already in use by District 1.
3	CHAIRMAN TANNER: Okay. You're going
4	to supply that to
5	CPT SWARTOUT: Yes.
6	CHAIRMAN TANNER: the Subcommittee
7	Chair?
8	CPT SWARTOUT: Sure.
9	CHAIRMAN TANNER: Okay. Thank you.
10	Now back to the first Subcommittee.
11	Does the audience have a copy of Danny's first
12	points? Any questions?
13	(No response.)
14	Any questions on the letters to the
15	Corps of Engineers or the Coast Guard?
16	(No response.)
17	If not, I ask the Subcommittee, any
18	motion at this time?
19	CPT GALLAGHER: Do we need a motion,
20	John, to accept the Subcommittee's report?
21	DFO KHANDPUR: The Subcommittee, then,
22	presents it to the Committee, to the full

1	Committee.
2	CPT GALLAGHER: Yes, that's what we've
3	done.
4	DFO KHANDPUR: Right. And so, now the
5	full Committee could make a motion.
6	CPT GALLAGHER: Okay.
7	MR. BAKER, JR.: I'll make a motion.
8	CHAIRMAN TANNER: We have a motion.
9	This is for the first or for all three documents?
10	DFO KHANDPUR: Let's do it one
11	CHAIRMAN TANNER: Okay, one. This is
12	for your first
13	CPT GALLAGHER: The report of the
14	Subcommittee, correct.
15	CHAIRMAN TANNER: The report of the
16	Subcommittee, correct.
17	DFO KHANDPUR: On the change points.
18	CPT GALLAGHER: On the change points.
19	CPT BOYCE: I will second that. John
20	Boyce.
21	CHAIRMAN TANNER: Okay, it's seconded.
22	Discussion?

1	(No response.)
2	If no discussion, all those in favor?
3	(Chorus of ayes.)
4	The motion carried.
5	Now we have a letter to the United
6	States Coast Guard. Let's address that first.
7	CPT GALLAGHER: Okay. John, we have
8	a letter to the Coast Guard regarding a change
9	point at the MacArthur Lock to allow, not change
10	point, but the MacArthur Lock to transit with the
11	78-foot-wide ships.
12	CHAIRMAN TANNER: Yes. Motion?
13	MR. BAKER, JR.: I'll make a motion.
14	John Baker.
15	CHAIRMAN TANNER: We have a motion.
16	Do we have a second?
17	CPT BOYCE: And I'll second it. John
18	Boyce.
19	CHAIRMAN TANNER: It's seconded.
20	Discussion?
21	(No response.)
22	No questions? John?

1	CPT SWARTOUT: Is the motion to
2	approve the draft letter as written or
3	CHAIRMAN TANNER: Yes.
4	Any other discussion?
5	(No response.)
6	All those in favor?
7	(Chorus of ayes.)
8	Those opposed?
9	(No response.)
10	The motion carries.
11	The second letter, to the Corps of
12	Engineers.
13	CPT GALLAGHER: Okay. We have a
14	second letter that would, basically, mirror the
15	first letter going to the Coast Guard, that the
16	Advisory Committee recommends the 78-foot-wide
17	ships to transit the MacArthur Lock.
18	MR. BAKER, JR.: John Baker, Jr.,
19	makes a motion.
20	CHAIRMAN TANNER: John made a motion.
21	CPT BOYCE: John seconds.
22	CHAIRMAN TANNER: John Boyd seconds.

1	Discussion?
2	(No response.)
3	We can just stay to the Subcommittee
4	right now, or the Committee.
5	If no other questions by the
6	Committee, all those in favor?
7	(Chorus of ayes.)
8	Those opposed?
9	(No response.)
10	Motion carried.
11	CPT GALLAGHER: Mr. Chairman, I
12	believe that concludes the Subcommittee report.
13	CHAIRMAN TANNER: Okay. Thank you
14	very much.
15	Okay. We're finished with the
16	Subcommittee portion of the agenda. Let's move
17	now to the Coast Guard studies. It's conducted
18	by Martin Associates to analyze the potential
19	impact of U.S. pilotage rates.
20	Who is going to present this?
21	MR. AUBRY-MORIN: Mr. Chairman, per
22	your agenda, I would like to make a comment on

behalf of The Canadian Seaway, just to shed perspective of the motion you just --

CHAIRMAN TANNER: Go ahead.

MR. AUBRY-MORIN: Can I have a

microphone, please?

CHAIRMAN TANNER: There you go.

MR. AUBRY-MORIN: Just as general information, my name is Jean Aubry-Morin. I'm also the Vice President of The Canadian Seaway.

In perspective of the restriction from The Canadian Seaway perspective on 80-foot -well, why the 75- and 78-foot restriction is due
to ice management. We manage ice in condition
that can allow a 78-beam opening. In deep winter
we reduce, or we could reduce, that to 75 if we
would go in deep winter period, sustained length
of period. We never enforced that in the past 18
years because of the ice management and the way
we avoid that situation. But that could shed
some understanding of why in certain part of the
system the restriction on beam had been used in
the past, because we had very often a very ice

condition. I just want to bring that to the 1 2 table. Thank you. 3 4 CHAIRMAN TANNER: Thank you. 5 CPT GALLAGHER: John? In the letter that we put both to the 6 7 Corps of Engineers and the Coast Guard, we say, 8 "to allow routine use of the MacArthur Lock by 9 vessels up to 78 feet wide whenever the lock is ice-free." So, we do recognize the reasoning for 10 11 the 75. Of course, at the beginning of the year 12 and at the end of the year when we have heavy ice, we understand that they could require the 13 full lock at that point in time. So, we do 14 15 address that in our letter. 16 CHAIRMAN TANNER: Thank you for the clarification. 17 18 Now for our next item, who will 19 present this? 20 So, I have Mr. Ali Gungor MR. MOYERS: 21 on the line. 22 Ali, can you hear us?

1 MR. GUNGOR: Yes, I can hear you. 2 This is Ali Gungor. Good morning. CHAIRMAN TANNER: Good morning. 3 4 Go ahead. MR. MOYERS: Go ahead, Ali. 5 You're 6 up. 7 MR. GUNGOR: Thank you. I appreciate 8 it. 9 I am an economist at the U.S. Coast Guard, C2, Reg 1, and I am going to be quickly 10 11 reviewing for you the study we commissioned that 12 ended in June 2017. 13 Let me give you a quick overview of 14 how we do our economic analysis. It is also 15 called cost/benefit analysis. Sometimes it's 16 reported as reg analysis or regulatory impact 17 analysis. 18 We do our work under various Executive 19 Orders, including Executive Order 12866 on regulatory planning and review, Executive Order 20 21 13563 on improving regulations and regulatory 22 review, as well as OMB Circular A-4 on regulatory

analysis. We follow all those, in addition to the Regulatory Flexibility Act. It's one of the key acts that we follow in our analysis.

Given all these requirements, we must perform a benefit/cost analysis for each rulemaking, and the majority of our economic impacts that we try to evaluate are measured in monetary changes to the directly or primarily impacted industry or entities. In our case, they will be shippers, Great Lakes pilots, and pilots associations.

At the same time, we receive comments from the public on the Great Lakes pilotage rates, on the annual review and change in methodology. And we heard them and we considered, basically, the comments that were saying that the Coast Guard should consider the secondary impacts to industry and Great Lakes ports.

Although we are not required to include those secondary impacts in our regulatory analysis, we wanted to explore additional

frameworks and methodologies for assessing the cost of Great Lakes pilots' ratemaking regulations. Our focus was on capturing the industry and port-level economic impacts.

So, my office commissioned a contract to analyze certain impacts of the U.S. pilotage charges. And the objective, the goal of this contract was to update the previous analysis done by the same group, Martin Associates, back in 2004.

The contractor, Martin Associates, completed a report titled, "Analysis of the Great Lakes Pilotage Costs on Great Lakes Shipping and the Potential Impact of Increases in U.S.

Pilotage Charges". Essentially, it is baseline conditions of maritime commerce on the Great Lakes. They quantify the cost of operating vessels on the Great Lakes and they compare those to the cost of foreign trade on the Great Lakes, to other modes of transportation in coastal ports. So, essentially, we got from them an assessment of the impact of changes in positive

rates to the Great Lakes shipping industry, including surrounding ports.

So, with this study, we are looking at the methodology in a model to estimate the secondary impacts of Great Lakes pilotage rates, holding all other factors constant. I think this is very important for this study because it is a typical economic study that focused on the economic impacts of a single sector.

And we have to keep in mind that the results of single-sector analysis should not be interpreted as a full regional or national economic impact analysis. So, if we change any other sectors or input defense sectors that the study held constant, we would probably have different impacts of the pilotage rates on, essentially, that area of the Great Lakes.

Just to give you an example, if some of the factors driving the level of international marine cargo moving on foreign flag vessels in the case of fuel imports, well, they would probably get some different results. Those

factors are set, domestic and international economic conditions, import trade restrictions, the value of the U.S. dollar, and migration of fuel-consuming industries away from the Great Lakes region.

Other factors that drive grain exports on the Great Lakes/St. Lawrence Seaway System, and they were not taken into account in the Martin Associates study: they inferred the weather conditions; crop production, both U.S. and global, and domestic versus export prices. And the relative prices are also very important, and they were not accounted for in this study. So, these factors, impact on grain tonnage levels on our system, are essentially outside of the model developed by Martin Associates.

The U.S. pilotage charge is only one factor that could impact the competitive position of the Great Lakes/St. Lawrence Seaway System.

Also, we reflect that when the Martin Associates report refers to lost jobs, these are estimated impacts to the Great Lakes regional economy from

a single-sector analysis, meaning that they are holding other variables constant that I mentioned for steel and grain there earlier.

And also, those losses, they're not necessarily net losses to total U.S. and Canadian economies. Losses in one sector or region could result in gains in another sector or region if the tonnage is diverted to coastal ports. But the gains resulting from the diverging traffic to the coastal port depends on the ability of these ports to handle additional throughputs along with the existing capacity at the coastal ports, such as terminal capacity, vessel capacity, and surface modal capacity.

So, in the Martin Associates study our concept is that a few of the ports could handle the increased impacts. Our plan going forward is, essentially, include the analysis of the pilotage cost as a percentage of the total cost that the Coast Guard can use in future regulatory analysis, the estimated direct impacts of those changes to pilotage rates. And we hope that this

1	study will be used to inform Coast Guard. One
2	method that we used to assess the secondary
3	impacts of the Great Lakes pilotage are annual
4	rulemaking and other rulemakings.
5	I think that's about it. I would be
6	happy to field any questions or comments you may
7	have.
8	CHAIRMAN TANNER: Okay. Thank you.
9	I'll open it to Committee members.
10	Any questions? John?
11	CPT SWARTOUT: Can we get the spelling
12	of the speaker's name?
13	MR. MOYERS: Ali, can you spell your
14	name, please?
15	MR. GUNGOR: I didn't hear that very
16	clearly. I'm sorry. I missed that, the last
17	one.
18	CPT GALLAGHER: Importantly, we are
19	going to have quite a discussion on this. If he
20	can't even hear us, how can he respond to any of
21	our questions?
22	MR. MOYERS: Ali, can you spell your

1	name?
2	MR. GUNGOR: This is Ali, yes.
3	MR. MOYERS: Can you spell your name,
4	please?
5	MR. GUNGOR: Ali, A-L-I. The last
6	name is Gungor, G-U-N-G-O-R.
7	CHAIRMAN TANNER: Okay. Questions?
8	CPT SWARTOUT: Mr. Chairman, I have a
9	question for Mr. Gungor, if he can hear me.
10	MR. GUNGOR: I'm so far hearing you so
11	fine. Thank you.
12	CPT SWARTOUT: Okay. Was the order
13	for Martin Associates to produce a prospective
14	study or a retrospective study? In other words,
15	were they charged with looking at the effect of
16	rates already in effect or only future rates?
17	MR. GUNGOR: I believe it's
18	retrospective. They used the existing rates in
19	their study. I'm going to double-check on that
20	quickly. I don't think they used the future for
21	rates.
22	CPT SWARTOUT: Well, at the time the

study was done they didn't know what the future rates would be. So, obviously, they can only create scenarios using speculative rates. But I'm asking whether they were asked to determine whether existing rates had affected cargo in any way so far.

MR. GUNGOR: We have used their 20 -I'm looking at the report here. I believe
they've used previous years' figures, not the
ones that are going forward, sir.

I mean, I hope I answered your question.

CPT SWARTOUT: No, you haven't. What I'm asking is, what was the order from the Coast Guard to Martin, what they were supposed to produce?

MR. GUNGOR: Well, we asked them to update the 2004 study that they have done previously. They have used, I believe they have used the same methodology. I mean, we did not, you know, tell them anything different from what they have done before.

1	CPT SWARTOUT: Mr. Chairman, I'm not
2	getting an answer to my question. I'm going to
3	let it rest.
4	CPT SWARTOUT: Okay. Any other
5	Committee members? Question?
6	CPT SWARTOUT: Okay. Mr. Chairman,
7	with your indulgence, I will continue on another
8	tact. On the topic of the 2017 Martin Associates
9	study, I would like to provide each Committee
10	member with several documents. And maybe it
11	would be beneficial to take a short break, so we
12	can make copies for the public and circulate
13	these handouts before I start.
14	MS. SILAS: Do you have any other
15	materials you're circulating? Because they
16	should be provided 48 hours in advance. Anything
17	else you're circulating for the rest of the
18	meeting?
19	CPT SWARTOUT: I couldn't hear you.
20	MS. SILAS: Do you have any other
21	material you are circulating
22	CPT SWARTOUT: Yes.

1	MS. SILAS: throughout the rest of
2	the meeting?
3	CPT SWARTOUT: Lots of them.
4	MS. SILAS: We need to make copies of
5	all the things you are circulating in advance.
6	Let's take a break to do that.
7	CHAIRMAN TANNER: Okay. We'll take a
8	break then, 15 minutes.
9	(Whereupon, the foregoing matter went
10	off the record at 9:00 a.m. and went back on the
11	record at 9:10 a.m.)
12	CHAIRMAN TANNER: Okay. We're back in
12 13	CHAIRMAN TANNER: Okay. We're back in session.
13	session.
13 14	session. John Swartout has a series of letters.
13 14 15	session. John Swartout has a series of letters. John, does the audience have a copy of
13 14 15 16	session. John Swartout has a series of letters. John, does the audience have a copy of your first one you're going to address?
13 14 15 16 17	John Swartout has a series of letters. John, does the audience have a copy of your first one you're going to address? CPT SWARTOUT: Yes.
13 14 15 16 17	John Swartout has a series of letters. John, does the audience have a copy of your first one you're going to address? CPT SWARTOUT: Yes. CHAIRMAN TANNER: Okay. We're ready
13 14 15 16 17 18 19	John Swartout has a series of letters. John, does the audience have a copy of your first one you're going to address? CPT SWARTOUT: Yes. CHAIRMAN TANNER: Okay. We're ready to begin with your first letter. So, John

letter that the three Presidents here of the U.S. Great Lakes Pilots Associations submitted to the Coast Guard concerning the Martin study. This letter does a good job of outlining a number of serious concerns we have with the study, and I ask that it be included in the transcript of this meeting.

Mr. Chairman, I understand we don't have time to go through every page of the Martin Associates study. It's, I think, 56 pages. But I do want to point out several areas of the study where there are significant reasons for concern.

Clay Diamond is now passing out the excerpts from the Martin study that I'm going to referring to now.

On page 3, Martin refers to a logistics cost model developed as part of the study. The model was not described in the study. I would like to know if -- and this is a question for Mr. Gungor -- if this model was shared with the U.S. Coast.

MR. GUNGOR: If I didn't hear

incorrectly, you're asking whether we have this 1 2 database at the Coast Guard, the logistical model you mentioned, sir? 3 4 CPT SWARTOUT: Yes. 5 MR. GUNGOR: We don't have that 6 This is completely proprietary to database. 7 Martin Associates. 8 Okay. So, all we know CPT SWARTOUT: 9 is that Martin Associates has a model? 10 MR. GUNGOR: Correct. 11 We don't know how it CPT SWARTOUT: 12 So, there are transparency concerns and 13 questions as to how it was developed and how it 14 might have impacted or skewed the study's 15 In other words, it's a black box. findings. 16 dump in the detail and out comes the result, 17 which the model could be as unreliable as the 18 multiple climate change models that keep turning 19 out to be wrong. 20 Also, on page 3, Martin makes two very 21 questionable assumptions that should raise

concerns over the validity of the whole study.

First of all, using a hypothetical and implausibly high pilotage rate estimate for 2017, Martin assumes, equally implausibly, that all other shipping costs, like Canadian pilotage fees, tug seaway tolls, ice-breaking surcharges, stevedores, security, et cetera, are held constant. We already know some of those assumptions are wrong.

Second, while warning with no basis in fact that the Great Lakes cargo might be diverted to coastal ports, Martin assumes without any investigation that adequate capacity exists in the busy U.S. coastal ports, railways, and highways.

Both of these assumptions, the adequate capacity and all other costs remaining unchanged, are repeated on page 5.

On page 4, Martin estimates that a significant amount of grain could no longer move cost effectively through the Great Lakes ports if there was 53.75 percent to 90.92 percent increase in U.S. pilotage charges for 2017. Martin, then,

makes the absurd point that, under a doubling of U.S. pilotage charges in 2017, other factors held constant, a large amount of grain and steel are no longer cost effectively served by the Great Lakes and could be diverted to coastal ports.

Finally, Martin theorizes that 100 percent across-the-board increase in pilotage rates for 2017 could result in the loss of maritime-related jobs on the Great Lakes.

Now, first of all, he says that's not a net loss of jobs; that's just the potential loss of jobs in the Great Lakes. It's not the Coast Guard's job to pick winners and losers. It's the Coast Guard's job to have a safe, efficient, and reliable pilotage system on the Great Lakes. And if there are losers because of that, it could be loss to the Great Lakes; it doesn't mean it's a net loss to the country.

If you compare the first highlighted statement on page 4 with the highlighted statement on page 51, you'll see that the 10,401 tons of steel which could be diverted was double-

counted on page 4. In other words, on page 51, it says, if we get up to a 100 percent rate increase in 2017, which everybody knows didn't happen -- there was actually about a 10 percent rate decrease recently announced in the Final Rule -- 586,000 tons of grain could be diverted and 10,000-and-some tons of steel. On page 4, the 10,000 tons is counted twice.

I don't know if that's representative of the quality of work in this study, but it could be.

On page 5, Martin continues its use of wildly unrealistic estimates for pilotage rate increases in 2017 to conclude that piloted charges could impact Great Lakes shipping and maritime employment. Again, however, no increases occurred in 2017. Pilotage rates went down in the 2017 Final Rule.

On page 16, Martin concedes that the information it used to develop representative voyage itineraries for its study came from the very same foreign flag vessel operators that are

now seeking to lower U.S. Great Lakes pilotage rates.

The lack of transparency by Martin with the U.S. governmental agency that contracted for its services should raise concerns with all of us.

Martin does mention that he has done work for the ports, the Chamber of Maritime

Commerce, and other stakeholders. What's left unanswered is the information provided by those stakeholders to Martin to do this study, was that information audited? Does the Coast Guard even know what it is? Martin is using information provided by the people who want to lower Great Lakes pilotage rates, no matter what it takes to do it.

If Mr. Gungor is still on the line, do you know if that information provided by the shipping companies as audited before it was used in the study?

MR. GUNGOR: Unfortunately, I don't know the answers to that question. They may or

not be audited, but I'm not sure. I'm not the right person to answer that question.

There are some references on page 13, the economic impact of their methods on the Great Lakes, under No. 3. There is an explanation of the methodology, how they have done their whole modeling and what they've used, you know, on their baseline economic conditions.

So, I am not 100 percent sure if they were all audited or not. And if you would see -- I mean, you can see that there were a lot of contacts by Martin Associates, this second paragraph. I mean, they contacted 628 stakeholders and 454 ports in the survey and provided investment data for 2013 to 1/2018. I don't believe we have seen all these raw data. It's beyond my knowledge.

CPT SWARTOUT: Well, my question gets to, how do we know that the voyage cost data used to create the denominator is accurate information? If you put in garbage, you're going to get out garage. We don't know.

It's also of note and concern that the Martin study never mentions the Coast Guard's recent upward adjustments to pilotage rates. On pages 41467 and 41468 of The Federal Register notice of the 2017 Final Rule on Great Rates Pilotage Rates, the Coast Guard clearly and publicly states that the principal reason for the recent rate increases was to add additional pilots to mitigate fatigue risks and reduce shipping delays. That Federal Register notice is being passed out now, if you don't already have it.

We understand the Coast Guard paid
Martin Associates \$304,750 for this study. It's
a deeply-flawed study. It purports to tell us
that, if all of its dubious assumptions are
realized -- and we already know several were not
realized -- that if U.S. pilotage rates rose in
2017 somewhere between zero percent and 53.57
percent, that 29 grain cargoes might be diverted,
and that those rates would have to increase
another 46.43 percent before the next ton of

cargo would be at risk. In the context of rates that actually decreased in the 2017 Final Rule, that's what I call \$304,000 worth of useless information.

Since some shipping industry and ports representatives are attempting to use the Martin study to show that pilotage rates have somehow had a negative impact on shipping on the Great Lakes in 2016 and 2017, I also want to ensure each member of the GLPAC has seen actual shipping and cargo data for the Great Lakes system for 2016 and 2017.

I'm providing three credible sources, and you are getting them handed out right now.

One is Digital Dateline. One is Seaway Compass.

And also, Clay, if you'd pass these out, also?

MR. DIAMOND: Oh, okay.

CPT SWARTOUT: An article from
Professional Mariner Online; the summer of 2017
edition of Seaway Compass, the magazine of the
U.S. Department of Transportation and St.

Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation; a
September 18, 2017 article from Great Lakes
Seaway Review showing the 2017 cargo value is up
considerably from 2016. The source for this
article is the Chamber of Maritime Shipping pilot
letter to the Coast Guard regarding the updated
Martin study.

Finally, I want to point out a quote from the final 2017 Great Lakes pilotage rate on page 41467 of The Federal Register, the excerpt that I gave you. The Coast Guard itself noted, "Our data indicates that demand for pilotage service in 2016 was greater than in 2015 and that demand for pilotage service through June 2017 is trending around 20 percent higher than the 10-year average of shipping."

Now I would like to turn to this

Professional Maritime Online article. This

refers to a news release from the American Great

Lakes Ports Association and contains numerous

false statements, and I want to point them out to

you.

In the first paragraph, "A newlyreleased study shows that increases in U.S.
pilotage costs on the Great Lakes Seaway System
have hurt the regional economy." There's nothing
in the Martin Associates study that says that.

In the fourth paragraph, this news release gives credit to the Coast Guard for commissioning Martin Associates. I wonder why that is? These industry interests have paid Martin Associates hundreds of thousands of dollars over the last few years for various studies. Their bread and butter is the industry; it's not the Coast Guard.

At the bottom paragraph on the first page, it says that "585,890 tons of export grain was lost to the system and shipped through coastal ports instead." That's not what the study says.

Turning to the second page, the top paragraph, the second sentence, "The absence of these backhaul cargoes rendered 29 voyages of inbound steel non-competitive. As a consequence,

Martin Associates estimates that 586,000 tons of steel imports to Great Lakes ports did not occur." There's no such statement in that report.

The next paragraph, "The total binational regional job loss associated with the Coast Guard's 2016 pilotage rate increase is 4,400 jobs." That statement is not in the report.

The report deals with future possibilities based on false premises.

The next-to-the-last paragraph, "This study documents that recent rate increases have negatively impacted the competitiveness of ocean shipping on the Great Lakes." It depends on the correct denominator, that is, total voyage cost, and it's not documented in this study, nor is it verified.

Mr. Chairman, I think it would be appropriate to give the Committee members a few minutes to review each one of the documents in case there's any discussion on them.

1	CHAIRMAN TANNER: Does the Committee
2	have any questions? Should we look at the
3	documents?
4	CPT BOYCE: Is that just on what Mr.
5	Swartout presented or is there
6	CHAIRMAN TANNER: What Mr. Swartout
7	has presented to this point, yes.
8	Any questions?
9	(No response.)
10	If not, let's move on.
11	Any other
12	CPT BOYCE: Yes. Also, we've, on the
13	same topic of the Martin study, we've presented a
14	couple of letters to the Coast Guard previously
15	and half of you as well.
16	CHAIRMAN TANNER: Does the audience
17	have those letters?
18	CPT BOYCE: Yes.
19	CHAIRMAN TANNER: Okay.
20	CPT BOYCE: The first was on July 10th
21	to the Commandant. "We are deeply concerned by
22	the reports that Martin Associates is conducting

a study of the Great Lakes pilotage for the U.S. Coast Guard and that the agency may consider this study to be a neutral and unbiased assessment of the impact of pilotage costs on Great Lakes shipping. Martin Associates appears to have been selected at least in part because of its previous work in this area, 'Analysis of Great Lakes Pilotage Costs on the Great Lakes and Potential Impact on Pilotage Rates Increase' in 2004.

"At that time, Martin Associates was not closely identified with one side or the other, e.g., pilots or foreign shipping interests, on the relevant issues, and it is significant to know that Martin Associates basic conclusions in the 2004 included clear statements of U.S. pilotage rates do not impact ship routing decisions on the Great Lakes. Since that report was issued in 2004, however, Martin Associates has been paid hundreds of thousands of dollars by many of the very same organizations leading the effort to reduce American pilotage fees, including the organizations that are currently

suing the Coast Guard to reduce pilotage fees.

Under these circumstances, we have serious doubts that Martin Associates will conduct a neutral and unbiased analysis of the important matters.

"In 2011, the American Great Lakes
Ports Association was the contracting agent to
Martin Associates for a significant study of
shipping on the Great Lakes as a whole, along
with eight individualized studies regarding the
economic impact of specific American ports.

"In 2015, the American Great Lakes
Ports Association was a key player in another
major study by Martin Associates that quantified
public and private sector investments in the
Great Lakes Navigation System. Currently, AGLPA
and other organizations challenging pilotage
rates have again retained Martin Associates and
are paying hundreds of thousands of dollars for a
Great Lakes economic study. That means ALGP has
used Martin Associates for at least 10 studies,
almost assuredly costing hundreds of thousands of
dollars over the past several years.

"Given that the most aggressively anti-pilot organizations have retained Martin Associates at the very same time that Martin Associates is studying pilotage issues on behalf of the Coast Guard, we can hope you understand why we are so concerned. AGLPA's opposition to increased pilotage fees in the Great Lakes is well-known and publicly-documented. It has consistently filed comments challenging increases in the Coast Guard's proposed pilotage rates and is the lead plaintiff in the ongoing lawsuit against the Coast Guard that challenges the 2016 ratemaking and seeks to significantly reduce pilotage fees.

"The Executive Director of the ALGP,
Steve Fisher, has registered with Congress as a
lobbyist on issues that, as described in his
lobbying disclosure form, including raising
concerns about the cost and efficiency of the
Great Lakes Pilotage System. To be clear, AGLPA
is not only the company or organization that is
both part of the coalition that has retained

Martin Associates and among the most aggressive challenges to the American Great Lakes pilotage rates.

"We, of course, have no objection to the AGLPA and others seeking to advance their interests through lobbying and other legitimate means, as the right of any person, company, or organization. The problem is in any suggestion that Martin Associates could be engaged by this organization." "The Coast Guard" -- I'm sorry -- "itself is as a disinterested party.

"At the very least, the Coast Guard should pause the project to investigate the extent to which the organizations most opposed to American Great Lakes pilotage rates increases have recently or are currently retaining and funding Martin Associates and the extent of their contacts with Martin Associates on this matter and others. The Coast Guard should assure that any study that proceeds is conducted by a truly neutral party and that it assures all costs relevant to Great Lakes shipping, including not

just U.S. pilotage rates, but also Canadian shipping fees, such as seaway, ice-breaking pilotage. An unbiased assessment would note that Canadian fees are nearly 15 times greater than the comparable American shipping fees on the Great Lakes, according to the U.S. Coast Guard's own estimates, and that 85 percent of all pilotage fees imposed on Great Lakes shipping companies are by Canadian pilot associations.

"The Coast Guard ought not to be expending taxpayer dollars on a study that could very reasonably be viewed as an advocacy document for one side of the public debate on pilotage. We appreciate your interest in this important matter. We hope that the Coast Guard investigates and resolves these conflict-of-interest issues. We will have an opportunity to meet with the organization who contracted to conduct and complete this study. We trust you agree that any Great Lakes pilotage study can only benefit from the input of Great Lakes pilots."

And it's signed by the three pilot 1 2 Presidents. On September 18th, another letter 3 4 to --5 CHAIRMAN TANNER: The second letter? 6 CPT BOYCE: Yes, a second letter to 7 the Admiral. 8 "The Director of the Great Lakes Pilot 9 Offices recently provided us with the final 10 Martin report, a paper prepared by John C. Martin 11 Associates, LLC, doing business as Martin 12 Associates. That purports to be an analysis of 13 the potential impact of increases in U.S. 14 pilotage charges on the Great Lakes shipping. 15 The paper states that it was prepared for the 16 Coast Guard and includes the Coast Guard emblem 17 on its title page. 18 "It was not clear, however, that the 19 Coast Guard has adopted, or without further 20 reports, it intends to suggest that pilotage 21 rates could have an adverse effect on Great Lakes

cargo volumes or employment. The Coast Guard

should not do so.

"Instead, the Coast Guard should immediately and forcibly reject any suggestion that Martin report supports any claim of harm to the Great Lakes cargo movements or employment resulting from the existing pilotage rate or any plausible future increases from such rates.

"The Martin Associates report provides no support for claims of harm from pilotage rates, even though the firm has clear incentive to assert such harm.

"As we have previously commented,
Martin Associates has a significant conflict of
interest that disqualifies it from being
considered in any way neutral and an unbiased
source of analysis. It has recently been paid
hundreds of thousands of dollars and likely has
been paid well over a million dollars overall by
many of the very same organizations that are
leading the effort to reduce American pilotage
fees, including organizations that are currently
suing the Coast Guard in that effort.

"Indeed, we have confirmed that this spring Martin Associates was negotiating an approximately \$500,000 contract with these antipilot parties, including plaintiffs on a current lawsuit, to update an economic study, at the very same time it was working on the paper prepared for the Coast Guard. Martin Associates bias in this matter is obvious, and its failure to forthrightly acknowledge in the report the extent of its conflict of interest raises at least a very significant question about the bona fides of the paper, of the report, and the firm itself.

"Moreover, although the paper streams provide some analysis that could support a claim that pilotage rates adversely affect Great Lakes traffic, an effort fully consistent with its author's obvious bias, it fails to provide any support for that proposition. The paper does not show any traffic has been diverted or any jobs loss due to pilotage fees or rate increases to date, and does not even attempt to do so.

Instead, it hypothesizes implausibly large

increases in pilotage rates and concludes that, even though its hypothetical increases would have a relatively minuscule possible effect on our traffic on the Lakes, potentially affecting only a very small percentage of shipments of a single commodity.

"A party with every financial incentive to assert some harm from pilotage rates has, thus, tried, but miserably failed to do so. The Coast Guard and other policymakers should, therefore, rest assured that pilotage rate increases have not affected, and will not affect, traffic or otherwise harm the Great Lakes.

"The American Great Lakes Ports
Association is, nonetheless, falsely representing
the report's conclusion, and the Coast Guard
should set the record straight. Martin
Associates' failure to support the result of its
anti-pilot funders who would like" -- "has not
stopped AGLPA, the client on previous Martin
studies and a lead plaintiff in the current
lawsuit against the Coast Guard, from falsely

misrepresenting the report in order to mislead the public as to the effects of the agency's ratemaking efforts.

"In its September 6th, 2017, press release, AGPLA cites the Martin paper as showing that increases in U.S. pilotage costs on the Great Lakes Seaway System have hurt the regional economy and have led to a loss of 585,890 tons of export grain to the system and have shipped through coal supports instead. The AGPLA claims The Martin paper makes no are simply false. effort to determine whether the 2016 increases, which it asserts range from 40 to 90 percent, caused a diversion of any cargo from the Great Instead, it seeks to determine, through the use of an undisclosed logistics cost model, whether there will be such diversion, similar increases in U.S. pilotage that occurs over the There have been no such similar next year. increases. To the contrary, the agency has instituted a decrease in the 2017 rates.

"The Martin paper does not offer even

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anecdotal evidence that a single ton of cargo, grain or otherwise, was diverted in 2016 or has been diverted in 2017 as a result of pilotage rates, although it, presumably, could have asked AGLPA and its other anti-pilot funders to provide such evidence, if it existed.

"We, therefore, ask the Coast Guard take immediate steps to assure the public that the Martin report prepared for" -- "it does not support the claims that the AGPLA is falsely making about it and does not speak for the U.S. Coast Guard. Allowing these false claims to go unaddressed risks unwarranted harm to the reputation of the pilotage system and the reputation of the Coast Guard itself.

"As you know, many individuals may not read the report itself, but, instead, rely on the representations of the AGLPA and others about the Coast Guard study. This means AGLPA's false statements must be corrected publicly and authoritatively, or they could well persist.

"Additional observations. The above

is, in our view, sufficient to discredit the Martin report. We do not intend any further discussion to suggest we're endorsing its methodology or conclusions. We note, however, that even on its own terms, the report undermines on many levels the claims of harm from pilotage rates that the anti-pilot interests who have long funded the Martin efforts seek to advance.

"As noted above, the Martin report does not attempt to analyze any increases in pilotage rates that have either occurred or are likely to occur, but, rather, it attempts to assess the effect of a 40 to 90 percent increase in 2017 on top of the increases from 2016. Of course, no such 40 to 90 percent increases have been proposed for 2017. Instead, the Coast Guard kept the rates at the same level for most of the year and has recently announced a very significant decrease in those rates going forward, based on a change in its method of projecting revenues in the ratemaking process purposes.

"Nor does the study provide any basis for suggesting that further increases of 40 to 90 percent over the 2016 rates are even remotely possible. 2016 rates did increase substantially over 2015 levels, primarily because pilotage had been underfunded for many years previously, resulting in what the agency has found to be a \$20 million shortfall in the system from 2005 to 2014. There is no reason to posit a similar catchup increase for 2017. And, in fact, the Coast Guard has set 2017 rates lower, not higher.

"We also note that, even under the implausible scenario of 40 to 90 percent additional rate increases posited in the study, the Martin report does not assess any loss of general cargo, iron ore, stone aggregates, solid dry or other liquid bulk cargoes, coal, petroleum products, wind energy, or unallocated cargo, which comprise over 93 percent of the cargo on the Lakes, but looks only at steel and grain, which it asserts are particularly sensitive to shipping costs.

"As to steel, the study concludes that increases of 42 to 55 percent would not result in any steel becoming non-cost-competitive on the Lakes. In other words, not a single ton of steel would be diverted, even by additional increases of 42 to 55 percent over the 2016 rates.

"As to grain shipments, the report suggests that, even an implausible further 40 to 90 percent increase in pilotage rates, a very small percentage of the current grain cargoes, and 586,000 out of over 21 million tons could be diverted to coal supports. But it makes no assessment whatsoever as to the likelihood of this diversion occurring, nor could it do so, because it arbitrarily assumes that all of the many other factors that conceivably drive the levels of cargo moving in other trades would be ignored, and that diversion decisions made only on Martin's assessment of relative shipping costs with other factors remaining the same and not being taken into consideration.

"Any assertion that the Martin paper

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shows that these grain diversions would occur or even would be likely to occur, if rates went up another 40 to 90 percent over current levels, is, thus, entirely unsupported by the analysis. And as set out above, the assertion that the paper shows any diversion at all occurred as a result of the 2016 rates is simply false.

"Finally, as noted above, the Martin paper makes no effort to look at what actually happened to the traffic in 2016, asserting that the data was not available at the time of the study. It is available now and shows that grain shipments in 2016 increased by 3.8 percent in the seaway, 5.4 percent in the Montreal/Lake Ontario section, 1.4 in the Welland Canal section. Moreover, like the Coast Guard itself stated in a recently-released 2017 rate rule, that its data indicates that demand for pilotage services in 2016 was greater than 2015, and that demand for pilotage services through June 2017 is trending around 20 percent higher than the 10-year average for the 2017 shipping season.

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"Again, many factors can affect the level of cargo shipments, none of which Martin Associates accounts for in its report. But these figures provide additional evidence that the 2016 rate increases did not harm Great Lakes traffic.

"In conclusion, it is not clear which is more remarkable, that the firm with such obvious conflict of interests as Martin Associates would issue a study that suggests an imprimatur from the Coast Guard without disclosing the full extent of the conflict or that firm's resulting effort would so miserably fail to reach, much less support, its predetermined conclusion that increased pilotage rates have had, or plausibly might have, an effect on Great Lakes traffic. An unbiased firm would have candidly acknowledged that there are many ways in which the report fails to support its conclusion, rather than trying to present phony cargo diversion and job loss numbers that represent no plausible scenario, and that can be misused, as AGLPA has the suggested conclusions

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of harm that the study in no way supports. 1 2 Again, if even a source so clearly biased against the pilots can so completely fail to support any 3 claims of harm, the Coast Guard should have 4 5 considerable comfort in concluding that no such harm exists." 6 7 And again, it's signed by the three 8 Presidents of the Great Lakes pilots. 9 CHAIRMAN TANNER: Thank you. 10 Any other members? 11 Dan Gallagher. CPT GALLAGHER: 12 Mr. Gungor, you said that you're not the resident expert in your office. 13 I believe 14 your office is probably an hour and a half away from here. You found \$304,750 of taxpayers' 15 16 money to do the study. Yet, you can't send 17 somebody to a very important meeting with 18 questions about this? 19 (No response.) 20 I guess, if you can't answer the 21 questions, who within your office would we contact to get the correct answer? 22

MR. GUNGOR: Sir, this is Ali Gungor.

I don't have a good answer for you at this time. I suppose, well, I would defer to my program office, if they would say anything on the tables.

CPT GALLAGHER: Okay. Mr. Gungor, now that you've heard a little bit that's in the report, I don't know, maybe you haven't had the time to read it. So now, are there actual costs that were used in this report to these job losses or projected?

MR. GUNGOR: My understanding is that Martin Associates did their study using the previous data and they used the 2010 model. they also surveyed the industry and they used some investment data. This doesn't mean necessarily that this is a prospective. for all intents and purposes, a retrospective Yet again, they've done what they've study. done. This is an independent study that we commissioned. We do this all the time at Coast Guard. And this is in response to the public

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comments that we received to look at the secondary impacts. And this is what exactly we've done.

I mean, I understand the amount, sir, of money spent. You mentioned as such, but we're trying to understand, you know, what potential impacts of the pilotage rate increase or decrease, whichever way, so we can get informed. We're trying to understand. That's the extent of the study.

And I'm not sure if any of the conclusions or just some of the job losses, or whatever they said on the executive summary and elsewhere -- essentially, we didn't use any of this in our ratemaking that I know of. So, this is simply a study, and it's typically done in my office and in different program offices at Coast Guard. And again, I emphasize this is in response to the comments, the public comments, we received, that we felt like we had to investigate that, and we do not typically do that kind of regulatory analysis when we do our impact

analysis. This is not part of it.

CPT BOYCE: This is John Boyce.

Why was this study done by your office rather than the Pilotage Office? Because it seems rather obvious to anybody with even a cursory idea, I mean even the vagueness, of how any of the dynamics work in the system, that this study is so far in left field. That you think you learned anything from this study shows that people have no idea how this works.

So, I guess I ask -- you know, there's one office in the Coast Guard that it's tasked with understanding how the system works. So, with that, that base knowledge, why didn't that entity, i.e., the Pilotage Office, conduct a study on impacts?

MR. GUNGOR: Sir, again, if I understood you correctly, why did we do this study in my office? Well, we support our program office in various capacities. It's one of those economic impact analyses.

Yet again, as I said at the very

beginning, and I just said it a few minutes ago, that we typically look at the primary impacts, not the secondary impacts. This is the secondary impact analysis that Martin Associates did on their own using their own model. The independence, they've used their database. And, you know, this is a study; this is not the study, and we don't rely on this study to inform our ratemaking.

CPT BOYCE: Well, if you don't rely on this study to impact ratemaking, it really draws a question of why it was done.

Further to this, when you mentioned earlier the stakeholders that were reportedly reached out to. I will say that John Martin did call me, and we were told -- at least I was specifically told that we will be able to see a draft version of the report and there would be some further interaction, which there absolutely was not.

Also, why was there no public comment or any vision of this before it was accepted by

MR. GUNGOR: I hear you, sir, and we don't necessarily order or exactly guide on a very detailed basis how the contractors should work. As I said earlier, they're independent in many ways, and they know the industry better than, you know, just many other people. That's

why we call them, quote/unquote, "experts".

the Coast Guard, as we were told there would be?

And then, they've used the previous model similar to that. I mean, 2004, they've done a very similar study. And the findings are this time different. Of course, we didn't use again, I believe, the 2004 study to inform any of the pilots' rates.

So, I'm sorry they didn't contact you.

Were they supposed to contact you? I don't know.

I mean, I would hope so, if you had this

conversation with Martin Associates yourself.

CPT BOYCE: Well, that's true, but I would further suggest that the information was collected under false pretenses for this study, being that we were told there would be further

contact and we would see a draft version, and that was absolutely not the case.

Are there concerns in your office of the study or is it being blindly accepted?

This is, as I say -- I MR. GUNGOR: mean, let me emphasize the independence of the contractor. You know, we are not -- I got the first question from your panel early on as, have we ordered how to do the study? No. I mean, they have their own models. I mean, to a certain extent, I understand there are different ways or different perspectives on whether they're biased or unbiased. But the Coast Guard used Martin Associates in the past, and they are, you know, widely known as experts in this area. through my understanding. And, of course, you go to this previous group to have a similar study to be conducted. So, this is almost like the same. The conclusions are different this time.

Do we accept it? Well, we accepted the report as they are. We're not questioning the modeling and everything else. And the most

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important thing, it doesn't inform our rates, our ratemakings.

So, this doesn't lead to anything.

We're not using this study's conclusions anywhere
that I'm aware of.

DFO KHANDPUR: If I may interject here, so the Coast Guard basically does these studies on a routine basis. These are economic studies that are done by the Regulatory Office. When we put out a rule, you have to do a regulatory analysis; you have to do an economic analysis, which is not done by the program office, to answer your first question. So, the program office basically deals with the program issues and, then, all the regulatory issues and the economic analyses are done by the reg folks. And they do this because they had the 2004 study.

And one of the comments was, hey, you've got an old study. Do you have an updated study of that?

And so, it does not mean that the Coast Guard is going to blindly act on what they

receive. We received this documentation. 1 2 is only one piece of the evidence, and it may or may not at all influence. In fact, this goes 3 4 into a regulatory analysis. It does not 5 influence the rulemaking in any shape, way, or 6 form. CPT BOYCE: Okay. 7 I'll ask you, 8 Do you and your office have concerns with Rajiv. 9 this study? DFO KHANDPUR: Well, again, it 10 11 depends. What I was told by the economic folks, 12 the economists, they are looking at only one 13 section. They're saying, everything else held 14 constant, if you move this one, then this is the result. And I'm not an economist to understand 15 16 all of those issues, so, to me, it's not an I am not even using it. 17 issue. 18 CPT BOYCE: So, your office is not 19 even going to use the study? 20 DFO KHANDPUR: It's got nothing to do 21 with me, no. 22 CPT GALLAGHER: Rajiv, I just have one more question. Are you concerned with all the proprietary data that has been used? Anytime something is done with us, if there's any mention of anything proprietary, it automatically cannot be used.

DFO KHANDPUR: Are you referring to

DFO KHANDPUR: Are you referring to the study, proprietary data on this study?

CPT GALLAGHER: Yes, sir.

DFO KHANDPUR: Okay. Like I said, I have not even looked at it from that standpoint. That's the Reg Office. They have their standard procedures, whatever they do. We don't view the study, correct.

CHAIRMAN TANNER: Okay. Any other Committee members? John, yes, please.

CPT SWARTOUT: Swartout.

Just one more bite at the apple here. This is mentioned on page 50 of the study in a footnote, which is kind of hard to read and it kind of brings to attention the idea that this is a study that laymen will use or could use. It's poorly written, and I don't know how an expert

could understand it, but I'm even more concerned how laymen, a ratemaker would use it.

But, regarding this footnote, the study doesn't identify at what level of U.S. pilotage rates cargo would begin to be at risk of diversion. The lowest increase they even considered showing any potential impact on cargo is a 53.57 percent increase, which is ludicrous. But now that the 2017 Final Rule actually reduced rates by about 10 percent on a trade-rated basis, it would take a 70 percent increase to get us to that theoretical 53 percent increase that they studied.

so, I suggest that we take up a resolution in light of all this evidence that you presented. I would like to propose a resolution. I'm not firmly committed to every word of this. This is a draft resolution. I think maybe you should talk about this draft resolution and consider how we might edit it to ensure that everybody on the Committee is comfortable with it.

Okay. 1 CHAIRMAN TANNER: Before we do 2 that, let's open it up, for the documents that have been submitted, let's open it up to the 3 4 public right now. Then we can come back to any 5 action the Committee wants to make. Does the public have any comments 6 7 pertaining to the documents that have been passed 8 around or this subject? 9 (No response.) I assume there's no public comments. 10 Now back to the Committee. 11 12 John, you're proposing a motion. Go 13 ahead. 14 MR. DIAMOND: Mr. Tanner? 15 CHAIRMAN TANNER: Yes, Clay? 16 MR. DIAMOND: Clay Diamond with the American Pilots. 17 18 I just want to emphasize that I think 19 it was just repeated again by Mr. Gungor that the Martin study looked at existing or past rates. 20 21 It think anybody who even does a cursory read of 22 the study would understand that it doesn't do

1	that. What it does is, as has been said by a
2	number of the members of the Committee, what it
3	does is look at what might happen if rates were
4	dramatically increased in 2017. That's what the
5	study looked at. It never looked at what
6	happened in the current '16 rates when the study
7	was done. It looked at what might happen if
8	rates were dramatically increased. So,
9	certainly, it's prospective; it's not
10	retrospective. I just wanted to clarify that. A
11	plain reading of the study would show that.
12	CHAIRMAN TANNER: Thank you.
13	Any other public comments?
14	(No response.)
15	Okay. I assumed there are none. Now
16	back to the Committee.
17	John Swartout, you had
18	CPT SWARTOUT: I don't know what
19	number we're on as far as resolutions, if we're
20	going to put a number on this one for today, or
21	is that important?
22	CHAIRMAN TANNER: No. 4.

1	CPT SWARTOUT: I move that the
2	Committee adopt Resolution No. 4 urging the Coast
3	Guard not to use the June 28, 2017 Martin
4	Associates study in the formulation of any future
5	U.S. Great Lakes pilotage rates.
6	CHAIRMAN TANNER: Okay. We have a
7	motion.
8	CPT BOYCE: Is that to include, is
9	that motion to include
LO	CPT SWARTOUT: It's the one that just
L1	was passed out, and now it's labeled No. 4.
L2	CPT BOYCE: Do we need to read the
L3	entire thing into to consider that part of the
L 4	motion?
L5	CHAIRMAN TANNER: Do you want to read
L6	that, John?
L7	CPT SWARTOUT: I'm happy to read it.
L8	CHAIRMAN TANNER: Okay, go ahead. If
L9	you would, read that into
20	CPT SWARTOUT: Okay. I will read the
21	draft resolution.
22	"Knowing that the Great Lakes Pilotage

Advisory Committee is charged with providing advice and recommendations to the U.S. Coast Guard on matters relating to Great Lakes pilotage;

"Recognizing that the mandate that the U.S. Coast Guard, as a competent pilotage authority for the Great Lakes, is to oversee a safe, efficient, and effective pilotage service to protect the environment, shipping, the port facilities, and the public from maritime accidents, not to promote the shipping industry;

"Recalling that during 2004 to 2014
the U.S. Great Lakes Pilotage System has been
underfunded by more than \$20 million which led to
an insufficient number of pilots and inadequate
supporting infrastructure, which, in turn,
resulted in increased risk of pilot fatigue and
delays to shipping;

"Noting that following complaints from shipowners over shipping delays and recommendations from the National Transportation Safety Board concerning the risks of mariner and

pilot fatigue, the U.S. Coast Guard established pilotage rates for the Great Lakes to correct longstanding, persistent, and serious problems with Great Lakes pilotage, the established rates were based on a reasonable target compensation for U.S. pilots comparable to Canadian pilots doing similar work and increasing the complement of U.S. pilots to avoid shipping delays and risks and related accidents;

"Following complaints from shipowners and port interests over pilotage rates, the U.S. Coast Guard opted to have its Office of Standards, Evaluation, and Development, CG-REG, not the Great Lakes Pilotage Division, CG-WWM-2, contract John C. Martin Associates, LLC,

`Martin,' to conduct a study of potential impacts of pilotage rates on Great Lakes shipping.

"Considering that in purporting to forecast negative economic impacts for the Great Lakes in 2017 and beyond due to U.S. pilotage rates, Martin ignored actual data for Great Lakes shipping and pilotage demand in 2016 and 2017,

which shows clearly that cargo movement is up significantly, understanding that the study is of questionable validity due to past financial relationships between Martin and shipping interests, a notable lack of transparency underlying its methodology and conclusions and unrealistic assumptions;

"Whereas, the 2017 Martin study reached the same conclusion as the prior study in 2014 that there would have to be a more than doubling of pilotage rates to have any impact on the routing of shipping on the Great Lakes, but the negative wording of the report and its confusing conclusions are easily susceptible to misinterpretation;

"Therefore, the Great Lakes Pilot
Advisory Committee recommends that the U.S. Coast
Guard, through its Great Lakes Pilotage Division,
not consider or take into account the 2017 Martin
study in the formulation of any future U.S. Great
Lakes pilotage rates."

CHAIRMAN TANNER: Okay. Is that your

1	motion?
2	CPT SWARTOUT: Yes.
3	CPT BOYCE: I'll second that.
4	CHAIRMAN TANNER: We have a second.
5	Further discussion of John Swartout's
6	motion?
7	(No response.)
8	Being no questions or discussion, all
9	those in favor of this Motion No. 4?
10	(Chorus of ayes.)
11	Those opposed?
12	The motion carries. Thank you.
13	Is there anything to add pertaining to
14	the determining of pilot compensation? From Mr.
15	Gungor? Was this study
16	MR. GUNGOR: I don't have anything to
17	add, sir.
18	CHAIRMAN TANNER: Go ahead.
19	MR. GUNGOR: Sir, I don't have
20	anything to add.
21	CHAIRMAN TANNER: Okay. We'll
22	conclude. This area is complete then.

1	We'll move on to the next area.
2	CPT GALLAGHER: John?
3	CHAIRMAN TANNER: Yes?
4	CPT GALLAGHER: I actually do have a
5	question on the Pilot Compensation Study. When
6	they're going to do this study, what parameters
7	or what are they going to look at? Are they
8	going to look at pilot versus like a taxicab
9	driver, or are we going to compare pilots to
10	pilots in the U.S., on the U.S. side?
11	CHAIRMAN TANNER: Is that a
12	question
13	CPT GALLAGHER: A question to Mr.
14	Gungor, I believe.
15	MR. GUNGOR: Is that a question for
16	me, sir? I mean, I have my program office reps
17	over there.
18	CPT GALLAGHER: Yes, sir, that's a
19	question for you.
20	MR. GUNGOR: Okay. Well, it should be
21	pilot-to-pilot, I suppose. I mean, the way I
22	understand the question, definitely.

1	CPT GALLAGHER: Okay. When you say
2	"pilot," you're talking federally-registered
3	pilots, state-registered pilots, the same people
4	that are doing the same jobs that we're doing
5	within the United States? Is that the parameters
6	you have set for this? Or, I mean, are there
7	parameters that you could share with us where we
8	could take a look at it?
9	MR. GUNGOR: Are we talking about this
10	study, the Martin Associates study, or are we
11	talking about the ratesmaking?
12	CPT BOYCE: Well, this is John Boyce.
13	Maybe to clarify, can we get the task
14	statement for this study? For the Pilot
15	Compensation Study?
16	DFO KHANDPUR: Ali, this is Rajiv.
17	The question they're asking is, the
18	Reg Office did the Martin Associates study, and
19	then, they're also doing a Pilot Compensation
20	Study. And so, the question is related to the
21	Pilot Compensation Study. Do you have
22	MR. GUNGOR: Okay, I'm sorry.

DFO KHANDPUR: Okay.

MR. GUNGOR: Is this the current study that -- we tasked one contractor to review compensation methodologies and, you know, the corresponding data sources. And the contract will validate the current methods and recommend to the Coast Guard the most appropriate method for setting targets for U.S. Great Lakes pilotage compensation as part of the ratemaking process.

This study has been kicked off at the end of June, and we don't have any deliverables yet. We don't have any additional study yet.

And there will be a draft report for March 2018.

My understanding, it's going to be presented, there will be a meeting presentation, GLPAC meeting presentation targeted for sometime in July 2018.

CPT BOYCE: Okay. I'll ask you, then, Rajiv. Can we get the task statement for the study?

DFO KHANDPUR: I can do it.

CPT BOYCE: Thank you.

1 CPT GALLAGHER: And can we also get 2 the cost of the study, please? John asked for the task statement and 3 4 the cost of the study. CHAIRMAN TANNER: Okay. 5 Any other Committee questions on this subject? 6 7 Swartout? 8 CPT SWARTOUT: Yes. From what Ali 9 just said, he just kind of alluded to the task statement, but it sounds similar to the one that 10 11 was given to MSI for the bridge hour study, which 12 they didn't really produce. They talked about 13 pilot compensation, but they came out with no 14 methodologies that are used to determine pilot 15 compensation in other jurisdictions. I hope the contractor chosen for this study does a better 16 17 job than MSI did with the same task. 18 CHAIRMAN TANNER: Any other? 19 (No response.) 20 Does the public have any questions on 21 the pilot target, the pilot study on 22 compensation?

1	(No response.)
2	Again, back to the Committee.
3	(No response.)
4	If not, I assume this subject is
5	complete.
6	Since we've already had our break,
7	let's move on to the compensation practices. If
8	each of the Association Presidents could address
9	this regarding compensation practices for
10	partners and apprentice pilots? I'll start with
11	Captain Swartout.
12	CPT SWARTOUT: I'm going to talk about
13	partners and applicant pilots, sometimes called
14	apprentices.
15	At Western Great Lakes Pilots
16	Association, the compensation practices are
17	spelled out in our Bylaws. Applicant pilots and
18	partner pilots are treated almost identically for
19	purposes of benefits.
20	Every partner, every pilot employee
21	gets a benefit package consisting of several
22	insurances: health insurance that applies to the

individual and their family, if they have one and if they choose to -- you know, if they have a spouse that's covered under a plan and they would prefer to be under their own plan, they can do that, but the company will provide individual and family coverage for each partner and each applicant pilot.

We have a high-deductible healths savings account plan that covers everybody. We fund the health savings account at the maximum level allowed by law for each of the partners, but not the applicant pilots. And the reason we don't do it for the applicant pilots is because they may leave and they just left with an HSA with money that we put in there. So, instead of doing that, we self-insure medical expenses that would be covered by insurance up to the amount of the policy deductible for each applicant pilot.

Partner pilots are all paid the same rate for each day available to work. Currently, that amount is \$350 a day. There are variations in what one pilot earns versus another pilot

because they work different numbers of days. And if they work when they're not scheduled to work, such as during the season -- let me give you an example.

A ship crosses a lake. There's storm conditions and the ship has to go to anchor. It can't get into port under these conditions, and that pilot was supposed to be ashore that night to start scheduled rest and he can't get off.

So, he's still working the next day. That's an overtime day. He's going to be paid two-and-ahalf times the \$350 daily rate, and for that day, he will also get a year-end distribution, which I'll talk about in a minute.

So, there is such a thing as overtime, and I've just described one example of it.

There's also what we consider pre-season/post-season work; that is, any work performed or being on the roll available to perform work up until April 16th, at which time everybody goes on the roll, if they haven't already started working.

The same thing after December 15th,

anyone who works after December 15th also is paid at a premium rate for being available during what we call the off-season. People go to work on a volunteer basis at the beginning of the season. The first couple of ships come in; we don't need a lot of pilots on the rolls. So, we start them just on a volunteer basis. So, you have one pilot starting possibly March 26th; some don't start until April 16th. So, the basic season is about 180 days, but it's completely possible for someone to work over 200 days.

But there is no differential pay scale for partner pilots. We have different areas of assignment. Five pilots are assigned to the same they deliver, and that's their primary area of assignment. All of our pilots work everywhere in the District. So, if the river is covered and we need a pilot for another area of the District, one of those river pilots will be sent out to take that other job.

The same thing, normally, we have three or four U.S. pilots on duty in the river

and one Canadian pilot all the time. And if that's not enough to cover the traffic one day, we'll bring in one of the normal trans-lake pilots to do a river job. But it doesn't make any difference where they work; the rate of pay is the same.

The same thing applies to myself, the President. By virtue of being President, our office is in Superior, Wisconsin. That's my area of assignment. I'm a Duluth/Superior harbor pilot. So, most harbor moves in the port are done by me if I'm present. They're done by other pilots if I'm not there. There might be one happening today; I don't know.

But I'm paid the same rate as anybody else. I don't get a premium for being President. I don't get any perks for being President other than the ability to walk the role and come to meetings like this.

There is a little bit different pay scale if you do company business on what is normal rest time, excluding the winter. The

President is expected to do company business all winter without compensation. But, when I go off of scheduled rest to go to a meeting, I am paid at two times the daily rate, no year-end distribution for that day. So, I would get \$700 for today if this was supposed to be a rest day.

Now what's this year-end distribution that I'm talking about? We are a limited liability partnership. We have revenue and we have expenses. For the duration of the season, pilot compensation is an expense. This is for bookkeeping purposes. It's not for Coast Guard ratemaking purposes. There's a distinction there.

But, when we come to the end of the year and the books are closed, and all the revenue is in and all the expenses have been paid, all of the salaries to the dispatchers and office people, all of the office rent, pilot boat expenses, all the expenses, there is, hopefully, money left over. And that money is divided amongst the partners primarily on the basis of

the number of days they were available. So, it's the same amount for each day available. Some pilots get more; some get less because they work, more or less, days.

Now let me go back to what benefits just for a minute. Although, because of the methodology, the Coast Guard treats pilot compensation as wages and benefits, as a company we treat benefits as a company expense. In other words, if I have a family and large medical bills, the cost of my benefits might be as high as \$40,000. I think that was the highest amount of benefits that anybody got last year as a partner.

Another person might be single, no dependents. Their health insurance is going to be vastly, if they're healthy, vastly less than someone that's got a family, obviously. So, my total benefits last year were \$16,000. So, when you look at my compensation versus the partner that had \$40,000 worth of benefits, it's going to show he made \$25,000 more than I did when you

combine pay and benefits.

So, that accounts for the high and the low, when you look at the lowest-compensated partner and the highest-compensated partner.

Yes, there is a difference. Is it because they're compensated at different scales? No, it isn't.

That covers partners. Now let me talk about applicant pilots. I'm going to refer to our Bylaws, and I will sound an alarm when I'm finished, just in case anybody falls asleep.

When we hire people, if they are in the training program and they're hired within an Unlimited Great Lakes Master's License, we start them out at \$350 per day available. Temporary registered applicant pilots in the training program with an Unlimited Great Lakes Master's License are paid \$400 per day available. And this is for the first year in both cases.

If we hired someone with a Great Lakes
Unlimited Master's License or an identical
license -- so know an ocean license is

equivalent, but, of course, you have to have a Great Lakes pilotage endorsement for us to consider this, and you have at least 18 months of service as a Master on a Great Lakes domestic vessel, unlimited tonnage. You would start out at \$500 per day available.

And the first one I talk about who gets \$350 a day, that moves up to \$400 a day after the first year. And if he happens to be training in a third year, it would go up to \$500 a day. The same thing with the one that starts at \$400 a day; he would move up to \$500 a day in his second year. There is no compensation more than \$500 a day.

There is a possibility of a bonus for applicant pilots. And that is at the discretion of the partners. Sometimes we do it; sometimes we don't. And if we do it, it's usually based on the performance and initiative shown by the applicant.

In addition, the applicant pilots reach a point in their training where they are

able to do work on their own, for which they 1 2 bill. And when they do that, when they are working or available to work, they are paid a 3 4 portion of the year-end distribution that is paid 5 to the partner pilots, and that's currently 10 6 percent. 7 So, in order to determine what the 8 year-end distribution is going to be, you would 9 have to take the total number of man-days plus the 10 percent of the man-days worked by the 10 11 applicants, lump that all together, and divide by the total number of man-days. And now, you come 12 13 up with a day available pay. 14 I think I've covered it. 15 CHAIRMAN TANNER: Thank you very much, 16 John. 17 Any Committee members questions of 18 John? 19 (No response.) 20 Any public questions of John? 21 (No response.) 22 Okay, none. We'll move to Captain

Gallagher then.

CPT GALLAGHER: Okay, John. I think mine should be a little bit simpler than John's, first.

when we first bring an applicant pilot on, they get 100 percent of the benefits from day one when they start. Anything that a full registered pilot gets, whether he's been there a week or 30 years, everybody gets the same benefit.

Compensation, we put them at 75
percent until they get working and, then, we have
a gradual increase to 85 percent and, then, 95
percent. If he has to go more than the second
year, which we anticipate a couple might have to,
they remain on the 95 percent. As soon as they
become a partner, they're 100 percent equal.

Everything is paid on a days available. We actually pay ourselves \$250 a day salary. And what happens after we pay the bills and we get out of the bank after we are solvent and everything, if we have extra money, we could

put special pays out. We usually wait, hold off towards the end of the year for that because, if there was a lock go down or something happened and we didn't have the funds to continue on, we play it very safe, just like District 3 does, with the year-end distributions.

So, at the year-end when we pay all the bills and we know everything is paid for, we've got the stock money that we buy into when a person comes here. That money, ours is fully funded. So, that money is there at the end of the year for expenses to get us by until the next season.

At the year-end distribution, what we do is it's all based on days available. If you answer the phone, you're available. If they call and you need to go to a wedding or need a sick day, that day will be taken away from you.

Unless we have a medical, we really haven't had anybody do that. We have had a couple of guys that had to go off for back surgery or one guy broke his arm, so he was off a couple of months.

1	That's the only time there will be a differential
2	in the overtime I mean in the compensation.
3	We used to pay overtime for people
4	going through change points way back in the day
5	when we used to do that. We don't do that
6	anymore. So, basically, that's the only
7	differential in compensation.
8	So, a guy could be there for 30 years,
9	40 years, or a guy could have started out his
10	first year as a full partner. If he answers the
11	phone every day, at the end of the year he makes
12	the same amount of compensation.
13	CHAIRMAN TANNER: Okay. Thank you
14	very much.
15	Any questions with Committee members
16	of Dan?
17	(No response.)
18	If none, audience, any questions?
19	(No response.)
20	The public has none.
21	Okay. Captain Boyce?
22	CPT BOYCE: This may be the simplest

1	one of all. When we start off coming in the pier
2	training phase, i.e., he or she is always
3	standing next to another pilot, not on a boat by
4	himself at all, if they're training on the lake,
5	it's \$350 per day on a ship; if they're training
6	on the river, it's \$450 per day on ship. Once
7	they are able to work on their own, then
8	everybody makes the same amount.
9	Based on actual cashflow, we do
10	distributions on the 10th, the 20th, and the 30th
11	of every month. And on those days, you look at
12	actual cash on hand, actual expenses that have
13	been paid out or either are presumed to come due
14	in the next 10 days, to get available cash, and
15	divide it by 17, and that's what everybody gets.
16	CHAIRMAN TANNER: Okay. Thank you
17	very much.
18	Any questions from the Committee?
19	(No response.)
20	If none, public, any questions of
21	Captain Boyce?

(No response.)

Assuming no questions, we'll move on. 1 2 I've been told Mr. Fisher is not coming. this next item will not be addressed. 3 Correct? DFO KHANDPUR: Correct. 4 Okay. 5 CHAIRMAN TANNER: Could we, then, move to the staffing and dispatch that was 6 7 scheduled for this afternoon? Okay, Mr. Berg? 8 MR. BERG: Can you hear me? 9 CHAIRMAN TANNER: Yes. 10 MR. BERG: Good. 11 We understand that there has been an 12 increase in cruise ships and voluntary pilotage 13 requests in the last few years. Currently, 14 pilots are ordered with a 12-hour notice request by the vessel's agent on a first-come, first-15 16 served basis. 17 We know that the Great Lakes System 18 was built by the southeast trading within the 19 inner course of the U.S. and Canada. As written 20 in regulation, these vessels require pilotage. 21 Recently, it has been brought to our

attention by Captain Swartout there's numerous

cruise ships requiring pilotage services also.

These vessels also come through District 1 and

District 2, and then, they tool around in

District 3.

Then, we also have other vessels requesting voluntary pilots. The southeast schedule is based on availability of the dockside for loading and unloading cargo and availability of registered pilots. Vessels requiring voluntary are at the mercy of the available pilots.

However, cruise ships are a different animal. They're on the time schedule promised to the paying customers on the vessel. They request constant pilotage to meet their schedules. If the pilots are not available, it messes up their itineraries.

All the different industries I have mentioned believe they should get preferential treatment for pilotage. We are interested in hearing the discussion on the topics and any recommendations the Committee may have. What, if

anything, to do with these scenarios. Please take into consideration the staffing model is reactive to traffic, but not based on historic traffic.

Is the 2017 staffing model adequate? Should we maintain the status quo? Should we add more pilots? And if we add more pilots for these cruise ships, and voluntary, what do we do when the season is slow or we don't have cruise ships in the system? Or do we change the order in dispatching?

We're interested in discussion and your recommendations.

CPT BOYCE: On a couple of those topics, one, in past practice years ago, with the staffing models, the pilot numbers were always rounded up. That seemed to be a rational decision. You can't have point-anything of a person. People come in whole units.

And even the current 2017 rate, it goes on to discuss, as rational for rounding through pilot numbers, the workload of the three

District Presidents, which almost unquestionably has increased considerably over the years. Yet, in the staffing model, the pilot numbers, we were 17-point-something -- I forget off the top of my head what the fraction was -- 17.3, something like that and it rounded down, which just seems counterintuitive that you would use the rounding to make up for the President's duties, but take away a partial person in that calculation.

It would almost on its face seem that you have to round up, if you're going to take into account extra duties incurred by something. So, I would say, you know, for my District at least, instead of rounding from 17.3 down to 17, it should be rounded from 17 up to 18. You know, the President's workload, while it's something that has to be done and is unending, and there's no balance of days of rest or limits of the season, is nearly impossible to capture on something like Klein or the general data-intensive models. It's all the time every time.

And also, when you start looking at

trying to capture the data, you can't quantify in a way. It almost drives it so a President a group has to stay off the tour and only be able to work on a really case-by-case basis.

Otherwise, you're going to be running into fatigue issues all the time from being on a work-related phone call, at a meeting, conference call, what have you. There's things that just don't jive in real life versus data on paper.

That was my comment on the rate model -- or the staffing model as it stands.

Also, it's becoming obvious that a 10year rolling average is there for data, but
difficult to work with. It comes into how you
retain pilotage and keep a consistent pilot
number. Pilots are a quantity you can drive up
and down on a yearly basis. It takes years to
make a pilot. You can't drop one tomorrow and,
then, add three more the next year in response to
the fluidity of traffic. Everyone knows that the
traffic becomes cyclic and it goes up and down.
If you try to calculate it too finely, it loses

meaning in reality. And I think that's a stumbling block the Coast Guard has had over the past few years, is it try to calculate something that's just not that short-term of an evolution. It's years.

another longstanding issue is the whole recruitment/retention. If you start laying off pilots, essentially, because of averaging numbers, then you're not going to be able to get a pilot next year or the year after, the year after. That would be a huge, huge detrimental step to any recruitment of new people. Simply good people are not going to walk away from good jobs knowing the last guy in is the lowest guy in seniority and he may lose his job next year because of a downturn in traffic. It just becomes an absolutely unworkable situation.

One other, just the other topic you had was on dispatch. One, the first-come, first-served basis is quite simple. There is a certain loss in efficiency over that. You know, there

are many times that there may be a short one-hour job that, by rest rules, you don't have to rest after. He could do that assignment and, then, immediately get on another one, take on another assignment that he would have to, then, rest after, but it may not be the first ship.

So, sometimes I would suggest there may be a way to word-in, you know, that dispatch should have it on the most efficient basis, understanding the problem with that becomes there's a subjectivity issue on who decides what is the most efficient way to do things. Whereas, first-come, first-served is very objective. There's no decision. Whoever arrives first is first.

I think if you start -- I don't know if "pitting" is the right word -- but one segment over the other, whether it's the majority of traffic being the ocean bulk or compulsory against the cruise ship which is largely more time-sensitive, but a very small segment, versus the entities that use pilotage on a non-

compulsory basis, but it fits their regulations or charter requirements, if you start pitting the three against each other, I think you're setting up for a bigger fight that isn't necessarily needed.

CPT GALLAGHER: Dan Gallagher.

I'll just echo the rounding-up or rounding-down on numbers that Captain Boyce said.

I think if it's going to be rounded up, very minimum.

As far as the 12-hour notice, ships first-come, first served, if we have a two ships that need a pilot and we can do one with an hour move, as long as it doesn't create harm to the other ship, we will do that. That way, we can utilize a person maybe on two assignments, taking them out of order. But, as long as there's no harm to the ships, we see no harm in it.

As far as the cruise ships, Mr.

Fisher's group, the same group that is suing,

wants it to give them preferential treatment

because they don't want to adequately supply the

proper number of pilots in the system. I believe that it's first-come, first-served.

In our District -- and we'll get into numbers here further down the road -- the only exception we do is we have the abilities of the contract pilots. These are retired pilots that we use from time to time, if somebody has to go off the roll. Just to make sure we maintain the proper amount of pilots that are in the rate, we utilize that.

We have had some non-compulsory tug
and barges, petroleum barges, that use us. If we
see that we're going to get -- they're going to
create a delay, we will, out of our own pocket,
pay for a contract pilot, because there's no way
for us to recoup that amount of money for that
pilot. So, it would actually be the pilots on
the roll that are the ones that are losing the
revenue. We bring that person out to move those
ships. So, we're actually giving more service,
but we use the contract pilots quite a bit. But,
for sure, if have non-compulsory people that want

us, we utilize them or we bring extra additional people at our expense.

CHAIRMAN TANNER:

Captain Swartout?

CPT SWARTOUT: I'm going to take these issues in pretty much the same order as the other people, starting with rounding. I think the 2016 staffing model was a good one. I think it would have produced the correct number of pilots for my District. I'm not sure what happened in the 2017 Final Rule. Supposedly, the Coast Guard ended up using the same model, but we ended with two pilots fewer than we had in the 2016 Final Rule. I don't know if that's because of rounding or what it is.

But the Coast Guard, in the 2016 and I think 2015 Final Rules, has recognized that the Presidents of the Associations have administrative duties that cant' very well be done by anybody else. And so, they recognize that there's a need to have more manpower than just the number of bridge-hour demand would indicate.

But the method for creating that
manpower is not working. It's the rounding. We
round up in order to get the right number of
pilots. Well, that's a ridiculous way to get
there because, if the number indicated by the
methodology is 15.1 pilots, we round up 9/10ths
of a pilot. If it's 15.9 pilots, you round up
1/10th of a pilot. That's doesn't produce any
extra manpower. In the first case, it does; in
the second case, it doesn't.

So, I think there should be an extra pilot just built into the rate to cover the President's administrative responsibilities and forget about the rounding. I mean, I suppose you have to round because the methodology is going to produce a fractional number, but that rounding doesn't accomplish the purpose of providing sufficient manpower to run the Associations.

Our District is different from the others. The memorandum says that we are to dispatch so that the Canadians get 18.9 percent of the work. So, if we hire five pilots,

presumably, the Canadians will hire one pilot.

So, there is a little bit of a boost we get out of increasing manpower, assuming that the Canadians see fit to increase their numbers as well.

The number authorized in the 2017

Final Rule for District 3 is 22. We're currently at 20. That's total number, partners and applicants. We're on a trajectory to keep hiring two a year until we get to the number, and we have retirements starting very soon. There's six pilots in their sixties, and they could all go together or they could be staggered over the next few years. But our hiring needs are not going away over the next few years.

So, I'm not panicked yet about this 22 number as the authorized number because we're not there yet. And when we get there, then I might be screaming it's still not enough.

But, turning to the cruise ship issue, because we've been teetering on the edge of massive delays in the District for the last few

years, our traffic keeps going up, our pilot numbers keep going up, but we're still just barely able to keep the traffic moving. This concerns me because we have cruise ships operating in our District, and they spend more time in our District than they do anyplace else. This last year we had two, each of which spent between two and three months in the District, a total between the two of about 2,000 bridge hours. That's about 5, about 7 percent of the business.

And because I have a concern that
we're not going to be able to serve that segment
of the business, I wrote a letter to the Great
Lakes Cruising Coalition in May, bringing to
their attention the fact that we may not have
enough pilots; that the 2017 NPRM proposed a
reduction in the authorized number in District 3
from 24 down to 17, and if they stuck with that,
I could see no way that we could serve the cruise
ships in the way they need to be served, which is
when they need a pilot, they need it right now or

they're going to lose their schedule and they're going to lose their passengers. Passengers are not going to pay \$6,000 a week for a cruise of which they spend the first three days sitting in anchor at Port Huron because they can't get a pilot. They expect to be able to go around Georgian Bay and Mackinac Island, Sault Ste.

Marie and Chicago, Milwaukee, Holland, all kind of places. Sitting at anchor just that's not going to satisfy their business model.

There's a fundamental difference between cruise ships and cargo ship. If a cargo ship loses a few hours because they have to wait for a pilot, they lose money. If a cruise ship has to wait a few hours for a pilot, they lose their schedule and potentially their entire business. They're going to get a reputation for not being able to deliver what they promise.

And I don't care about one business over another business. It's all business; I like to have it all. I'd like to have even more. But their needs are different, and I want to be able

to take care of the needs and not be limited by a methodology that produces an insufficient number of pilots to serve these ships.

Well, in response to my letter, Mr.

Stephen Burnett -- I think he's the President of
the Cruising Coalition -- told me that, because
there are areas in the world that have been
traditional cruising areas, they're becoming
dangerous because of piracy and terrorism, and so
forth. They're looking for new places to cruise.

There are 55, I believe it's 55 cruise ships in the world that could get into the Great Lakes; they're small enough to come through the locks. And many of them are looking at coming to the Great Lakes.

And he told me to expect within the next two years about five more cruise ships.

This year we have three. We have the Pearl Mist and the Victory I. Currently, we have the Hamburg in our District for a much shorter schedule. But I expect this business to keep increasing.

And you have to keep in mind, a cruise ship in our District is underway about 14 hours That's about triple the demand from every day. one ship as a cargo ship represents. So, when we get a cruise ship in the District, it pretty much takes up all of the output from one pilot for as long as this ship is here, and in some cases it takes an additional pilot because of a short port stay that requires a relief. Because in normal circumstances the ship is in port for 10 hours. One pilot gets his rest at the same time the ship is in port and he can do the next leg. some cases he can't. We've got to find another pilot.

And these are in far-flung areas of the District. Georgian Bay, to get to some ports on Georgian Bay from Duluth/Superior is an 18-hour drive and there are no airports that are close-by. So, it isn't just a matter, oh, I need a pilot in six hours in Midland, Ontario. Unless there's one in Port Huron, it's going to be it's not going to happen.

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Now we know that their schedule is. 1 2 So, we try to plan for it. But the problem is, if we have a shortage -- look at August last 3 4 August, both cruise ships were here. 5 was our busiest month of the season. We had 4,000 bridge hours for American pilots in August. 6 7 We don't control when the peaks come, but if they 8 come when the cruise ships are here, we could be 9 putting them out of business. 10 So, all I'm asking is that that be taken into consideration when we decide how many 11 12 pilots are needed. 13 CHAIRMAN TANNER: Okay. Thank you. 14 Any other -- John? 15 CPT BOYCE: Yes, I've got one other. 16 And that has to do with -- this somewhat spills 17 over to the weighting factors and the revenue 18 side of things. So, I'll save most of it for 19 there. 20 But I think there needs to be a 21 divorce in the bridge hours used for pilot

numbers and for revenue generation. Because the

two areas are contrary to each other, what is created is, basically, a scenario that there ends up a shortfall in one of the two things. If the number is low enough but it generates sufficient revenue, your pilot numbers are held low and traffic flow and fatigue are the outcomes. If the traffic is sufficiently high enough to drive pilot numbers, your denominator in the rate-perhour function starts driving the rate per hour down, and if traffic doesn't come that you have the manpower to service, then your revenues aren't adequate. So, I think there needs to be a divorce in the same bridge hours used for both sides of that equation.

I would even suggest that maybe a better way to look at it for the revenue side is, instead of a 10-year rolling average, to put stability in for pilot numbers, is use the lowest in the last three or five years for the revenue calculation. That way, it becomes more reactive to what traffic is actually doing and it will generate sufficient revenues and give the Coast

1	Guard the ability to essentially remove, I guess,
2	a statistically-significant outlier. So, it
3	would be a one-year, and if it is just an order
4	of magnitude different, you know, not be
5	handicapped with that number. But it would have
6	the effect of also having some degree of
7	stability in the rates if that low number would
8	likely stay for three to five years as your
9	denominator in the equation, not a rolling
10	average where it keeps changing every year. As
11	you add a new year, you drop an old year.
12	CHAIRMAN TANNER: Okay. Thank you.
13	Committee, any more questions? John
14	Swartout?
15	CPT SWARTOUT: Yes, I'm going to make
16	a motion. I move that the Coast Guard undertake
17	to amend any regulations necessary to allow pilot
18	associations to give priority treatment to cruise
19	ships ahead of other kind of ships.
20	CHAIRMAN TANNER: Let's first, before
21	we have a motion, let's let the public address

this area.

Does the public have any comments on this subject?

MR. LEMIRE: Good morning. Robert

Lemire, Great Lakes Pilots Initiative, about the

cruise industry. Well, thank you for hosting

this.

In Canada we do prioritize the cruise industry. We see what it has done for Halifax on the East Coast. We see what the cruise industry has done for Vancouver, and we see what it's doing for Quebec and Montreal. It's revitalizing their traffic, their ports, their industries. It's good news.

We have a bit of a benefit that our different setup in Canada compared to the States -- as you know, we have one big pool of pilots where about a third of our pilots are usually on rest. So, I think there's an agreement amongst our pilots to cover these things as best that we can. We know that our surges of traffic, and we are experiencing that today. We had it last week when the Hamburg came up. We knew we were going

to run out of pilots. And somehow, someone came back from holidays and cut the delay to an hour. So, we do prioritize it.

You know, the cruise industry represents maybe 1 percent of our revenues, but it also represents potentially an increase in the traffic. I think the Seaway is on the record as saying that their locks are about half busy or they can handle 100 percent more traffic, or so on. Most likely, a lot of it will come from the cruise industry. So, we do not want to discourage them. So, at this point in time we do prioritize them.

These comments will be minuted. I know that, and I know that I'll get some comments from the foreign industry, but they really support the system where 90 percent of our revenues come from. I think we do that to encourage them to come in, and the more traffic is -- as Captain Swartout said, we want to do it all, and I think the cruise industry is in a growth mode for the Great Lakes. And still, we

will not hinder it by not providing the pilots.

CHAIRMAN TANNER: Thank you.

Any other public?

MR. BOBAL: Hi. Mark Bobal from D9.

I'm the Passenger Vessel Safety Specialist.

And I just wanted to say we're going to have four boats next year, the Hamburg, the Pearl Mist, the Victory I, and the Victory II.

But I know, as stated before, Stephen Burnett is trying to bring a lot of boats and the business model is going to be Cuba and, then, in the late summer and the fall foliage, it's going to be the Great Lakes.

And the other thing I want to say,
just a statement. We're having problems with
U.S. Customs and with their antiquated machinery.
I just did the Hamburg in Milwaukee. Customs
came onboard at 8:00. The Coast Guard came
onboard at 9:00. They did not clear the
passengers until almost 1300 and they cleared the
crew at 1400. We're waiting to do drills and you
can't block stairwells. Their machines are very

slow.

And I know Stephen Burnett is very frustrated with U.S. Customs. So, Canada might be seeing all the visits and U.S. ports will be passed over. So, just a statement from what I have been seeing here.

CHAIRMAN TANNER: Thank you.

Any other comments from the public sector?

(No response.)

If not, I'm back to the Committee.

Thoughts on this issue?

CPT GALLAGHER: Dan Gallagher.

These cruise ships, they want preferential treatment; yet, they send no representatives here supporting the pilot numbers. On the one hand, they want preferential treatment. They want their ships to move without any delays. On the other hand, when there's comments, they're part of that same group that is suing the Coast Guard because of the staffing model, which is too many pilots. They want less

pilots.

Steve Fisher, who represents the ports, just put out a press release saying: we don't care about delays. If there's delays, it's fine. We accept them.

The ports are the ones that are representing these cruise ships. They should be here speaking for themselves. They're speaking through the media and through backdoors with the Coast Guard about cutting the number of pilots. And yet, they want us to be there when they pull in and pull out.

CHAIRMAN TANNER: Thank you.

CPT BOYCE: Yes, I would, I think, add onto, maybe modify a little bit. If it's envisioned or desired to have a capacity to more adequately meet the needs of the cruise ship industry, I would say that possibly the staffing model needs to be modified, possibly to the tune of how much capacity is needed for the cruise ships, and that number of pilots needs to be added for the cruise industry.

Because you can't have a system that is designed to meet a tolerance of delays and, then, have one segment with no tolerance to delays, and assume one model is going to meet both those needs. You can't; they're incompatible premises.

CHAIRMAN TANNER: Okay.

John Swartout?

Says that they don't care about delays, that they can tolerate them, then, fine, let them tolerate them, but the cruise ships can't tolerate them.

So, I think if we get enough cruise ships that the delays to the cargo ships become substantial because of so many pilots serving cruise ships, then maybe the cargo ship interests will come around and decide, yes, maybe we do need more pilots; there's enough business to support now.

But, you know, the risk is always, to your point, John, when business is good, you need lots of pilots, and when it isn't, you don't need them and you're not generating the revenue to pay

1	them. So, we somehow have to reach a happy
2	medium and, for the time being, recognizing that
3	we're understaffed and there are going to be
4	delays if the traffic and industry is good. I
5	don't want to kill one industry because of trying
6	to be fair to all of them.
7	CHAIRMAN TANNER: Anything else? Any
8	action or motion from this? You have something,
9	John? Okay.
10	CPT SWARTOUT: I want to make my
11	motion that
12	CHAIRMAN TANNER: Yes, go ahead.
13	CPT SWARTOUT: Okay. Here's my
14	motion: I move that, recognizing that we are not
15	yet adequately staffed to eliminate pilotage
16	delays, the Committee recommends the Coast Guard
17	undertake to amend any regulations necessary to
18	allow pilot associations to give priority
19	treatment to cruise ships over other traffic.
20	UNIDENTIFIED AUDIENCE MEMBER: John,
21	can you repeat that?
22	CPT SWARTOUT: I just wrote it down

1	and I didn't read it exactly as I wrote it. So,
2	I'll do my best.
3	UNIDENTIFIED AUDIENCE MEMBER: Can you
4	go slow?
5	CPT SWARTOUT: Sure. Slower is going
6	to help me do it more accurately.
7	Recognizing that we are not yet
8	adequately staffed to eliminate pilotage delays,
9	the GLPAC Committee recommends the Coast Guard to
LO	undertake to amend any regulations necessary to
L1	allow pilot associations to give priority
L2	treatment to cruise ships over other traffic.
L3	CHAIRMAN TANNER: John has made a
L 4	motion. Any
L5	MS. SILAS: Well, first, are there any
L6	edits?
L7	CPT BOYCE: I would say that that
L8	presumes that there's going to be staffing to
L9	eliminate pilotage delays, and I don't think
20	that's necessarily a true premise.
21	CPT SWARTOUT: Staffing is already in
22	the Coast Guard's wheelhouse. They should deal

with it.

CPT BOYCE: Oh, I agree completely,
but that presumes that it's going to be
adequately staffed at some point to eliminate
delays, and I just don't think that's a currently
true premise.

CPT SWARTOUT: Well, then, the priority should stay, in my opinion. If somebody wants to change back in the future, that's fine. We can talk about then. But we've got a problem brewing right now that I want to deal with.

CHAIRMAN TANNER: We have a motion before the group. Is there a second?

(No response.)

Hearing no second, do you wish to make another motion or we'll just move off this subject?

CPT BOYCE: I'd like to modify and go further onto it. I think the bigger premise is, you know, is there a desire to staff to eliminate delays? I think that's a much bigger question, and I understand that one segment needs it or

1	desires it, whichever, more than others. I think
2	to address one without addressing the bigger
3	issue of what's acceptable in delays and
4	unfortunately, Mr. Fisher that's supposed to be
5	having the input on this and has been vocal on
6	other points isn't here to carry that point. I
7	don't know where to go on it.
8	DFO KHANDPUR: If I may, at this point
9	this motion is out there. So, you either amend
10	or you move on.
11	CHAIRMAN TANNER: Yes, this notion
12	hasn't received a second yet. So, I assume it
13	hasn't. So, it is just going to this motion
14	will die. Correct? Okay.
15	Were there any other motions or
16	anything else on this subject?
17	(No response.)
18	Hearing nothing, then we'll move on to
19	the next subject which is weighting factors with
20	Mr. Moyers.
21	MR. MOYERS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
22	So, I'll actually have two topics, if

you notice on the agenda, weighting factors and use of the 10-year rolling average for traffic, which I'll segue into Mr. Boyce's previous discussion on that topic. And I'll start with that.

To give you an explanation of how the current methodology works, we basically have a math problem that takes pilot compensation and reimbursable expenses as the numerator and, then, average bridge hour as the denominator. And that spits out an hourly rate. There's an hourly rate per District, and that's further separated into area, you know, rivers and lakes.

So, the topic is the current methodology uses a 10-year rolling average for traffic to come up with a denominator. There's many ways we can differ from this to provide either more or less movement in the rate.

For example, if we use greater than a 10-year average, it's going to provide a little more stability, but maybe not be as responsive to current trends. We could go all the way down to

a single year and use the previous year's numbers, which would be very current, but it also would have a tendency to create a more volatile rate. And anything in between. We could use a 3-year average, a 10-year average, a 5-year average. So, that's what this topic is about, and we're interested in hearing the Committee's thoughts on that.

CHAIRMAN TANNER: This is on a 10-year average?

Committee?

MR. MOYERS: That's correct. On a 10-year rolling average.

CHAIRMAN TANNER: Any comments from the Committee?

CPT BOYCE: I would bring up again, I think for the rate calculation side of things, that at least a floor concept is looked at versus an average, because a floor will do more of a smoothing function than an average will, because a floor is likely to remain the floor for a number of years. And that, by itself, will cause

a smoothing to or a stabilization to the rate, because that number is likely to be in there, or if it's a floor over the past five years, it's likely to be the same number for all five of those years once it becomes the floor, unless a new floor is coming, which means traffic is diminishing and revenue is needed or the calculation needs to reflect a downward trend in new revenues.

Does that make sense?

MR. MOYERS: Yes. Just to make sure
I'm understanding correctly, so you are
recommending that the rate use the minimum annual
hours across a period, 10-year, whatever, period
per area per District?

CPT BOYCE: I think, for the purposes of divisor in the hourly rate calculation, yes.

If it uses a minimum for pilot complement, in those calculations you won't have enough people.

That's why I brought up before there needs to be a divorce in using that same number in two different places, because they work contrary to

1	each other.
2	CHAIRMAN TANNER: Any other Committee
3	member?
4	(No response.)
5	Hearing none, the public, any
6	questions on this?
7	(No response.)
8	Hearing none, back to the Committee.
9	Anything you would like to do on this?
10	CPT BOYCE: Well, I'll make a motion
11	to explore using a floor for revenue computation.
12	CHAIRMAN TANNER: Again?
13	CPT BOYCE: I'm sorry, I'm not used to
14	people not hearing me.
15	Is there interest in the group to make
16	a resolution for the Coast Guard to explore using
17	a floor for the revenue calculation?
18	CHAIRMAN TANNER: I'm hearing or,
19	John, go ahead.
20	CPT SWARTOUT: Question. This would
21	mean that, even though if there was a decline in
22	traffic, kicking out a number that says while you

only need five pilots this year, you needed 10 1 2 this year -- how does the floor work? That's why I say there 3 CPT BOYCE: 4 needs to be a divorce between the bridge hours 5 used for revenue calculation and bridge hours 6 used for pilot complement. They need to be 7 separated. If you use the same number for both, 8 we've seen for our entire careers it doesn't 9 work. 10 CPT SWARTOUT: I'm with you now. 11 CPT BOYCE: All right. I'll make a 12 motion then. 13 The Advisory Committee recommends the 14 Coast Guard -- I'm making this as we go --15 explore -- strike or back up. Take out --16 recommends divorcing the bridge hours used for 17 pilot complement and hourly rate calculation. Ιt 18 further recommends exploring use of a floor for hourly rate calculations rather than an average. 19 20 Oh, a floor -- three words back, 21 strike "the". Take "the" -- there you go. 22 floor". "For hourly rate calculations".

Is that sufficient to capture the 1 2 intent of the discussion? Does it need to be exploring the use of a floor over a certain 3 4 period of time for hourly rate calculations? 5 CPT GALLAGHER: John, what this is going to do, correct, is eliminating spikes in 6 7 pilot numbers up or down? 8 CPT BOYCE: Well, I'm recommending 9 divorcing the pilot numbers and the revenue, the hourly rate calculation numbers. You need to 10 11 have the number of pilots you need to have, and 12 you need to generate the revenue you need to 13 generate. 14 CPT GALLAGHER: Absolutely. 15 CPT BOYCE: Using the same number 16 trying to hit two different moving targets is 17 never ever, ever going to work. And we've seen 18 it for 20 years; it never hits the target. 19 CPT GALLAGHER: I agree. 20 CHAIRMAN TANNER: Okay. We have a 21 motion, Committee. Any further direction? 22 second?

1	CPT GALLAGHER: Second.
2	CHAIRMAN TANNER: We have a second
3	from Captain Gallagher.
4	Committee, further discussion?
5	Captain Swartout?
6	CPT SWARTOUT: Is it permissible to
7	edit the motion once it's been seconded?
8	CHAIRMAN TANNER: No.
9	CPT BOYCE: Yes, you can have
10	discussion after a motion has been seconded.
11	CHAIRMAN TANNER: And we're discussing
12	it now.
13	CPT BOYCE: And then, I can remove.
14	CHAIRMAN TANNER: Yes, but, then, you
15	have to change it.
16	CPT BOYCE: Yes.
17	CHAIRMAN TANNER: So, yes, we can
18	discuss it.
19	CPT SWARTOUT: Okay. I would just
20	suggest we I mean, to simplify it, replace
21	"pilot complement" with "staffing".
22	CPT BOYCE: Agree.

1	CPT SWARTOUT: And I just think the
2	notion ought to say what the purpose of this is.
3	It's to smooth out rates, keep them stable and
4	adequate. I mean, we all understand what we want
5	to do here, but the motion should make it clear
6	that
7	CPT BOYCE: Something to the tune of
8	"for the purpose of smoothing rates"
9	"smoothing and realizing adequate rates, the
10	Advisory Committee, yaddy yaddy?
11	CPT SWARTOUT: I think that would do
12	it.
13	CPT BOYCE: Okay. Then, I'll amend
14	the motion at the beginning to say, "For the
15	purpose of smoothing rates" "smoothing and
16	recognizing adequate rates"?
17	CPT SWARTOUT: "Producing adequate
18	rates"?
19	CPT BOYCE: I like "producing" better
20	than "recognizing".
21	Does it also make sense to add in "and
22	for the purpose" or "in recognizing using one

1	number for two different purposes has not
2	produced the desired outcome" or just skip
3	that because we know what it is? I'm going to
4	leave it that way.
5	Yes, at the cursor there, there should
6	be a period and, then, new sentence. Start with
7	"The".
8	CHAIRMAN TANNER: Okay. So, this is
9	your new motion? You've both
10	CPT BOYCE: I amend the motion.
11	CHAIRMAN TANNER: Okay.
12	CPT BOYCE: Yes, the word "the" needs
13	to go right before "Advisory". Yes, right there.
14	There you go.
15	And I move as it is presented there on
16	the screen.
17	CHAIRMAN TANNER: But, Danny, you
18	seconded that prior motion. Do you remove that,
19	too?
20	CPT GALLAGHER: Yes, I do.
21	CHAIRMAN TANNER: Okay. So, we're
22	back to this motion now. So, John has made a

1	motion. It's up. Do I have a second?
2	CPT GALLAGHER: I'll second it.
3	CHAIRMAN TANNER: It's seconded.
4	We're back to discussion.
5	(No response.)
6	If no other discussion, all Committee
7	members in favor of this motion say aye.
8	(Chorus of ayes.)
9	Opposed?
10	(No response.)
11	Opposed, there was none. The motion
12	carries. Thank you.
13	Now the weighting.
14	MR. MOYERS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
15	The next topic is weighting factors,
16	and the use of current methodology uses something
17	called a weighting factor as a multiplier into
18	the hourly rate. A weighting factor is a factor
19	that is assigned per length of vessel. Bigger
20	vessels get a higher number. There are currently
21	
41	four categories of weighting factors per class of

1.5 and, then, finally, 1, where a 1-to-1 ratio 1 2 is equal to the hourly rate. So, the function of the weighting 3 4 factor puts more of a burden on revenue 5 generation to a bigger vessel, a bigger class If you think the math behind this, you 6 vessel. 7 know, the hourly rate times the biggest class 4 8 vessel times 1.45. That's obviously they're 9 going to get a bigger bill for that trip than a 1.0 vessel. Make sense? 10 So, the topic is, for discussion, we 11 12 use a three-year weighting factor average for the 13 current methodology. Is that the right number of 14 years? We also have four categories of ship. 15 16 Is that the right number of categories? Do we 17 need more or less? 18 The third thing to talk about is, are 19 the weighting factors correct? Do they need to 20 be adjusted? 21 And then, finally, do we need to even have weighting factors? 22

1 Mr. Chairman --

CHAIRMAN TANNER: Thank you

John Boyce, go ahead.

CPT BOYCE: Now I'll pick up the ball again.

I think at the end of the day the best solution is to remove the weighting factors altogether. Part of the problem, and as we've just talked about on the rolling average, is the rate presumes to be a very precise calculation with very imprecise variables added. You can calculate anything to, you know, 14 decimal points, but it doesn't necessarily mean anything.

And the more variables you put into the equation, the less uncertain -- or the more uncertainty the outcome becomes. What we've already seen as a result of the new revenue model taking the weighting factors into account is the math doesn't work. Even in the 2017 Supplemental Rule, you look at what was actually generated and what was calculated by the weighting factors, and they don't equate to each other.

On the surface, it should be a very simple, or it would appear to be a very simple calculation of number of hours times weighting factors gives a revenue generation. And it would seem plausible that you could take the average weighting factors and push that through backwards and show what the rate should have been. The problem is, especially now that we have the majority of the year of data in hand, there's about a 3 percent, well, 3 to 5 percent, depending on what areas you look at, delta between those two points. It doesn't work the way it was envisioned, or at least explained in the Supplemental Rule.

And for my District alone, if you project out the remainder of the year and take into account the year so far, we operate at essentially a \$1,350-a-day deficit every single day of the season, as a result of the reduction from the weighting factors. It just doesn't work.

Also, what it's causing is a much

higher reliance not only on bridge hours and that the traffic shows up. Now you're further reliant on the correct mix of traffic shows up, the right number of Class As, Class Bs, Class Cs, Class Ds. They have to show up in the right mix now, not only just show up, to realize the revenues.

And all the risk to that happening becomes borne by the pilots. There's no benefit or risk to the system. There's nothing out there. There's no benefit to be gained. There's simply an additional risk borne by the pilots for this being in place.

And when you have, essentially, a
business model that's operating, that's designed
to operate at a breakeven or possibly a very
small profit, it's almost a misnomer because of
what's possibly profit can only be used on the
expense side; it can't go into compensation.
Well, now any shortfall is taken from
compensation to the pilots, but no profit can be
allocated there. All the risk, the downside goes
to the pilot associations, and you become a

business model that almost can't work.

So, in short, I'd recommend eliminating the weighting factors altogether.

CPT GALLAGHER: John, in our District, if you use a three-year weighting average, No. 1, I don't agree -- ours was targeted at .32 percent. I don't agree with that. It even said that for last year revenue was up 28 percent. So, it's a 4 percent swing.

The only way you can do this -- and there would be a one-year lapse -- is you would have to have somebody independently audit every source boat to figure out what class generated what.

Industry wanted the weighting factors to be considered back in there to reduce the rates. I think they need to -- in our District, for an example, they were reduced 32 percent because of this. I think the 32 percent needs to be added back into the rate and eliminate the weighting factors.

CHAIRMAN TANNER: Thank you.

John Swartout?

CPT SWARTOUT: Yes, I'd just add that, looking at the average weighting factors for each season in the years 2009 through 2012, there was a several-percentage-point swing from one year to the next, which, if that swing is up, that's good; you're going to have enough revenue. If it goes down, that's bad; you're not going to have enough revenue.

So, there is a problem with using this, you know, the way this three-year or five-year, whatever it is, average of weighting factors. There isn't going to be any perfect system because traffic goes up and down more than 3 to 4 percent a year, too. But, when these adjustments compound each other, suddenly, you could be 10 percent below needed revenue.

So, I think something should be done to fix the way they're used. I'm not sure if it's eliminating it, but it could be.

CHAIRMAN TANNER: Thank you.

Any other Committee member on this

subject?

(No response.)

Public?

MR. LEMIRE: Robert Lemire, Great Lakes Pilotage again.

An interesting topic. In Canada there was a royal commission that lasted six years, and a big part of this royal commission was on this weighting factor.

You win; you lose. As I Captain
Swartout said, I think in 20 years our traffic
goes up and down 10 percent half the time. Now
you're taking a chance.

As an authority, I can take the negative swing, which means in a year where we predicted to have larger ships and we don't and our revenues are down, the authority absorbs that and will carry forward hoping in the future year that that trend will change. The trend changes whenever there's an increase in steel and outbound grains in larger ships, which we see this year.

1	So, I think there's no easy solution.
2	If I were to start from the industry's
3	standpoint, in this royal commission we were at
4	an event and I'm not speaking for Mr. Fisher
5	here that the pilotage bill as a total was
6	easy for them to swallow with the bigger ships,
7	as you could spread it over a larger tonnage.
8	It's an argument. There's another argument that
9	you could spread the pilotage billed over the
10	value of your cargo. Another argument. But at
11	the end of the day, after this six-year study, in
12	Canada we keep the weighting factor.
13	I don't say if it's right or wrong.
14	It's just there's a big risk. So, in your
15	formulas it would be the cornerstone of trying to
16	set your tariffs. So, be careful what you wish
17	for on this one.
18	CHAIRMAN TANNER: I didn't hear you
19	correctly. You did what with the weighting
20	factor?
21	MR. LEMIRE: We are using the
22	weighting factor.

CHAIRMAN TANNER: Okay.

CPT BOYCE: And to talk to your point

-- and you mentioned it -- the key difference is

the authority's ability to absorb the swing. You

can operate at a shortfall and recoup it; we

can't. There's just no ability to do that.

And when you look at, well, it used to be return on investment; now it's working capital. On a best-case \$200,000 as being your upside swing, that can't float anything in our future year and it can't recoup anything from a prior year. There just isn't enough to cover the variability in things.

MR. LEMIRE: Yes, for sure. I mean, it's not an easy topic to try to, I mean --

MR. AUBRY-MORIN: If I may, Jean Aubry-Morin, Canadian Seaway.

And my comment is not to oppose your position. It's just to put some substance to certain concentration of equipment, as we are considering certain things within the Seaway.

It's that it was evident when we

looked at the ports for you that you were saying that it's so volatile that you can't predict, and you're right that the equity amongst trader could be very sensitive depending on what makes defeats. And what we noticed is that the big carrier in the Class 4 would favor certain equity traders where there is an elasticity of that cargo, of that trade. It is very sensitive in certain areas.

What we realized is the best we were able to get, because we were talking about the commission and the royal commission that, as we participate, that it would be better to leave the market to themselves, be able to do the competitive nature and have a better equity by leaving the weighting factor in place.

And I don't put that argument to the table in contrary to what you said. It's just, as a sense of the people of the reason why it was left in in Canada. That's why.

CPT BOYCE: I see that point and I understand it, and to a degree, I agree with

that. The hard part it comes down to is the ability to absorb the variation, and we have no ability to absorb it.

You know, if it was a case of, instead of removing the weighting factor, that you removed the lowest class, the 15 percent is all you remove from it, now there's an ability to absorb it, and I think it would absolutely work. I think that would absolutely work if you left the weighting factors in and removed, instead of the average weighting factor, the lowest weighting fact. That absolutely becomes workable. But, in the absence of having some ability to absorb the fluctuation, we can't do it.

MR. AUBRY-MORIN: We noted that my comment does not go to the validity of the argument that you're posing. It's purely as information for the reason behind the statement that Mr. Lemire has put to the table and that the Seaway has substantively worked to be able to understand, the complex of that. It doesn't

affect how you resolve the issue that you're 1 2 tabling, basically. 3 CPT BOYCE: Yes, agree. 4 CHAIRMAN TANNER: Any other comment 5 from the public? 6 (No response.) 7 Hearing none, back to the Committee. 8 CPT GALLAGHER: Dan Gallagher. 9 I agree with Captain Boyce. If the weighting factors are going to stay in, they need 10 11 to calculate it based on the 1.15. That gives us 12 some leeway in case it goes further goes up or 13 down. We would have the 1.0s, which we do get 14 once in a while on the cruise ships, the tug 15 barges that would handle all the yachts. 16 would be a give-and-take. I mean, I think we 17 probably should look at either eliminating the 18 factors or reducing it. The maximum would be 19 1.15. 20 CHAIRMAN TANNER: John Swartout? CPT SWARTOUT: 21 I am in line with that, 22 too. In regards to what Jean Aubry said, to just

eliminate the weighting factors blatantly favors one class of ship over another class of ship.

And without knowing what the impact of that is,

I'm reluctant to do it. But I think putting an adjustment to the calculated average or threeyear average weighting factor makes sense, and it could either be a flat adjustment of, say, five percentage points or it could be, you know, just consider 1.15 as the base case and go with that, as my colleagues were talking about.

CHAIRMAN TANNER: Okay.

CPT BOYCE: Yes, I'm not making a motion yet, but something that sounded like this came up as a motion: that the U.S. Coast Guard either use the lowest weighting factor, rather than average, for a rate calculation or remove them altogether.

UNIDENTIFIED AUDIENCE MEMBER: What do you mean by the "lowest weighting factor"?

CPT BOYCE: 1.15.

DFO KHANDPUR: So, if I understand that, you're basically saying that there's no 1.0

1	ship. All the 1.0s are 1.15 ships?
2	CPT BOYCE: There are 1.0s, but
3	they're few and far between. There's relatively
4	few 1.0s.
5	DFO KHANDPUR: No, no. What I'm
6	trying to understand is your recommendation. So,
7	when you say using the lowest factor
8	CPT BOYCE: Well, I suppose I was bad
9	in math. The 1.0 isn't a factor. It's the same
LO	number. So, 1.15 being the lowest weighting
L1	factor.
L2	So, I would say, Coast Guard, either
L3	use 1.15 as a weighting factor in the rate
L3 L4	use 1.15 as a weighting factor in the rate calculations to account for vessel size or remove
L 4	calculations to account for vessel size or remove
L4 L5	calculations to account for vessel size or remove the weighting factors altogether from the
L4 L5 L6	calculations to account for vessel size or remove the weighting factors altogether from the calculation.
L4 L5 L6 L7	calculations to account for vessel size or remove the weighting factors altogether from the calculation. CHAIRMAN TANNER: John?
L4 L5 L6 L7	calculations to account for vessel size or remove the weighting factors altogether from the calculation. CHAIRMAN TANNER: John? CPT SWARTOUT: I think I could clarify
L4 L5 L6 L7 L8	calculations to account for vessel size or remove the weighting factors altogether from the calculation. CHAIRMAN TANNER: John? CPT SWARTOUT: I think I could clarify that. What he is saying is that the Coast Guard

1	right now, or just this year, as a result of the
2	Supplemental Rule, it calculated out all the
3	averages and, then, reduced the base rate by that
4	amount to be able to, then, reapply the weighting
5	factor. It shouldn't use the average because
6	there's too much variability in it. It should
7	use the 1.15 as the lowest class of weighting
8	factor.
9	DFO KHANDPUR: Okay.
10	CHAIRMAN TANNER: Do you want to build
11	a motion or
12	CPT BOYCE: All right.
13	MR. HAVILAND: Can I ask a question?
14	CHAIRMAN TANNER: Yes.
15	MR. HAVILAND: Good morning. Todd
16	Haviland.
17	Real quick, in the event that you
18	still overgenerate revenue, what should be done
19	with that revenue that is overgenerated?
20	CPT BOYCE: I think you should presume
21	to overgenerate revenue in certain years if
22	that's what allows you to absorb the variation in

	other years. I mean, I would assume that's now
2	and I'm just quoting Mr. Morin and Mr. Lemire
3	that's what allows you to weather the storm,
4	the ups and downs, and all that, is it assumes
5	there will be overgeneration in certain years.
6	And that way, when there's downturns, you can
7	survive. I mean, that's just a fact of matter in
8	the business, is there's a variability in it.
9	It's absolutely unpredictable.
10	MR. HAVILAND: Todd Haviland again.
11	So, as I understand what you're asking
12	is, the step where we take into account the
13	impact of the weighting factor, we should only
14	say that we're going to divide that number by
15	1.15?
16	CPT BOYCE: Agree. Can you tell me
17	what step that is?
18	MR. HAVILAND: Step 7 or 8.
19	MR. LEMIRE: Robert Lemire again.
20	Just a quickie on this.
21	Be very careful on this type of
22	calculation. You were talking 1.15, 1.45. We're

talking about a ship that carries 5,000 tons as a Class 1, and you're now comparing that to a ship that's carrying 25-26,000 tons. That is a large So, if you're going to give the same bill to the big guy as the little guy, the small guy is going to have a hard time differentiating, spreading that tonnage. I do understand it's the same job and it's the same efforts, and it's the same everything. But I'm just trying, you know, since the industry isn't here, to please try to have some type of input on the business side. It's a sharing of the cost and who gets it. on a smaller ship, if we, the pilots, pound all of our tariffs on a smaller ship, we might get to lose some of them. So, it's just a heads-up on that.

CHAIRMAN TANNER: Thank you.

CPT GALLAGHER: Dan Gallagher.

Robert, I think you didn't quite understand what John was saying. We're not saying that all ships are going to be billed

1.15. The weighting factors would still be in.

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	we'll still have a Class I, you know, 1.15, 1.3,
2	and 1.45. Those weighting factors will still be
3	in. It's just the calculation where the Coast
4	Guard, at the end, they're in my District, for
5	an example, they said mine was .32. I believe
6	John Swartout's was .313, something like that,
7	and John Boyce's were what? like 28 or
8	something. That's where it would change.
9	You're still going to have the four
10	billing cycles. So, it's not going to put any
11	burden on them. It's just that calculation, and
12	you either reduce it or you're limiting it. That
13	way, it takes the problem away.
14	CHAIRMAN TANNER: John Swartout?
15	CPT SWARTOUT: That's step 9, in case
16	anybody
17	MR. HAVILAND: It's step 8.
18	CPT GALLAGHER: According to the Final
19	Rule, it's step 9.
20	MR. HAVILAND: This is Todd Haviland
21	again.
22	What we do is in one of the steps

1	I believe it's step 8 we look at the historic
2	weighting factors. And since we changed the
3	weighting factor in 2014, we wanted to look back
4	from 2014 forward. Once we find that average
5	weighting factor, you, then, divide the original
6	base rate by that average weighting factor to get
7	the new. And essentially, what you're saying is
8	we should combine steps 8 and 9 and just divide
9	whatever rate we come up with by .15.
10	DFO KHANDPUR: I'm still not very
11	clear, but I'm sure Todd will explain it to me.
12	(Laughter.)
13	CPT BOYCE: I think here's what it is.
14	MR. HAVILAND: So, what they're saying
15	is, where we calculated that the weighting factor
16	has brought out about 30 percent more revenue,
17	they want us to cap that at 15 and say we will
18	not have a weighting factor reduction greater
19	than .11
20	CPT BOYCE: Oh, I see.
21	MR. HAVILAND: So, the new number
22	comes out, a Class 1 ship pays whatever the rate

is. A Class 2 ship will still multiply 1.15. A Class 3 ship still pays 1.3, and a Class 4 ship still pays 1.45. But all they're asking us to do is either eliminate the weighting factors altogether or use a different standard that allows them to have some cushion.

CPT BOYCE: Essentially, step 8 -here's a step 8/step 9 issue -- step 8 is what
calculates the average weighting factor. Step 9
is the step that applies that weighting factor to
the base rate.

So, my notion would state to remove step 8 and in step 9 use 1.15 as the factor. So, I guess, before you start -- that was part of the motion. I guess the motion would be for the U.S. Coast Guard to either remove weighting factors altogether or remove step 8 and in step 9 of the rate use 1.15 as the factor.

For the U.S. Coast Guard to remove weighting factors completely or remove step 9 -- I'm sorry -- remove step 8 and in step 9 of the rate methodology use a factor of 1.15.

1	MR. HAVILAND: Am I allowed to ask
2	another question?
3	CHAIRMAN TANNER: Go ahead.
4	MR. HAVILAND: This is Todd Haviland,
5	and I know I've already asked this, but why 1.15
6	instead of any other number?
7	CPT BOYCE: It would be a presumed
8	factor that already exists and should be
9	sufficient to absorb some variability in traffic.
10	CHAIRMAN TANNER: Okay. John, is that
11	your motion?
12	CPT BOYCE: Yes.
13	CHAIRMAN TANNER: Okay. We have a
14	motion. Do I hear a second?
15	CPT SWARTOUT: I'll second that.
16	Swartout.
17	CHAIRMAN TANNER: John Swartout
18	seconds that.
19	Further discussion?
20	(No response.)
21	Hearing no further discussion, all
22	those in favor of this motion?

1	(Chorus of ayes.)
2	All those opposed.
3	(No response.)
4	We have unanimous positive vote for
5	the motion.
6	Okay. Rajiv, I have a question.
7	Approaching the dinner hour for a dinner break,
8	you had in here there was an option of a tour.
9	DFO KHANDPUR: Yes.
10	CHAIRMAN TANNER: Could you address
11	that and see who wants to
12	DFO KHANDPUR: So, as Captain Martin
13	was here this morning, we are at the National
14	Maritime Center. This is where they do their
15	credentialing.
16	If you folks or anybody is interested
17	in taking a tour, we can arrange that. If not,
18	we can just break for lunch.
19	I'd like a show of hands.
20	(Show of hands.)
21	Okay. All right.
22	MR. MOYERS: I have a couple of admin

I have some badges to trade out for the 1 things. 2 Board members to get you back into the building, if you leave. 3 4 And then, also, NMC has placed some 5 snacks out here on the table, some waters and snacks from the outside. Feel free to grab those 6 7 as well. 8 CHAIRMAN TANNER: What do we want, one 9 hour? 10 So, we want everyone back, we want the members back at quarter to 1:00, and it will be a 11 12 training session. How long? Half hour. 13 then, we will reconvene, then, at 1:15, correct? 14 DFO KHANDPUR: Everyone back at 1:00? CHAIRMAN TANNER: One o'clock. 15 16 Members back at 12:45, and we'll reconvene at 17 1:00. Okay. 18 (Whereupon, the foregoing matter went off the record for lunch at 11:47 p.m. and went 19 20 back on the record at 1:23 p.m.) 21 CHAIRMAN TANNER: So we'll reconvene and we'll move to the Authorized Piloting Charges 22

with Todd Haviland. Todd.

MR. HAVILAND: Good afternoon. My name is Todd Haviland.

This session was created primarily from concerns and questions we received from FEDNAV Shipping Federation, the ports.

Just a little bit of background. In 2016, we changed the methodology. We eliminated most of the ancillary charges and what we were left with were charges for providing pilotage, the surcharges, the charges for cancellations, which is four hours, at least, less travel time, delay charges. So if the ship is delayed and it is no fault of the pilot, then the Pilot Association will add a charge, an hourly charge.

After we discuss those three issues,

I want to talk quickly about Pilot Association

allowances and whether or not the Pilot

Associations see any value in issuing an itemized source form.

So as far as the surcharges go, we would like to know if there are any recommended

changes you think we should consider with the surcharges.

CPT GALLAGHER: Dan Gallagher. Todd, the surcharges, the way they stand now, they are only enforced for one year. So last year we had surcharges for training. This year, because the rate did not come out, we still had people, more people hired, working, training, and yet we were not getting the surcharge.

The way you've got it now, once we collect the surcharge, the stops. What if we don't get the surcharge? How do we recoup that money?

MR. HAVILAND: Todd Haviland. I believe the way the regulation is written, any surcharge deficit could be rolled into the next year and then any necessary and reasonable expense that wasn't recognized by the surcharge will be recognized in a future rate.

CPT GALLAGHER: I guess I've got one more question, then. The 2014 rate, I mean expense-based our base rate had about \$200,000 in

training that we didn't recoup because we're not 1 2 able to charge that this year. Will we be able to roll that forward for next year? 3 Todd Haviland. 4 MR. HAVILAND: 5 know what -- in the past, the rate, once the rate went into effect, everything would be overhead. 6 7 CPT GALLAGHER: But then again, that 8 goes to the problem with surcharges. If we 9 collect over a \$1 more, it's taken away. The problem is, if we're not collecting enough, we're 10 11 not getting made whole on it. 12 MR. HAVILAND: Todd Haviland. I 13 understand what you're saying. So we've never 14 been presented with this issue. 15 In 2014, we weren't using the 16 surcharge to train applicant pilots. So I'm not 17 I'll have to speak with the lawyers and do 18 some research to see what's allowable. 19 I might have found us something but I 20 can't put my finger on it. 21 CPT GALLAGHER: The biggest problem is when you talk to the lawyers, they say they can't 22

do it but when it's taken away from the pilots, industry suggested that it's automatically done.

MR. HAVILAND: Okay.

CHAIRMAN TANNER: Any other comments from the committee?

CPT SWARTOUT: Swartout. Currently, for most of the season, we're not allowed to charge for delays due to traffic, weather, and I think the third is ice. And as I've said before and I'll say it again, I think we need to be able -- I mean traffic delays happen anytime. Weather delays happen anytime. So I don't know why we can't charge for them.

MR. HAVILAND: The traffic delays, I'm not sure what you're referring to. But if you're onboard and you're providing pilotage service and it's not an act of God and it's not your fault, then other than at the opening -- well, at the opening and closing of the season, you can charge for those weather delays but during the regular season you can't. It's been our longstanding practice since the 1960s when those rates were

1 put in place. 2 CPT SWARTOUT: I understand how it I'd just like to see it change. 3 works. 4 MR. HAVILAND: Okay. I mean this is 5 your opportunity to provide us with a recommendation for us to consider. 6 7 CHAIRMAN TANNER: Any other questions 8 from the committee? 9 If not, anyone from the public have 10 any questions on this? Yes. MR. HAVILAND: This is Todd Haviland. 11 12 I'm not doing this because I want to represent 13 the shippers' interests. The one issue they've 14 brought up a number of times is they feel that when you're at anchor, you shouldn't be allowed 15 16 to charge for the delay. I just want to know 17 what your position and thoughts are on that. 18 CPT GALLAGHER: Dan Gallagher. A 19 pilot is a pilot is a pilot. Since we have --20 when we had point-to-point charges -- and I 21 argued about these hourly rates. I was one, if

you look back, I thought all we had to do is

adjust the point-by-point charges and everything would be okay. Since we've gone to the hourly rate, in our district, our delays from the agents went from massive hours down to almost nothing now. There are a few times where they bill us hourly, they hold the ships out now, instead of the pilot sitting there for eight hours because before we were cheap. And if you allow the agents to have us there sitting there and not paying, whether we're at anchor, or before we board, or after we get there, you're going to have to add a lot more pilots to the system.

The way you've got it now, they're taking us right to the dock. If we go backwards, we're going to go right back to what we were doing before. And we'll be going to the anchorage and we'll be sitting there.

They have a choice to release the pilot and reorder or they can go right to the dock. They don't want to pay the line handlers overtime, yet they want the pilots to sit there for free.

I think it's an abuse of a pilot's time and if you allow them to do that, we're going to be sitting on trips and you're going to have to have -- if you implement something like that, and I recommend you don't, you're going to have to implement a few more pilots in each group just to handle it.

CPT BOYCE: I think it's pretty simple. It consumes pilot capacity. Therefore, you should have to charge for it.

If you demand power to be there to accommodate those delays, you need to be able to build to recoup or have the people there to do it.

MR. HAVILAND: Are there any feedback on cancellation charges? Are they appropriate?

Is there something like we should do instead of having the monetary charge be along the lines of when you over prospect and the shipper or the agent is potentially given a time penalty instead of a monetary fee?

CPT GALLAGHER: Dan Gallagher again.

I think we're just confusing things by changing things around.

They have the ability. The agents have within a four-hour period to cancel the pilot. If they can't coordinate it, you know sometimes we're mobilizing our pilot for six hours for a job. So we've already got him on the road, sometimes. Sometimes the guy gets within an hour and a half -- well within four hours of the assignment and we lose on it.

So they have the ability for four hours to cancel us. I think it's plenty and if they can't coordinate, they have to pay for it.

Another alternative, if you did away with that, would be we will not start mobilizing the person until we get the four-hour confirmation that we know that he's there. The pilot will get the two-hour callout. And if he has to transport two hours, four hours, six hours, whatever it may be, the ship will have to wait for the pilot then. They have the ability.

So I don't see why you need to change anything.

CPT SWARTOUT: Out of -- Swartout here. Out of 1500 assignments, we get ten cancellations. I think the system is working fine the way it is.

CHAIRMAN TANNER: Any other questions from the public?

MR. HAVILAND: Thank you. Todd Is there any merit to itemizing the Haviland. So a lot of the fees of the shared source form? services are buried in the rates that the U.S. Pilot Associations are allowed to charge. So do you think it would be helpful to say okay, here's the charge that you're paying for pilotage? Here's the charge that you're paying for the pilot boat use. Here's the charge associated with dispatching and then we already do a line item with the surcharge. But do you feel that that would be beneficial in any way for you to add more transparency to what it costs to provide services on the Great Lakes?

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CPT SWARTOUT: Swartout. No, I can't see any advantage to it. I mean it's impossible to determine the cost of something until you know what revenue is for the season.

I mean it would be okay to do it. I just don't think there's any way to do it that's going to be accurate.

CHAIRMAN TANNER: Any other questions?

MR. HAVILAND: The last issue I have

are Pilot Association allowances. The intent of
the methodology is to reimburse incurred expenses
and those incurred expenses have to be tied to a
receipt.

I know that in some situations the associations have told me that it's cheaper and more efficient to issue an allowance and forego the necessity for a receipt but based on the methodology and the administrative history, I don't know that I've got the authority to allow reimbursement for allowances but I do think it's important for at least the pilot presidents to maybe give us a little rationale as to why they

issue allowances and put forth any recommendations for us to consider about changing the way that we recognize expenses?

we have like a cell phone allowance that we cap at \$100 per pilot, per month. Some of our pilots, their cell phones bills run way in excess of \$100. We do that just to try to control costs. You know a person doesn't have to be on there streaming and watching movies. If he does, he should be paying for that. So I'm not saying the \$100 is the right amount. We probably need to look at it and revisit because you can't get a plan.

I know previous audits, the auditors would come in and they would look at it because we have on pilot gives us about maybe 10 or 20 percent less than the flat rate. And they look at them all. If anything, what they should do is add up all the phone bills and we don't have a problem providing the receipts for them. But if they all add up to \$1,000 and we have 10 pilots,

well it's \$100. If they add up to \$800, take the \$200 away from it. But if they add up to \$1,500, you don't penalize one guy that's under by \$20 but everybody else over. That's what the previous auditors did. They looked at that. That was their -- they were saying that's why you didn't see the deduction because they said well, we looked at it as a group. You spend far more than what you're actually paying out.

Shame on our group, I guess, for transportation, for example. When the cost of mileage per mile was \$0.545, we were paying \$0.32. We just never changed it in our system. That's what the guys get. We don't encourage people to driving cars back and forth to make money off the system.

And other allowances we have, I mean we give them, instead of -- you know we force people to live in certain areas, away from their homes. We do that for efficiencies. I think it's great.

For an example of that, we'd be

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transporting people back to their homes at a cost far more than we pay for let's say a hotel allowance. It gives the person an ability to --

Now, if it's way out of line -- and I don't think it is. You can Google wherever you want and it will give you the average rate of a hotel. I mean we provide our guys with a living allowance instead of buying with the hotels and sometimes it's cheaper to go rent a place. Some of them, we've got a couple guys that do stay in hotels and they pay it on their own but they use that amount of money to utilize it.

If not, we're going to be transporting these people home because in our district alone, we have four states plus Canada. So, where do I tell that person he has to live? I've got to provide him with something, whether it's a hotel, transportation back to his home, or to give him the ability to go out and rent an apartment or pay for a hotel.

CPT SWARTOUT: Swartout. When I started -- when I was hired by Western Great

Lakes Pilots 21 years ago, there were very few cell phones around. I went out and bought one within a few months of becoming a pilot. It was a bag phone and at the time, you could use it in the middle of Lake Superior. Now you've got to be pretty close to shore to use it.

But I bring this up because, at the time, the way you gave ETAs for the next pilot station or the next port was to use a ship to shore radio telephone, bill it to the ship at a cost of about \$25 a call.

Within two years of my starting, we all had cell phones and we saved the companies a fortune because we were using our cell phones to make these calls instead of charging it to the ship at ship to shore rates. So we instituted an allowance, something that was in the ballpark of what a typical cell phone account would cost for a pilot. We've been doing it ever since for 20 years and now all of a sudden, it's becoming an issue.

If you want me to produce a receipt

for my cell phone, I'm a little concerned that 1 2 the next thing you're going to do is start going through the detail sheet of my receipt and say 3 4 oh, this wasn't a business call, oh, this wasn't 5 a business call. As long as the allowance is 6 7 reasonable, I think it should be allowed. 8 Any other questions CHAIRMAN TANNER: 9 from the committee? Does the public have any 10 questions or statements? Okay, Committee, what's your wish, 11 12 just to accept the report, action, or --13 Hearing nothing, let's move on to the 14 next subject, then. Mr. Moyers, the financial report. 15 16 MR. MOYERS: Hello, Michael Moyers 17 again. The subject is the 2016 on-site audits 18 and then the deadlines for submitting financial 19 statements. 20 I'll give you a quick update on the 21 2016 on-site audits. All three of the on-site audits have been conducted. Our contract auditor 22

is currently working up those sheets and you will be receiving a draft of those for each district when they're ready. And you'll have the opportunity to call me on those and then we'll go from there.

Any questions on the on-site audit update for 2016?

Moving on for the deadline for submitting financial statements. So this is an endeavor to move the current three-year turnover from operating expense, when you actually expend that money until you capture it back in the rate is three years. Now the idea is we may be able to move that to a two-year cycle, if we can get the financial statements sooner.

But I think the final rule last year suggested end of January to receive those.

That's the topic for discussion. Is that feasible? Can we do that or do we stick with our statutory time frame?

CPT BOYCE: That's very tough to do.

You know I'll go on with the on-site audit, Part

2. One thing that's a problem with the auditors is they are not auditor in the general sense of the term. There is a couple different terms but it's not an audit they're conducting. I think, at times, the auditors need to be reminded of that. They are verifying costs, essentially, for a regulatory process, which is very different from an audit.

But to go further onto that, we need to have an audit and that actually takes time to do. To go have -- it's one thing to have our books closed by the end of January. It's another thing entirely for those to be audited numbers and it's not uncommon for once the auditor goes through our books to have things reclassified or categorized from one year to the next, especially January/December-type bills.

What you're almost certainly asking for is numbers that will need to be corrected all the time. It's good-intended and I absolutely agree with the intent of it. I just think the actual operation of things doesn't allow the time

frame to be shortened up that much.

CPT SWARTOUT: Swartout. We tried to hurry up the audit this year. I think the current deadline is April 7th, thereabouts, say 6th or 7th. We didn't get it done by then. It took another week or ten days to get it finished.

It seems like the audit work is getting more complicated. And to try to move it up over two months, I've asked my CPA and he says no, it can't be done.

I applaud the Coast Guard for wanting to tighten up that process but I don't see it happening. It's just physically impossible.

CPT GALLAGHER: Dan Gallagher. I,
too, applaud the Coast Guard for wanting to
advance it. If we could, we would. I've talked
to ours maybe mid-March would be the best we
could do and that's if we pushed. I know ours
could probably do it in the middle of March. I
mean we could shorten up like two or three weeks
maybe by the time we reclassify, get all the
bills in. And we're even now we're getting stuck

with the audits where one bill is overlapping in the other year and they disallow it because it didn't happen in the previous year. You know we don't get our phone bill for end of December, let's say, until usually January, the end of January. So it would be hard for us to do it.

As part of the audits right now, the on-site audits, these people lack experience, in my opinion. They're very unprofessional. There have been numerous we've told who we wanted the contact person to be. I know I've experienced it. I believe John Boyce has. They have ignored that. They go around us.

when we had the previous auditors, you know for the first year, it was a learning curve for both of us. And then we had consistency for a while. We knew what they wanted. They knew what they were looking at. If there was a question with training, for example, if there was a question of what we allowed for training, they would ask us. And they did the research themselves right in our office. We watched them

do it. And they are going in, say oh okay it costs X amount of dollars to renew your license. It costs X amount of dollars for your radar. It costs X amount dollars over here. And they look at it and they say gee, your allowance really is reasonable.

So they've done that work. This group here is not doing its work -- that work. They're not looking at things. They're not looking at what the cost is, what we're paying out, or what's reasonable.

It seems like, I don't know, they really don't know what they're doing.

definitely some omissions and one that we just brought up over the last week. The auditors came back and had the issues with my district. They were on-site for a week. I was there for the entire week day and night. And the auditors left early. I was overly clear to them any questions or comments they had were to be directed to me and if I needed a secretary or a comptroller to

further answer it, I would get that but it was all to come straight through me so I know what's being asked and it's answered appropriately.

Then I find out just last week, which is I don't know, six weeks from when the audit took place, they've got a number of issues of things they never even brought up to my attention for questioning. And I said you know that's shame on you. If you can bring it up to me and you could give me a chance to answer what your question is, how can you have a problem with that? Well, they went and asked other people at the office these questions. They'd get a good response. Well, it's their own problem to go further. There are issues.

And also with the current contract, of a five-year contract, there's only one on-site visit for having them in the districts actually do things. There's a number of problems and I don't even want to speculate what it's going to be the next three years if their contract is extended without being on-site and doing it all

remotely.

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They've already got us doing a majority of their work as far as variance analysis and things like that. The auditors should be doing that on the information we provide, not us doing the analysis for them.

CHAIRMAN TANNER: Any other committee questions?

CPT BOYCE: Yes, it's me again.

I would further suggest on the audits in the past there wasn't an outside auditing firm. That was an internal Coast Guard function. There was somebody on the staff that understood what they were looking at, understood the interplay between numbers, what something means when its classified one way or another. I don't understand, especially if you look at what's being paid to the auditors, why that same money couldn't fund or -- I don't know how much slack there is in the current manpower. I mean I know Michelle's gotten out, everybody's one position short-handed, but in general that that could be

an internal function of the pilot, a job that's to handle that task.

I think it would be a lot more nimble and know exactly what happened, when to look at things and make its own determinations on what's allowable and what's not.

CHAIRMAN TANNER: Public have any comments?

MR. HAVILAND: Todd Haviland. Is there any way that we can accelerate the audits that you guys do for your own books to try to recognize your expenses sooner than we do now?

CPT BOYCE: I don't think so. That's the one commonality is I didn't mention it but I talked to our auditors, too, and they are adamant there is no way they could shorten it up by an appreciable amount of time. Just on the requirements for them of what they can use for information to be audited and issue an unqualified opinion, there has to be way too many accruals and estimations for year-end numbers, even at the end of January.

The only way I think you can really do

it is if the pilot accepted unaudited financial

statements from us. And I'm not sure that's

something I could ask them to do.

CHAIRMAN TANNER: Committee, we've discussed this. Any other recommendations you'd like to make? Action? Are we done?

CPT BOYCE: Is it even in the realm of possibilities? Maybe this is a question to Rajiv. I'm thinking more about if the pilot office itself did the audits versus an outside firm.

I'm firstly not aware why it changed from an internal function to a third-party contract. I understand there's pros and cons to it but at first glance I would say you are probably awful close to funding the position on the cost of contract and we'd have more capacity for other things, whether it be some of the studies or other things in there.

DFO KHANDPUR: Well, I can certainly look into it but sometimes funding really is a

whole different thing because you've got to get billets on one side. You've got to have a solution available. And you've got to have funding available because they are two separate things. So, they don't necessarily match because of what you can do with just an audit.

But given our existing resources, that is something that I would try and see and see whether it is plausible.

question. The problem with the auditors is by the time your get our financial statements, by the time you release the contract and they've got to coordinate it, if it was done within your office, I think there's much more leeway on your part. You could send a guy out, we could coordinate him a lot easier. It's such a big red tape to try to get these people out here, coordinated with our because most people have busy schedules also.

To me, if we want to speed things up,

I think that's one way definitely to go.

DFO KHANDPUR: Please make a recommendation.

CPT BOYCE: And on top of that, just to tie in some other discussions not really with them all but to some of the studies going on.

I think a large part of why the Martin Study turned out the way it did and I and a number of us have a great concern about the compensation study is when you have somebody conducting these studies or, I suppose, the contracted firm is just conducting the study but who is originating the study, whatever the appropriate term is, that doesn't have a base knowledge of what they're asking, you're not going to get a good study. You know that's what I brought up before.

And I think the Martin Study and this compensation study need to be originated, whatever the appropriate term, from the pilot office so you've got somebody managing the contracts and looking at it that knows what they're asking, knows why they're asking it,

knows John's question is this retrospective or prospective, knows that you're looking at and you can say yes, it was delivered -- this is what I was looking for, this is what I needed versus a layman on the street that just wants a study done.

If you don't know what you're asking, you're not going to get the answer you need. And that's why I think there would be a lot of value if this could originate -- I understand funding streams and all that too, sometimes you can get a dollar here, you can't get a dollar there for the same thing. But I think there would be a lot of merit if the pilot office was conducting them.

DFO KHANDPUR: Just to clarify, the
Martin Study was not done by our office because
we did not have a need for it. We were not going
to use it in any shape or form, in terms of
condoning -- we've got a very similar nine-step
process that we use. And so the Martin Study
does not influence that at all. The Martin Study
is for the rest of the, like you mentioned

earlier, the regulatory folks that do a benefit-cost -- cost-benefit analysis, do a regulatory analysis and all of that. That is what meant for those folks.

So yes, I understand that some of the results that came out then in terms of perception and in terms of the word out on the street, could have different consequences for different parties. But that study was not a study that we would have done.

The compensation study would be, again, the rulemaking which we'll have looked into more of that but that, again, is being done by the party -- I'll try and find out what that third-party is, the regulation folks, the regulatory folks.

So, we'll definitely be engaged with that.

CPT BOYCE: But that's -- so, it's still being done by a different office but there will be input from the pilot office on that?

That's just not -- so it's like a tangential type

thing?

I don't know understand why that one, specifically, wouldn't originate with the pilot office. I mean to me, that would be clearly breaking a line with ratemaking.

DFO KHANDPUR: See, we didn't have the funding for that, so that's again, not in our lane and that's it. But it's from the Coast Guard and so we are certainly involved. Any input that would have in terms of making the determination for pilot compensation would certainly have our input. And that's one of the studies which we will use as needed. It's one marker.

CPT BOYCE: Okay. And admittedly, I don't live in lock and hauls of the Coast Guard of some of the behind the scenes inner workings have it. It just -- when you seem to be very divorced from the Martin Study and not using it, the same office is conducting the compensation study like you are using it.

I understand there is very likely a

lot of latitude in what you do and don't do. 1 Ι 2 guess I'm just not entirely clear on what that latitude is. 3 4 DFO KHANDPUR: Just to reiterate, the 5 Martin Study was done for regulatory purposes. And it was not done for any of the rulemaking 6 that originated from our office. The pilot 7 8 compensation that resulted in the pilot 9 compensation is certainly very, very pertinent to what we both want it to do. We will have 10 11 definitely. I've been saying that. 12 CPT BOYCE: Okay. So that's 13 essentially, that's where you get the funding 14 stream to conduct the study and if you couldn't 15 get the funding stream to do it, straight to the 16 pilot office? 17 DFO KHANDPUR: Right. 18 CHAIRMAN TANNER: Okay, what's your --19 Committee, any recommendations from this before 20 we move on? 21 CPT GALLAGHER: Yes, I'd like to make 22 a recommendation that, if possible, if the pilot

1	office does the audits of the associations.
2	CHAIRMAN TANNER: And your
3	recommendation is?
4	CPT GALLAGHER: My recommendation
5	would be that the pilotage office, if possible,
6	do the audits of the association.
7	And the reason behind that, I think it
8	could definitely I mean if we're looking at
9	speeding things up, I definitely believe that
10	would be one way to do it because you don't have
11	to go through contracting. And any questions, I
12	mean what they're doing now is they're going
13	through third parties all the time and we're
14	answering to three different people. And the
15	people that are asking the questions have not a
16	clue what they're asking.
17	CPT BOYCE: I would take out "if
18	possible" because if it's not possible, they're
19	not going to do it anyway.
20	CPT GALLAGHER: Yes, okay.
21	CHAIRMAN TANNER: Dan is that your
22	motion?

1	CPT GALLAGHER: Yes.
2	CPT BOYCE: Do the audits of the
3	associations
4	CPT GALLAGHER: Do the audits for
5	ratemaking purposes.
6	CPT BOYCE: Conduct, rather than do?
7	Conduct?
8	CPT GALLAGHER: Yes, conduct. Excuse
9	me.
10	CPT BOYCE: I'll second that.
11	CHAIRMAN TANNER: Okay, we have a
12	motion. We have a second. Further discussion of
13	the committee? John.
14	CPT SWARTOUT: I just have a question.
15	I assume that this company that's doing the
16	audits this year that they are a CPA firm, right?
17	PARTICIPANT: That's correct.
18	CPT SWARTOUT: So I just wondered if
19	there's any issue. I mean the Coast Guard Great
20	Lakes Pilotage Office is not a CPA firm. So, can
21	they do the job themselves?
22	CPT BOYCE: I would interject on that

1	that there's actually no requirement you be a
2	CPA. It's not really an audit as far as GAAP
3	accounting standards go and things like that.
4	There is no unqualified opinion being issued from
5	it. It's data collection for rate purposes and
6	determinations on that data.
7	So other than a CPA is familiar with
8	looking at numbers, I don't see a whole lot of
9	value in a CPA being attached to this process.
10	CHAIRMAN TANNER: Any other questions?
11	If not, I'll call for the vote.
12	All those in favor?
13	All those opposed?
14	It is unanimous. The motion passes.
15	Todd?
16	MR. HAVILAND: Yes, sir?
17	CHAIRMAN TANNER: Working Capital
18	Funds.
19	MR. HAVILAND: Todd Haviland.
20	Again, this was another issue that
21	FEDNAV, in particular, wanted to discuss. Their
22	concern is that the working capital fund is just

a tax that they're paying and the pilots are just taking that extra money and using it as compensation.

My question to the committee is the intent of the working capital fund is two-fold and I don't know if this is too much to ask. But the first thing it's supposed to do is show that you guys are earning a profit. And so when you go to apply for credit, you get a loan, you can show the financial institution that your company has been in business for all these years and yes, it's solvent, it's turned a profit. And it then could help you get access to capital.

The other thing it's supposed to do is encourage investment in your operations and in your infrastructure.

Does the current methodology do that?

And then also, how hard would it be for you to establish a separate account that the working capital fund would go into? And then the idea would be that my office would provide guidance through probably a memorandum or some type of a

policy paper that says you can spend the working capital fund monies on these types of things and it's not going to go towards compensation.

CPT BOYCE: I would say, for one, a working capital fund is hugely needed. to have the first dollar to be able to reinvest in a system that is designed on reimbursed costs. You know essentially the only money that we have to invest into current or future infrastructure is what we're taking out of our pocket for compensation, thereby shorting ourselves to be able to move the system ahead. But then as it is, you don't get it back for three years and then, depending on what it is, it could be for multiple years after that. So there has to be money on the front side to be able to move forward. Otherwise, you just handicap yourselves in a stalemate.

As far as guidance onto the use of it,

I think it's on the face value a simple concept.

I think once you're getting into the nitpicking

of what it can and can't be used on, it becomes

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more complicated than it's worth in reality.

To say it can't be used for compensation, on one hand it's a rational statement. I don't think I have a problem with that. But like I just said, anything that we use now is basically reducing compensation because the only -- compensation is the only slack in the system. So anything you spend on the expense side frees the money for compensation someplace else. It's one big pocket. You can segregate it out into a different line item category and you can have X amount of money sitting in there but I'm not sure it's quite as simple as what I'm envisioning you saying.

Now, that's not to say after considerable discussion what your proposing is entirely workable. I think there's a lot more devil in the details on it than a two-minute conversation right here, though.

MR. HAVILAND: Thanks, John. Todd Haviland.

I think it's pretty simple. We'll say

that Moody's AAA bond rate is four percent. So four cents on every dollar that you guys generate would then be put into this working capital fund. I understand you'd have to take taxes away from that. But I think it would be pretty simple. We would say the intent of this fund is to be spent on infrastructure, training, technology, operating expenses and it's not to be used for compensation.

So the idea would be that when you've got a million bucks, and I'm assuming it gets that big, but if you get \$1 million into that fund, you know a guy that's retiring doesn't get greedy and slide some of that money and throw it in his pocket.

But it's really to help facilitate you guys investing in your systems and also to show that credit worthiness. So like you know when Danny Gallagher wanted to buy his boat in Detroit, I mean thankfully Robert Lemire and the GLPA were willing to front some of that money and the same with the dock up in District 1. But

it's some money that's set aside that you can use for some of these big investments.

And what I don't want it to be is you've accumulated all this money; let's give ourselves a bonus.

CPT BOYCE: Agreed. And I think if your guidance or policy, whichever, is basically as simple as you just laid it out to be, I think that's workable.

MR. HAVILAND: And a question that
Sharon would have, and I think you all know who
Sharon is, you know how hard would it be for your
associations to set up and maintain that account.
I, personally, think it's easy but I don't run
your associations.

CPT SWARTOUT: Swartout. Easy enough to open a bank account and put money in it but because we are a partnership, what the Coast Guard thinks and what the IRS thinks are two different things. Any money that we don't spend on either infrastructure or operating expenses, the IRS considers income to the partners. So

even though that money, if there isn't an 1 2 immediate use for it in the current year and it goes into a bank account for the next year or 3 4 future years, it's still considered income by the 5 IRS and the partners are going to have to pay taxes on it. In other words, they're paying 6 taxes on money they didn't take home. 7 8 So I think the accounting would get 9 complicated. I'm not prepared to give a complete answer today but I can look into it with my CPA 10 11 and report back to you. 12 MR. HAVILAND: Thank you. 13 CPT GALLAGHER: Dan Gallagher. Same 14 thing, Todd, I don't have a problem with the 15 I don't think it would be that 16 complicated. We're a corporation and I'd like to 17 talk to my tax people and we can report back. 18 MR. HAVILAND: Thank you. 19 CHAIRMAN TANNER: Is that it? 20 MR. HAVILAND: Yes, and if they want 21 to put forth a recommendation or if not, I'll sit

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down.

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1	CHAIRMAN TANNER: Okay, let me just
2	does the public have any comments on this?
3	Seeing none, any action the committee
4	wants to take, recommendation?
5	MR. HAVILAND: Todd Haviland. May I
6	say one more thing?
7	CHAIRMAN TANNER: Yes, you may.
8	MR. HAVILAND: You didn't really
9	answer the question is the working capital fund
10	structured in a way right now that it's providing
11	you you know what that money to show your earning
12	profit and it's encouraging you to reinvest back
13	into your infrastructure and operations.
14	CPT BOYCE: Yes and no. As far as
15	encouraging reinvestment, I think it does. As
16	far as showing a profit, it shows a very, very
17	small profit.
18	So a bank, and I know this because we
19	purchased property and are looking at purchasing
20	a new boat and have just gone through all this,
21	they are not real enthused about the profit

margin. It's a bank that we've used for a number

of years and we kind of got them to go with it but the profit margin that's being shown -- because they see the variability and everything and when the profit is less than your variability, that doesn't count for a whole lot.

MR. HAVILAND: Okay.

CPT SWARTOUT: Swartout. It's good to have it. We need the money for infrastructure but like every other element of the rate, it goes up and down with traffic. And so it's inconsistent.

But you know in looking into funding for a dock and dredging, the bank is interested in knowing if there's a dedicated income stream for that purpose. And the only reason they are interested in that is they say if -- and I'm talking about if an infrastructure project is funded from a surcharge, not from working capital, which working capital fund doesn't have any earmarks on it. It's for whatever you need it for. But a surcharge is for a specific investment and the bank says that money, to the

1	extent you have it, goes right back into repaying
2	the loan.
3	CPT GALLAGHER: Dan Gallagher. I
4	think it's an important tool. We put a lot of
5	money into our system. I know John Boyce has
6	Captain Swartout working towards that way. I
7	think it's very much needed, yes.
8	CHAIRMAN TANNER: Okay. Committee,
9	any recommendations? Hearing none, we're ready
10	to move on to the next
11	CPT BOYCE: Well, would it be helpful
12	to have a recommendation to continue doing what
13	it's already doing?
14	MR. HAVILAND: Whatever input you
15	provide me is helpful.
16	CPT BOYCE: All right, then I'll make
17	a motion to continue the working capital fund.
18	MR. HAVILAND: Okay.
19	CHAIRMAN TANNER: We have a motion to
20	continue working capital fund.
21	CPT SWARTOUT: Second.
22	CHAIRMAN TANNER: We have a second.

Any discussion? Hearing none, all 1 2 those in favor? 3 Those opposed? 4 The motion was carried unanimously. 5 Thank you. All right. I'll speak 6 MR. HAVILAND: 7 for Ari for a couple of minutes. 8 CHAIRMAN TANNER: Thank you. 9 MR. HAVILAND: Todd Haviland. The next issue on the agenda is Coast Guard 10 communication with external stakeholders. 11 Mr. 12 Scott thought that this was going to take place 13 tomorrow, so he was not able to make it today. 14 But essentially what he going to talk 15 about is when we're engaged in a rulemaking, we 16 can't talk about the rulemaking. You know the 17 Administrative Procedures Act says that any 18 action we're going to take with regulations 19 requires notice and comment. So when we start 20 working on the NPRM, we can't talk about the 21 You've got to wait until we publish and once it's published, we can explain the questions 22

you have about the NPRM but we can't answer questions you have about how we were going to rule on a given comment.

So during that comment period, you're free to put together your comments, request an extension, ask for a public meeting but please understand what we put in the NPRM is what we think, based on the information we have, is the best way forward.

Now if some of the information we have is erroneous, it's best that you should tell us why it's erroneous and then give us information that we can have access to to change things and you know just because I don't like it isn't really a good enough reason.

And then if we've misapplied the math or if you think there's a -- you know you can tell us how we've misapplied the math.

But the rulemaking is constrained to -- you know the comments today need to be constrained to what's in the rulemaking.

And then there's the comment period.

So the NPRM stops. You've given us all your comments and we still can't talk about them. And then we consider every comment like it's the first time we've seen it. We weigh the merits of the comment. If it's sufficiently justified, we will make changes. We will explain why we made those changes or we will explain why we're not making the changes. And then we will finalize the rule.

The final rule is our decision. Now, if in the final rule we've made an error in the math or, again, there's a glaring mistake, that's one thing but if you just don't like what we did in the final rule, I'm sorry, you're going to have to wait until the next rulemaking or it will have to go to litigation.

But lots of times I get all these calls and people say when are you going to do this; what are you going to do with that? I know it was unfortunate this year that we published the 2017 final rule so late but until that rule is finalized, I keep telling the pilot

associations I don't know how many pilots you're going to have authorized in the next rate.

And it wouldn't be fair for me to tell you something that number one, everyone doesn't get access to and, number two, until that rule is finalized, it's not our final decision.

so I know some folks get frustrated and they think we're just hiding behind this bureaucracy or I get accused of hiding behind the law but I don't have the authority nor the desire to talk about things before they become the decision of the Coast Guard.

And with that, Captain Gallagher
wanted to raise an issue about his concerns with
what he believes are inappropriate conversations
between people in the Coast Guard and some of the
external stakeholders. Am I correct?

CPT GALLAGHER: Yes, Dan Gallagher.

When the rate 2017 -- 2016 rate didn't take effect in March we thought it was because of the administrative change with the President.

Everything was on hold. We've seen that before.

We assumed all three Presidents assumed that was the case.

Captain Boyce, and he can attest to it, I'm just going by what he told me, he was there at the meetings in Montreal and everybody in Montreal saying oh, there's going to be cuts coming. There's going to be some type of rule change coming out. And that's the first we had heard it. And we contacted Rajiv and we talked to Captain Barata on the phone. We were assured that that wasn't the case.

And two or three weeks later, the supplemental rule came out and the industry was spot on with their information. Somebody's talking to somebody. We don't know who.

Somebody's talking to somebody.

At the subcommittee meeting that I had, when I first started it, I contacted some of the people to see if they would sit on the committee. I thought I was doing the right thing. I think -- I believe I talked to Michelle or someone. I said I sent a list in. She said

you can't do that until you get permission. I said gee, okay, I'm sorry. I didn't realize the procedure.

So I then went through Michelle when I had the other meetings. The last one I sent Michelle a collection saying here's the date I'm looking. Are you available? Because it has to be her, I was told to go through her and she would check with Rajiv and I did that.

She sent an email out to what they call, I guess, interested stakeholders. Pretty soon, there's email flying around and of course I happened to see them this time because I had sent the request in.

It was Steve Fisher saying well you know the members haven't even been asked yet.

Well, I can't ask the members for a meeting if I don't know if the designated federal officer or the alternate designated federal officer is available. I mean if they're available, there's no sense me contacting everybody. I was trying to do the proper procedure.

But it seems like everything that's going on, Mr. Fisher, Mr. Gordau, and Mr. Barata are on an email chain direct link coming from the Pilotage Office.

Michelle apologized for it. Mr.

Gordau said well you know you're only giving

people a two-day notice. Well, I asked if it

wasn't cut in stone, if somebody had a problem

with it, I'd change the date, which we ended up

doing. I didn't have a problem with that.

Number one, for them people to be chiming in before anybody else is aware, it's not fair. Somebody is sending things out. It seems like anything we send in is going right to them.

So if we have a question, there is email chains going from someplace in the Coast Guard and I don't think it's fair to us.

DFO KHANDPUR: The only one was the one that Michelle sent out and I reprimanded her for that because she had no -- you're right. At that point, all you were doing you were asking if the ADFO and DFO was available. And so her

response would have been yes, we are and send it back to you and then you would have reached out.

She jumped the gun on that one but that's about all I know. I don't know what other information you are talking about.

CPT BOYCE: There's definitely many others. It becomes -- we're at a lot of the same meetings very often and it's obvious that they have far more insight into what's going on on a number of issues than we do.

And especially one that was telling was when the supplemental rule came out -- well, before the supplemental rule came out. They clearly knew that was coming. There was no question. I mean there was never a supplemental rule -- the NPRM, then final rule. So there was no way that was blind speculation that this might be happening. There is no way you would speculate that.

Sure enough, that's exactly what happened. There were cuts to the rate and a supplemental rule or rule change, in their words,

1	that came out. And frankly, I think they don't
2	realize what they were talking about when they
3	were talking about that. But it's an issue.
4	There is no question there's an issue.
5	CHAIRMAN TANNER: Any other discussion
6	from the committee? Public, do you have any
7	comments on this subject?
8	Hearing none, the committee, any
9	action? Hearing none, okay, we'll move on.
10	Next is Reports and Updates of the
11	Shipping Season. If the respective presidents
12	could yes.
13	MR. HAVILAND: Sorry to interrupt.
14	Todd Haviland.
15	This is an issue that Steve Fisher
16	wanted brought up. So I don't know if we still
17	need to address it.
18	CHAIRMAN TANNER: Evidently, Todd if
19	you could explain
20	MR. HAVILAND: Yes, Todd Haviland.
21	Steve Fisher called. I talk to lots of people
22	all the time but he said that he would appreciate

if at this Advisory Committee meeting if the Pilot Presidents could go around like they've done the last few years and just explain how their staffing looks, how their recruiting efforts are doing, what the forecast is for the rest of the season, how shipping's been compared to last year and if there are any unforeseen challenges that the users might need to know about prior to the end of the season.

CHAIRMAN TANNER: Okay, any -- do you want to give a little update? We're trying to move the meeting through.

CPT BOYCE: I think I can probably talk for everybody real quick.

CHAIRMAN TANNER: Could you do that,

John? Go ahead.

right now in our district to about 16 percent on bridge hours. The numbers are very -- we've definitely seen over the last couple of years different traffic patterns but it's all generally up, which is good.

All the groups have been working towards training and adding pilots, which I think is beneficial all the way around. And the system becomes healthier without delays. It works better for the seaways, both the U.S. and Canadian seaways. It works better to tie in with the Canadian Pilotage so one side is not waiting on the other. It's a huge efficiency for the system to staff properly.

And all three groups have been, as much as possible, trying to stay ahead of that ball, even working ahead of the rates and funding, especially this year. When '17 never came out, we still continued to move forward with what we knew we had to get to.

So I think I guess probably enough on that.

CHAIRMAN TANNER: Briefly, John.

CPT SWARTOUT: Yes, just a word about traffic. We were running about 20 percent ahead of last year up through July and then August and September have been quite slow. And you hear a

lot of rumors about the grain crop. And mid-summer, it sounded like it was going to be good and lately I've been hearing words that it's not that good. So we can't predict what the rest of the fall is going to bring.

Thank you. CHAIRMAN TANNER: Public? CPT GALLAGHER: John, in our district, District II, last year we had an anomaly. Basically we had the tug and barge in our system that we generated up to probably 13 or 14 percent of our revenue off of a noncompulsory tug and barge that came into the system and didn't realize when they bid a contract that they had to have first class pilot licenses. Now, they didn't have to have a lot of U.S. registered pilots but they had to have a first class pilot. They didn't want to go out and hire people. were afraid of, I think, of unions or something so they went ahead and they hired us.

They had us for the majority of the year. There was a huge increase in revenue. We are seeing revenue this year as down probably

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1	about \$800,000 and it's so our business was
2	actually good but the revenue we've seen, just
3	like I predicted, we're going to lose all that
4	revenue. What we're down in revenues this year
5	will be, at the end of the year, probably close
6	to what we generated from that noncompulsory tug
7	and barge unit that was a one-off thing.
8	CHAIRMAN TANNER: Thank you.
9	Let's take about a ten-minute break
10	and then we'll come back and address the rest of
11	this issue, okay?
10	(Whoroupon the above-entitled matter
12	(Whereupon, the above-entitled matter
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13	went off the record at 2:34 p.m. and resumed at
13 14	went off the record at 2:34 p.m. and resumed at 2:46 p.m.)
13 14 15	went off the record at 2:34 p.m. and resumed at 2:46 p.m.) CHAIRMAN TANNER: Okay, we'll
13 14 15 16	went off the record at 2:34 p.m. and resumed at 2:46 p.m.) CHAIRMAN TANNER: Okay, we'll reconvene. Mr. Berg?
13 14 15 16 17	went off the record at 2:34 p.m. and resumed at 2:46 p.m.) CHAIRMAN TANNER: Okay, we'll reconvene. Mr. Berg? MR. BERG: Yes.
13 14 15 16 17 18	went off the record at 2:34 p.m. and resumed at 2:46 p.m.) CHAIRMAN TANNER: Okay, we'll reconvene. Mr. Berg? MR. BERG: Yes. CHAIRMAN TANNER: Would you step
13 14 15 16 17 18 19	went off the record at 2:34 p.m. and resumed at 2:46 p.m.) CHAIRMAN TANNER: Okay, we'll reconvene. Mr. Berg? MR. BERG: Yes. CHAIRMAN TANNER: Would you step forward with your Klein report, please?

like to say the Coast Guard supplies the districts who have a system that provide data to us so that we can pull up reports anytime and we do.

And the update on the migration is 2016 we contracted with Saab Technologies to upgrade to a web-based type system. And that is far better than what we had from the old Klein system, which was this one big long spreadsheet about 20 miles long and it was hard to get data out of there. And we haven't been using that since the early 2000s.

In 2016, we contracted with them to come up with this web-based system. They started working on it in May of 2016. And in June and September, we had meetings, one in Port Heron and one in Vancouver to help them develop. Pilots went up there, dispatchers went up there to develop the system.

And then shortly after that, we conducted a -- they put a training environment in October of last year. So it would have been a

pilot's concern in Houston. And we wanted to 1 2 have the system ready for opening season in 2017. So in 2017, the season opened March 3 20th and we also had our training session out in 4 Port Heron again, for the pilots and dispatchers 5 in the billing and invoicing. 6 And it actually started that week. 7 8 Mike Z from D1 put the first chip in the system 9 on our side on that Wednesday of that week. Since then, the system is in the 10 maintenance phase and throughout this year, we've 11 12 worked with the District and anything that's come 13 up, we've worked with Saab Tech and they take 14 care of those issues or those problems. We are in the option year, the second 15 16 year of the contract and can do another option 17 year starting in May of next year. 18 And currently right now, the 2017 19 rates and surcharges are preloaded so that 20 October 2nd, they start immediately. You guys 21 don't have to do anything with the systems.

We would like to know if you have any

suggestions or any discussions on the system or any further ways to go in the system with the data that we need to do Friday.

CPT BOYCE: Yes. Klein, I'm sure in and of itself, can produce an acceptable product. I don't think there's any question it's become a monster trying to serve five different masters, between the GLPA, the U.S. Coast Guard, and three different pilot groups. And I think there's far better ways to skin that cat.

I've been learning about the Klein system for a number of years and decided to go out and have a software developer build a whole new system that I feel performs much better.

It's much simpler to use. And one of the biggest things is it's much more responsive to changes that need to be made or want to be made, whether it's reporting to the Coast Guard or operational things that we want or needed to do. It's very simple. If it's not changed or fixed to what we wanted that day, it is within a day or two.

We've been using it for a year and

however many months into this year now. The only issues we've had with it, in order to accommodate paper source forms last year into an electronic system, we had to photo capture them all. So there's a huge data file but it's a little bit difficult to retrieve. We just have to go right to the software. They're not right online to pull off. Other than that, I think the system performs much better and is much more user friendly than the current Klein system.

I mean we have provided the Coast

Guard with access to it and from what I have

gathered, it seems to be working well from that

point of view, too.

One of the big benefits is it gets out from the whole Coast Guard contracting bureaucracy to have something from blue to yellow. You know that seems to take an act of Congress. I can make a phone call and that's done probably before I hang up the phone call.

So I would strongly, strongly urge the Coast Guard and the other two districts to

explore and migrate to that program.

I would assume -- I went out and did
that because I saw there was a need of something
that had to be done. And if I'm going to
complain about one, I'll have a solution for
something else, too. Now that the proof of
concept is there, I would assume if the other two
districts would allow the Director to recognize
that as a foreseeable expense and not have to
wait a three-year cycle to get it recouped in the
rates.

That's my leading tell-all.

CHAIRMAN TANNER: Any other questions from the committee?

what John said. I've looked at his system a couple different times. He's walked me through how it works. I've been working with the new Klein. It's better than the old Klein by far but it's not user friendly. It's not customizable by district. And so I would like to see the Coast Guard move in the direction of the system that

John's got for all three districts. 1 2 CHAIRMAN TANNER: Any other? CPT BOYCE: From the Coast Guard's 3 4 perspective, is there any issues with that, with 5 the Sea Pro system or any -- I mean you can find an issue with any, I suppose, but do you foresee 6 7 any issues with migrating over to that? 8 MR. HAVILAND: Todd Haviland. The 9 only issue would be, and we would have to have guarantees that if we were to go away from the 10 11 Klein system, that when you disagreed with some 12 of our findings, you wouldn't shut it off. 13 Like we're not getting enough money in 14 the rate and the one thing we're going to close is this common dispatch system that gives us 15 16 visibility so it could use this as a negotiating 17 tool or just trying to influence us. 18 CPT BOYCE: Understood. How would 19 that be any different than just not utilizing the 20 Klein system? 21 MR. HAVILAND: Well not utilizing the 22 Klein system, the framework would still be there.

CPT BOYCE: But blank boxes don't mean a whole lot.

MR. HAVILAND: No but that's two separate issues. I mean if you're not going to use the current system and I know what you're excuse what would be. I don't want to hear in the future that we don't have enough money to keep this thing running, so we're turning it off.

When you asked what our concern would be, that would be the concern.

And I don't know if this is the appropriate time but I mean is this something that would be worthy of bringing everyone back tomorrow and you doing a presentation of it or should we just finish the meeting today and be done?

CPT BOYCE: I don't think it would be worth bringing -- I don't have anything to prepare to present on this. So I think that would probably be -- I won't waste everybody's time for me to just talk about a system that likely there's five people in this room that are

really going to get anything out of it.

MR. HAVILAND: And then the only other question I would have, I mean not that this would be a deal breaker but what concerns would the GLPA have of us going to the system, as long as we shared the information with them?

MR. LEMIRE: Robert Lemire, GLPA. To us, it really doesn't matter. You guys do what you want to do. You are doing it. You're doing it now.

I'm not a Klein employee so I'm not here to defend it but I'm also not an idiot. I don't spend a lot of money on a system that works for us. We have dedicated people that work at it. That's why maybe I understand there are three different groups are using yours differently but it works perfect for us. It works perfect for the Merchant Pilot that has about 300 pilots and it works perfectly for Pacific Pilots, they have 100, mainly because we've got an office structure and we've got tech people that work for it and we've made it work.

So you know I don't want to defend them but I don't want the Coast Guard to think that we've got duped into something that's no good. Klein sold across the world. We've got 50 pilot authorities that use this thing. So it's not a bad thing.

CPT BOYCE: That's not what I meant.

MR. LEMIRE: Hold on. No, and I know that. And I understand that you've designed something that's easy for you. I would do the same thing. You have 70 pilots and we would do the same thing.

But you know we are sharing a lot of things that's always been an advantage to the users that this integration to the Coast Guard and GLPA but more and more there is less and less of that. We all do our dispatching differently and it's working pretty good.

So I call that. Now, the next thing is we're going to do pilot boats. We're sharing that. Eventually we will see until we start using an old pilot system.

I just have to caution the group and U.S. Coast Guard, and I know the industry is asking me all the time why don't we just rip this MOU and start all over again. Well, I don't want to do that. I think the MOU is more than just sharing dispatching and sharing pilot boats.

It's about resolving the sharing of jobs and that works great.

So there's a big -- you know this dispatching climate is minuscule to me but the more we're going at it, the more we're all doing what the designers of the system didn't want to, which is two separate pilotage organizations in one system. So let's be calling it -- and there's no doubt there is an additional cost to the users on this. It's not a large cost but there is an additional cost.

CPT BOYCE: Agreed. I don't think this is Klein's fault that it's not usable in ways that we would like. It's the structure on our side, largely. And that's why I brought up specifically the contracting side of things. It

makes it so cumbersome to try to amend or do something that it really doesn't deliver to us -- not through Klein's fault whatsoever, not through your fault whatsoever -- what we want and need to more efficiently track and do things.

You know with ours, all of our travel and all of our hours, expenses, all of that flows directly into the accounting spreadsheets and has all a direct tieback for the auditors to go through all that stuff. It works for us.

But we couldn't get that built into

Klein because the Canadian system and the

American system both move ships but they do it

differently. And some things, by trying to force

them into the same thing, more is lost in the

inefficiency of trying to make them line up than

is deemed by making them line up.

MR. LEMIRE: I get that. I just have to -- you know in Canada, for the record, there is a national pilotage review online. And the individual that's leading it, the question to our board is why do you have an MOU? Why can't you

rip it up? Why are all these services being duplicated everywhere? Valid questions on the Canadian side and they are being asked as well by the industry. And we're all in the same boat, excuse the expression, but it's a tough for me to answer when I'm asked why do we have four dispatching centers now in the Great Lakes? I mean to me it works well, I'm happy with it but that's a tough one to answer.

I'm not going to be around here forever but those questions have to be answered. So what happens if we disconnect from Klein? It will actually be easy for us because right now we just see the stuff that you're putting on is cluttering what we see because you're not using it how we are, which is fine. So we're seeing ships on our three-days older and blah, blah, blah and it just clutters the screens. We'll be business as usual.

And I must commend the three presidents. Our dispatch centers are working amazingly. They've never worked so good. It is

seamless, I think, at times to the customer.

That's what's important. We're not missing any ships. We haven't lost one yet.

So but perception is the whole pilot business and you know somehow we're going to have to wrap our minds around about what are we going to do with it. What are we going to do with it?

I'm getting asked the question and I know in Parliament the question is going to be asked probably very soon in the next report before another meeting, I guess.

But I think the answer to your question, what happens if you drop off? That's fine. We still have the one-on-ones with the dispatcher. It works well. We'll be all right.

CPT GALLAGHER: Dan Gallagher. The meeting in Vancouver, it was very disappointing to me. Just the further we went this spring when we started out, again, it was a little bit disappointing.

I think we're making headway with this now. I think our office has figured it out

pretty decent.

I agree with what John's saying. You know under his system he can call a guy out and pull the reports up. I think we need to -- I personally, would like to give it some time until the end of the year I think before we start making a decision and see what we're doing because it seems to be working for our office now. Is it perfect? No but from Vancouver, actually I think it was the middle of October or November to right now it's a huge difference. If we can just pull the reports up as easily as John can, I don't think it's the end of the world.

But I would like to just give it at least throughout the season to see if we can pull the reports up because I know we had a little bit of a problem when you guys asked for some reports, us pulling them up. Under the old system, we could do it. Under this new system, evidently there was a glitch or something -- you got it but our office should be able to do it.

So if you call or if we want it, we could be able

to just go in and do it. And I think we can, 1 2 can't we? Is it possible? MR. BERG: You can't because under the 3 4 system we were going to give you the permission 5 to do that and I think they did. I just have to check the roles and responsibilities. 6 7 CPT GALLAGHER: Yes, that they're in 8 there. 9 Personally, I would like to see us 10 finish off the year and see how we actually --11 because we -- from the beginning, from the 12 spring, I viewed it as a disaster. Right now, 13 the billing seems to be working for our group. 14 I'd say we just give it at least a year, I mean finish out the year and see what we think. 15 16 CHAIRMAN TANNER: Okay, thank you. 17 Any other public comments? 18 Okay, committee, any action on this 19 subject or as John said -- or Danny said, just 20 give it a year? 21 CPT BOYCE: When does the 22 determination need to be made on extending the

contract here? Does the contract start in May or 1 2 does a determination need to be made prior to May or it could be turned on again in May? 3 It needs to be made before 4 MR. BERG: They need it 60 days before May. 5 May. Sixty days before May 6 CPT BOYCE: 7 first? 8 To go on with another MR. BOBAL: 9 option, yes. So basically, March first? 10 CPT BOYCE: Okay, so the subject 11 MR. BERG: Yes. 12 is complete. We'll now go with work rules. 13 Working rules, currently we have 14 District 1's working rules on file which are dated 2014. And those are the current ones we 15 16 We also have currently reviewed, in the 17 last few weeks, D2's and D3's. We have returned 18 them both. D3's we returned on the second set of 19 pass backs. We're waiting for those to come back 20 and we've returned D2's for pass backs for the 21 first time. So we're still waiting on those.

hope to have those completed and on file, signed

copies by the end of the year.

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Other than that, I don't have anything else, unless you guys have something on working rules.

One thing we would like to do is we'd like to have the working rules and all these other things we're talking about plans, you know compensation plans, trading plans, we'd like to have those all separated out. That way, if you guys go to change something, to make a change, and we're not reviewing the whole entire thing. We're not reviewing a big book like this. just reviewing the small portion of the working rules, or an example of your compensation plan. We're only reviewing that. We're not reviewing 200 pages. We may be reviewing 15 or 20. way, we can turn them back around a lot quicker so that we have currently up-to-date ones so that we can provide those to the public, if they ask to see them.

So any thoughts, any concerns, any discussion on that?

CPT GALLAGHER: Vince, would you say

-- you said our office was the pass back. You

want us to review them again or --

MR. BERG: Yes, we made either changes to them or things that we suggested you might want to put in there. Like in these three, it talked about doing source forms and even using those as backup. In other words, this new age of the electronic data recording system, we put some things in there about that. We may want to update that. Even though you may still put in there, they will use at the beginning of the season, at the beginning of the season use source forms just to make sure the system is still Those kind of things we put in working okay. there and we just want you to review them. you agree to them, send them back. We'll make a final copy. We'll sign both and yourself will sign them.

That's something else we like to see, too, is some of these things that are on file have all the presidents on them. Just like the

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President of the United States, he signs new stuff just so his name is on it. We'd like to see those, too, that way we can at least say oh, D2 looked at these. Nothing's changed but the new president or the president agrees with what he wants to see in the association, or the members do but you sign for them. Things like that.

CHAIRMAN TANNER: Any questions from the committee? Does the public have any questions pertaining to this?

If none, Committee, any action on this?

Assuming none, let's move on to the next subject for the pilot association training plans.

MR. BERG: Okay. Kind of the same thing along the lines of the working rules. I have seen some training plans and I know you probably all have them, however, I don't know that we have them. I have a hard copy of D3's on my desk but I don't recall the year that is going

over.

What we would like to do is the same thing with the working rules. We'd like you to have your groups -- I think Danny -- Judy talked about you guys were going to look at the training plans. And just the same thing, make sure it's the same thing and just have it be signed and updated that it's been reviewed via the association.

And the same thing, we decided to have that on file so that we can refer to it if anything ever comes up or major changes or something changes, then we can go back and we can review. And the same thing, let's kind of keep that separate for the same reason, we can review that and in a quicker time.

In the 2014 NRPM we encouraged everybody to train. I think that's when the surcharges started for training the pilots or the applicants. And we encouraged everybody to do a five-year continuous development plan. And that's both for the applicants and the registered

pilots.

Some of the things that we've brought up and we'd like to see sent to us so that we can track this also along with your folks is radar observer certificate, bridge resource management, SCCW Seafarers, legal aspects of pilotage, fatigue mitigation, emergency ship handling and simulator manned model.

I know some of you went down to New Orleans last year, a couple groups went down there. We track this up in our office. So we would like to have, if we could, unless those folks that went down there, and whenever you do things like this, you know send it to us or send it to me. Then we can kind of help you keep track of the training.

And the reason being is industry wants to see what they are going to pay for their surcharge. So if they ever ask us, we can say, hey, they didn't pay it again, besides asking you. You know they ask us these things all the time. So at least we will have this on-hand and

say hey, this is the program that they're doing.

You know this is what they're doing with the

money. The surcharge is going to what it's

supposed to be going to. Okay?

We also track the applicants, all their training, their required trips, and their performance reviews, their midyear reviews. We started that this year for midyear reviews. We'd like to know how the applicants are doing halfway through the year so that we can track them and know that your program is working on the training side.

One thing about the performance reviews, if you did them, I know that all of them have numbers one through five. If they did four, they did great. Those numbers really don't do anything for us. We'd like to really see words on the comment remarks saying you know it was bad weather; he was given this situation. More written comments rather than one through five. Sometimes we give them back and the bottoms are blank, there's nothing in the remarks. Okay, you

did all fives, you made all circle fives, okay
but we'd kind of like to know more. Does he need
more help here? Does he need more help there?
And that way we can help also track that, too.

And we also encourage also you guys did this stuff down in New Orleans. I don't know if the applicants went with you but we encourage those folks to go with you down there to New Orleans also.

So if you could give us a brief on each one of the districts of what training you've done recently and what you plan to do in the future, if we could do that, please.

CHAIRMAN TANNER: Okay, Danny, we'll start with you. We'll go to John and then John.

Also, could you add the number of apprentice pilots, pilots, and your recruiting effort, how that's going?

CPT GALLAGHER: Vince, when you talk about training, the money that's in the surcharge is for bringing the new pilots on and paying them. It's not for -- I don't think that -- that

money is not earmarked for continuing education, training let's say of the simulators or bridge resource managers. Because what you're saying I mean the way it is now, you're saying once you reach -- you're allocating \$150,000 per person, when that amount is reached, let's say there is two trainees in the rate, so there's \$300,000. When that \$300,000 is reached, that surplus is shut off. Even if it costs us \$500,000, it's being cut off at \$300,000.

So industry wants to know where their money goes for training, it's not going towards that. And I think we need to keep that separated where it's not confused.

CPT BOYCE: More to that point, that's all within the scope of I'll use the term audit.

But that's a reimbursed expense, not a surcharged expense. So there's an audit function for that already in place.

CPT GALLAGHER: Okay, you're not just right but we started the year off with 13 pilots, of course the two trainees. We were cut to --

because the rate didn't come out, the surcharge didn't come out, we were cut. We had a retirement.

Now we're, even though the rate is not going to be out here until October, we've already -- again, I kept asking Todd, he wouldn't give us an answer, and Rajiv even knows, we asked Rajiv and we were told it was because of the rate they couldn't talk about it.

We didn't bring anybody on. We made plans to bring somebody on. As soon as the rate came out, we went forward. We brought the two people on premature. So we're actually going to eat the cost for those two people about three weeks before this rate comes into effect.

So we're being proactive. We realize that we have an opportunity to bring us good people, we do. So in the next couple weeks, we will have, actually, 15 working pilots -- 14 and then one still getting his trip. So we will be above what we've got but we're just considering the other guy, even though he's working, we're

considering him training, too, but he will be producing and working.

We were very lucky to get the people we are. We are getting a few applications here and there. The one we just hired, I got a call from one of the shipping companies yesterday. He wasn't too happy. We were able to track one of their top people is what he told me. He said you know it's bad enough you took somebody, you took the best of the best.

And John Swartout, I'm sure he's going to be getting a call from this same executive from the shipping company because he told me he was going to call. And they're upset because they have put -- they have put hundreds of thousands of dollars into training these people. And the only way that we're -- the reason we're getting them is people have seen some stability in this pilot program. Before, we couldn't get anyone. It's the only reason we're able to attract some really good, talented people and it's going to show for years with industry. It's

going to pay off.

So that's where we are with our pilot numbers.

For training this year, we brought MITAGS to our office. Again, it is cost-effective. We had our meeting. We brought everybody in a few days early. We went through the client training. We had MITAGS there for a couple days. You know we've done the legal aspects of pilotage. We had the bridge resource management. You know a lot of the newer guys, they know these things but some of the older pilots, they didn't realize the risk that we've been taking. And the new younger guys, they don't want that risk tolerance anymore.

Years ago we used to go up alongside

-- I used to run a log deal with island ships and
we used to use the bridges to turn on, railroad
bridges. You don't do that anymore. If you
touch that bridge, there's cameras, you're going
for a drug and alcohol test. The tolerance for
nobody seeing something, it's different. It's

totally different and our guys are more cautious, especially our new guys because they look at this if the system goes backwards, which it's responsibility is looking that way in the eyes of some of the pilots. They're not going to take a risk. They're going to go in. They're going to be safe. They are going to make sure they use -- they're going to cover themselves with tug usage and we have not had any incidents. You know it's go to say something for our system and the way we're handling things.

We have not had a major incident in the pilotage in years, and years, and years.

We're very fortunate and it's because of the outside pressures from the shipping companies.

They can't put those pressures on us. They might not like it but it's our job to look out for the public, not their bottom line.

As I say, we went through this training and we'll continue the training in the future here.

MR. BERG: Thank you, Captain

Gallagher.

DFO KHANDPUR: So you mentioned that they're not happy with you. You're talking about the lake pilots that are coming over to you? Who is not happy, the shipping companies?

CPT GALLAGHER: The shipping companies.

DFO KHANDPUR: Because you are now so much more desirable than them that you are siphoning off them?

CPT GALLAGHER: Yes, I've seen this, Rajiv, that the pilotage office, the Coast Guard, has taken some positive steps in the last three or four years. And people that wouldn't take a look at us before are looking at us now. And there is a lot of good experienced people out there. I know John Swartout has got a couple of them.

We were able to get captains. I mean there is a shortage of captains. American Steamship, they told me yesterday if they lose one more guy, they've got to lay a ship up. And

they're canceling all their vacations for the captains. They can't get people now.

CPT BOYCE: But that's the big one right there. As much the compensation, it's the predictable time off. And you start pulling that way --

As much as the compensation side of things, it's the intangibles, which is predictable time off and the other is the benefit schedules that are changing. You know it's no longer on the shipboard side, a defined pension, it's contributions and they can walk away from that now.

The other is we've just recently, with shortages, it's the defined or guaranteed, I guess I'll call it, time off, which ours isn't great but it's better than it used to be. And what's bigger is trends and things. It's getting better on the piloting side.

It's not where it needs to be on par with the rest of the country but it's trending in the right direction and people believe in trends.

I mean that's how you invest in the stock market is on trends. But it doesn't take a whole lot for a hiccup in the trend and it all goes out the window. And that's really where we are right now is there is no long track history of things getting better. There's a short one going in the right direction. And if it continues to do so, we will be in a good place soon.

On the map right now, we've actually got nobody in training right now. Based on prior years and where things were, we're looking to be going with the relief at Iroquois. We needed to get the 17. We've currently got all 17 guys training. So come October 2nd, we'll have 17 on the tour roll or on the days off rotation.

We have one definite upcoming retirement next year. We also have the one pilot that's 70 -- I forget now -- 72 or 73 years old that can't be fully registered anymore. So he's temporary registered but continuing to keep working. And basically, he stayed on because he's been in this for longer than any of us here

have. And he's finally seeing it go in the right direction, wants to stay part of it and has agreed to keep working. He's working a full tour on the lake for us but he's starting to get tired of staying around to help us train up to the numbers that we need to be. So we're, very likely, going to need two training slots for next year to replace the two guys.

And as far as the continuing education side frame, we were one of the groups that went down to the manned model school down in Louisiana, which is very, very good training. You know it won't make an expert boat handler out of somebody who doesn't know what they're doing but it was very good training. And it almost forces you to be in the mindset of the training, whereas, a simulator you get the computer game effect going on and you almost have to believe what it tells you to believe, whereas, on the manned models, it's a real ship that's scaled down and it's going to do exactly what you made it do, whether you like it or not. So you can't

kind of continue to blame the program, it isn't right or they didn't have the current program.

It really doesn't. So, I'll get off that soap box.

CHAIRMAN TANNER: All right, John.

CPT SWARTOUT: We started a rotation like Vince was talking about with five or four elements -- bridge resource management for pilots, ECDIS training for pilots, which is electronic chart display and information system, ARPA for Pilots, automated radar skills, and then a sort of a catch-all column for other things that the American Pilots Association likes.

And we, this spring, send seven of our guys to manned model in Covington. We combined that with our annual meeting. We always meet -- I mean everybody has to travel for meetings. So we meet in usually a warm place and, this year, combined our annual meeting with our training so it saved on transportation and lodging costs.

Seven manned model and 11 of our guys went to ECDIS training. And that is both

applicant pilots and fully registered pilots attend those.

We had one of our three applicant pilots went to the ECDIS and two went to manned model. And we have five applicants but two of them were hired after we did the training so they couldn't participate.

So we've cycled through BRMP, ECDIS P and fatigue management, legal aspects of piloting, and pilot electronics. So, we're doing good.

We haven't done any ARPA training yet so that's the next thing we're going to be looking at trying to send a bunch of guys all at the same time.

For pilot numbers, we've had 15 fully registered pilots all season. The rate is paying for 13 of them.

We have five applicant pilots. Three of them should be fully registered in the spring,

April 16th will be their anniversary dates except for the first one, whose anniversary date is in

November. So we expect to get him fully registered in November and the other two in April. And God willing, we'll hire two more in the spring but we have been advertising for applicants. We advertised in gCaptain and BoatNerd and Professional Mariner.

And we've got about 21 or 22
applications or resumes on file and we've got a
lot of deep sea guys with no lakes experience. I
think there is one or two resumes with lakes
experience, no captains experience. So we're
concerned about hiring plans for next spring but
we'll keep advertising and getting the word out.

DFO KHANDPUR: Okay, thank you very much. So I have a question, John.

So you have 15 pilots plus five applicant pilots at the present time and you're looking to add two more. Is that your full strength, 22?

CPT SWARTOUT: The 2017 final rule is
17 pilots authorized -- I'm sorry is 22 pilots
authorized but we didn't know that until less

than a month ago. The 2017 NPRM said 18 pilots total. So we were already on track to exceed that.

But we've been operating under the 2016 rule, which expected that we would have 13 fully registered pilots. We actually have had 15. It's 2017 now, it's not 2016 anymore. So the rate is catching up to us. That's why I say we have two fully registered pilots who are not funded in the rate or won't be at least until starting October 6th I think -- or October 2nd.

DFO KHANDPUR: So at this time, are you experiencing any delays or everything is --

CPT SWARTOUT: A few, yes. It's a struggle to keep up right now. I mean we're doing an awful lot of overland travel in order to try to avoid the delays and most ships going through the St. Mary's River are being delayed two to three hours because we don't have enough pilots to relieve twice at the river. They have to get ten hours' rest. So we anchor the ship for two or three hours to get the lake pilot

1 those additional rest hours.

CPT MARTIN: Okay, thank you.

CHAIRMAN TANNER: Thank you. Good reports. Good job.

Does the public have any question on this? I think everything explained itself so that we can move on.

We're on the home stretch right now. So let's go to Captain Boyce and the reports of the ongoing projects in his district.

CPT BOYCE: Okay in the last year, we had purchased a building on one end of our Area 1 of the River District. That's where we dispatch out of and it's also a place of rest for the pilots on that end of the run. It's basically completely limited use of hotels on that end.

In Cape Vincent, we've moved our office from where it was about a mile and a half towards the lake on the river and that facility has an office, a station for the boat, and it's actually got a ten-room hotel as part of it. So we've completely eliminated hotel bills in that

area, too.

On the other end of the lake, we still have hotels. Hopefully, at some point in the future, we'll look at buying a place on that end, too, to eliminate the use of hotels almost completely. It becomes far cheaper to own a building than put people in hotels all the time.

At the new facility, there's been a number of projects we've had. We just got done repaving the roadways and parking lots. Right now, we're going through the permitting process. There's a break wall in front of the property, a dock-end break wall that's in seriously bad shape. We hope at any point in time to get the last leg of the permitting done and next month to have that completely rebuilt.

What that will do is allow us with another project we're going on right now is building a new boat to be able to keep the new, heavier boat right at our facility over the winter bubbled in place, so it's ready at the start of the season, once the ice starts clearing

and it will be ready as far as we can into the end of the season. It's absolutely not an icebreaker but it will have some ice ability.

It's essentially the same boat as

Danny just built in D2 with a few modifications.

So we hope to have that contract signed also by
the end of the year with about a two-year
turnaround for delivery.

So we've definitely been reinventing heavily into infrastructure.

MR. BERG: Thank you.

CPT GALLAGHER: Okay, last year, and we finish it up this year, our facility over at Port Colborne. We completely rebuilt the house, gutted it right down to the studs new plumbing, electrical, heating, everything, kitchen and bathrooms. That's completed. We've got some outside work to do on some deck shed, whenever the contractor calls us back to finish that up.

Of course we took delivery of a new pilot boat last November. We had it in operation for about a month. This spring we had a little

problem. We were hoping -- our intentions were to get the Belle down to Westcott. We had some problems with the new boat we had to address. We lost a couple months with it. We had to put the Belle back in service. We actually had it out to do some repairs and we had to put that back in service.

In the meantime, we've going through
the Belle -- the Belle and the Maid. We had
rebuilt engines, gearboxes, but we never did any
electrical upgrades, the plumbing upgrades on
them. There were just a lot of things that
needed to be done that we, number one we didn't
have the time to take it out of service to do it.
This year, we were able to do it. We had to keep
the boat around because we were still going
through some growing pains with the new one.

We plan on -- like I say, we plan on, hopefully within the next couple of weeks getting it back down there for the end of the year, the bigger boat. We're looking at a new dock system.

Our dock is -- nothing's been done with that dock

in probably 35 years. It's still okay but the pilings are starting to rust out on it. So we've got to address it. It doesn't have to be done today but we're looking at it. We're getting some bids on it. It's got to be done sooner or later.

That's probably it for us right now.

MR. BERG: Okay, thank you very much.

CPT SWARTOUT: Well, at long last, we got a ground lease signed with Cloverland Electric Cooperative in Sault Sainte Marie that will let us build a dock and do some dredging so that we can move the pilot boat from below the locks to above the locks. The pilot changes take place about eight miles above the locks. And for several years now, we've had to pass through the lock with the pilot boat for every pilot change. So, sometime in the next few months, we'll be back to having 20-minute pilot boats instead of an hour plus pilot boat runs.

I don't know if we're going to be able to get work done yet this fall. There is a

moratorium on dredging in this area because fish spawn in the fall and they have said you can't dredge past November first. So we're already almost into October and if you dredge now and wait until spring, some of the dredging will have to be redone before you can build a dock. If you build a dock, well, you can't use it until spring because you haven't done the dredging yet. So there's a bit of a -- we've come up against a time constraint here. So, we'll just start it as soon as we can.

We're also considering buying a dock in De-Tour, the other end of the St. Mary's River. It's not urgent. We have a dock that we've leased there for a long time. Our pilot boat contractor has leased there and they haven't threatened to take it away but we would never want to be in the same situation in De-Tour that we have been in Sault. And so it would be beneficial to own our dock instead of leasing it and be at the mercy of the landlord.

The other project we're working on

right now is deck heat for the Sault pilot boat.

This is an electric mat system that is mounted on top of the deck. We looked at doing under-deck heat but as a retrofit, it would be a very difficult project to undertake.

So there's a company in Texas that makes a surface-mount, it's like a rubber mat that is about an inch thick. It has heating elements in it. And this will help enhance the safety of the boat because you won't be having ice buildup on deck in the spring and fall when you have sub-freezing temperatures and spray. It's an aluminum boat so you can't use salt or other ice melters on it. Heat is the only way to take care of it.

So we've got the drawings complete now for that and that will require installation of a diesel generator to power it. And we're just getting those things lined up right now.

And there are other infrastructure projects out further out the pipeline but too immature to discuss at this point.

MR. BERG: Okay, thank you very much.

CHAIRMAN TANNER: Do we have any final public comments as this meeting comes to an end?

Hearing none, Rajiv, do you have any comments?

DFO KHANDPUR: Yes, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all and I am really quite impressed and pleased with the reports that you all have given and the strides that you have made in pilot safety, the proper training that everybody is receiving.

And it's been a joint effort. From what I've seen, it's been the APA, Clay Diamond and Todd Haviland has really done this partnership, gotten you guys working. And of course, the three presidents, you all have done a wonderful job.

Our folks at the Cast Guard, I've got to mention them as well because they've been working hard to make this as equitable and cost-effective, as well as make sure that nobody's short-changed and everybody gets what is

needed to have safe and secure pilot systems.

So folks like I mentioned, Tim

Paviloris, who has been our legal person advising
us through all of this. And believe me, there
has been a lot of work going on behind the scenes
for all these rulemakings and all the stuff that
we've been working on over the years, the various
studies and everything else.

So there's a lot more manpower and effort that is going on in Coast Guard

Headquarters as well to get this all up to where it needs to be.

And I think I would like to thank our folks across the border. Thanks for coming over and helping with this process.

And of course, our staff that has been basically really running around trying to get this place done, get all the logistics and everything else. And the DHS, as well, because that was another big thing because we didn't get the members until the last day and I was basically threatening to pull strings to get that

1 And it was Traci that helped us to get pushed. 2 over the hump and get that in time and everything else. 3 So I think kudos all around, a great 4 5 I think this is a great discussion. iob. 6 learned a lot. I think we're all on the right 7 track. 8 I also learned about that we should be 9 having, what did she say, administrative meetings and proprietary meetings. So we'll have those as 10 11 well now. So we'll get on that, which I don't 12 think we've ever had in this committee. So we'll 13 try to doing that and, hopefully, that will be. 14 So thank you, all. And I think Mark Bobal, thanks for 15 16 coming down from D9 and making the trip here so 17 that we have D9 representation as well. 18 And thanks to the committee members. 19 John, I'll turn it back to you. 20 CHAIRMAN TANNER: Okay. It was great 21 to see everybody again. Good meeting. We got 22 done a day early. And with that, do I have a

1	motion for adjournment?
2	CPT BOYCE: So moved.
3	CHAIRMAN TANNER: So moved. We stand
4	adjourned.
5	(Whereupon, the above-entitled matter
6	went off the record at 3:44 p.m.)
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<u>C E R T I F I C A T E</u>

This is to certify that the foregoing transcript

In the matter of: Great Lakes Pilotage Adv. Committee

Before: US Coast Guard

Date: 09-26-17

Place: Martinsburg, WV

was duly recorded and accurately transcribed under my direction; further, that said transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

Court Reporter

Mac Nous &