

GREAT LAKES PILOTAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Summary Record

September 1, 2020

Hotel Ojibway Conference Room

240 W. Portage Ave

Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan 49783

On the call of the Sponsor, a meeting of the Great Lakes Pilotage Advisory Committee was held on September 1, 2020, at the Hotel Ojibway Conference Room in Port Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan.

This record is a summary of the meeting and transcript taken during the session and summarizes the committee's deliberations, conclusions, and actions. Documents are available for public inspection and printing online at

www.regulations.gov or <https://dco.uscg.afpims.mil/Our-Organization/Assistant-Commandant-for-Prevention-Policy-CG-5P/Marine-Transportation-Systems-CG-5PW/Office-of-Waterways-and-Ocean-Policy/Office-of-Waterways-and-Ocean-Policy-Great-Lakes-Pilotage-Div/>

The Great Lakes Pilotage Advisory Committee held a meeting on September 1, 2020 at the Hotel Ojibway Conference Room in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan at the request of the Sponsor. The Coast Guard convened this meeting to consult with the advisory committee on the following topics:

Status of GLPAC Member Terms & GLPAC

Stakeholder Outreach

Staffing Model

Limited Pilot Registration/Compensation benchmark for apprentice pilots/Training surcharge

Annual Review and report comparing previous rate setting projections with actual data

St Lawrence River flow/Lake Ontario flooding/Seaway closure

Designation of Straits of Mackinac

Pilot association projects and updates

Individual pilot compensation reporting

Host pilot association presentation

Public Comments

The Committee forwarded three (3) recommendations for Coast Guard consideration.

GLPAC COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Capt. Dan Gallagher, Lakes Pilots Association - Chairman

Capt. John Boyce, St. Lawrence Seaway Pilots Association – Vice Chairman

Capt. Jon Olney, Western Great Lakes Pilots Association

Mr. John Baker, Jr, President Great Lakes District Council, ILA

Mr. Steve Fisher, Executive Director American Great Lakes Port Association

Mr. Mike Klein, Chartering/Merchandizing CHS

Mr. Rajiv Khandpur, Designated Federal Officer (DFO)

Tuesday, September 1, 2020

GREETING AND INTRODUCTION

The Designated Federal Officer, Mr. Rajiv Khandpur, opened the meeting at 8:00 A.M. with welcoming remarks and offered introductions to the Committee and public attendees. Captain Gallagher, chairman, offered opening remarks, reviewed the administrative details and offered a welcome, beginning on page 1 of the transcript.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Committee approved the minutes of the September 12, 2019 meeting without discussion. This can be found starting on page 11 of the transcript.

Topic: Status of GLPAC Member Terms & Appointments:

This discussion begins on page 15 of the transcript.

The Committee received an update on the current Committee membership term appointments and pending legislation that impacts the GLPAC.

Committee recommendation: None

Topic: Stakeholder Outreach:

This discussion begins on page 27 of the transcript.

A broad ranging discussion concerning Coast Guard outreach and stakeholder involvement, the impact of COVID on in-person meetings, the potential of remote attendance, the participation of stakeholders and impact of GLPAC involvement.

Committee recommendation #1: (page 82). The Coast Guard should offer the opportunity to announce GLPAC with the defined time period to attend remotely and then provide access, if possible.” Klein/Fisher moved and seconded. Passed 5-1 with Boyce opposing.

(Additional discussion of Committee Recommendation #1 begins on page 130)

Topic: Staffing Model:

This discussion begins on page 85 of the transcript.

Extensive discussion by all members concerning current staffing models.

Committee recommendation #2: Committee recommends that the Coast Guard investigate modifying the staffing model to take in account current traffic dynamics.”

Boyce/Olney/unanimous

Topic: Limited pilot registration/Compensation benchmark for apprentice pilots/training surcharge. This discussion begins on page 143 of the transcript.

The Committee discussed extensively the challenges of determining apprentice pilot compensation, past and current practices, and considered several versions (page 173) of what became their final recommendation which was offered later in the meeting (page 208) and reads as follows:

Committee recommendation #3: (page 208). **Committee recommends that the Coast Guard incorporate a compensation benchmark for apprentice pilots into its annual rate setting rulemaking.”** Boyce/Fisher/unanimous

Topic: Annual review and report comparing previous rate setting projections with actual data.

This discussion begins on page 179 of the transcript.

The Committee discussed the continued challenges of rate setting and the methodology.

Committee recommendation: None.

Topic: St. Lawrence river flow/Lake Ontario flooding/Seaway closure:

This discussion begins on page 186 of the transcript.

The Committee discussed weather and other events which impacted traffic during Spring of 2020

Committee recommendation: None.

Topic: Designation of the straits of Mackinac:

This discussion begins on page 197 of the transcript.

The Committee discussed the status of the designation of the straits of Mackinac, a formal recommendation that resulted from GLPAC 2019 meeting

Committee recommendation: None.

Topic: Pilot Association projects and updates:

This discussion begins on page 210 of the transcript.

The Committee discussed each Pilot Associations current projects and related issues.

Each Pilot Association shared information on their current projects and challenges.