

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Annual Report Covering Fiscal Year 2013

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1. Preamble: Pursuant to Maine Revised Statute, Annotated (MRSA) 38 § 90-A, this annual report of the Maine Pilotage Commission is provided to the Commissioner of Transportation covering fiscal year 2013 (ending June 30, 2013). As required by the aforementioned law, this report provides details on the Pilot Commission's operations and financial position. The report also offers comments and recommendations that the Commission considers essential.

2. Background: Following MSRA Chapter 38 (Waters and Navigation), the Maine Pilotage Commission oversees and maintains the state marine pilotage system devoted to the preservation and protection of lives, property, the environment and vessels entering or leaving state waters at the highest standard of efficiency. The Commission achieves this mission by ensuring the availability of pilots well qualified for the discharge of their duties in aid of commerce and navigation.

Additionally, the Commission establishes the rules, policies, and procedures that govern the licensing, training, and discipline of marine pilots in the state waters under the jurisdiction of the Commission. The Commission also approves the rates, which pilots may charge for services. Administrative responsibility for the Maine Pilotage Commission was transferred to the Department of Transportation in July 1998. Since that time the Office of Freight and Business Services has served as the administrative arm of the Commission.

3. Maine Pilot Commission Details: The MRSA 38 § 89 requires the Maine Pilotage Commission to be comprised of seven individuals who are citizens of the United States and Maine and appointed by the Governor as follows:

- Three licensed pilots who are active in pilotage representing each of the Commission's coastal zones;
- Two members who are not licensed pilots but are from a maritime industry that utilizes pilots; and
- Two members representing the public who are not licensed pilots but have a maritime background.

The Commission elects a Chairperson who liaises with the Commissioner of Transportation and the Governor as needed. Captain Weeks was the Chairperson for the period of this report.

Seat	Name	Date of Commission	Expiration	Status	Component
1	David Gelinas	August 18, 2010	August 18, 2013	Pending Renewal	Pilot
2	Earl Walker	August 18, 2012	August 18, 2015	Active	Pilot
3	Gerald Morrison	August 18, 2011	August 18, 2014	Active	Pilot
4	Shawn Moody	August 18, 2011	August 18, 2014	Active	Industry
5	Tom Dobbins ¹			Pending Commission	Public
6	John Worth	August 18, 2013	August 18, 2013	Pending Renewal	Industry
7	Charles Weeks	August 18, 2011	August 18, 2014	Active	Public

¹Mr. Dobbins is a new Commissioner and has submitted all documentation to the Office of Boards and Commissions. He is awaiting a formal Commission document.

The following paragraphs offers the specific details of the Commission during the period of July 1, 2012 – June 30, 2013.

4. Operations: Commission operations are divided into Pilotage Commission Meetings and Hearings and Pilot Licensing Activities.

a. Meetings: Typically, routine and recurring Pilotage Commission business is managed with three meetings per year. The Commission Meetings were held as follows:

Commission Meeting November 15, 2012
Location: Rockland, ME
Attendees: 5
Length of Meeting: 1.5 hours

Commission Meeting February 14, 2013
Location: Augusta, ME
Attendees: 5
Length of Meeting: 1.5 hours

(FY 2014)
Commission Meeting July 14, 2013
Location: Augusta, ME
Attendees: 5
Length of Meeting: 2 hours

b. Hearings: There were no public hearings held during Fiscal year 2013.

c. Pilot Licenses Activities: The current roster of state licensed pilots includes 11 individuals. During Fiscal Year 2013 pilot license transactions were as follows:

- i. New Licenses Issued: None.
- ii. Current Licenses Renewed: 2 renewed and 1 pending renewal.
- iii. Licenses Suspended (for cause): None.
- iv. Licenses Deactivated: None.

5. Financial: The Commission maintains “Marine Accounts” which is the repository from which license income and insurance expenses flow. The current Marine Account balance at the close of Fiscal year 2013 is \$15,877.23.

Additionally, the Maine Department of Environmental Protection provides an annual allocation of \$20,000 to support the Continuing Education Program for Marine Pilots Program. Specifically, the \$20,000 is drawn from the Marine Oil Spill Advisory Committee (MOSAC). Currently, at the end of Fiscal Year 2013, the Pilot Commission has accumulated \$58,892.57 from the DEP/MOSAC contributions. The Pilot Commission has developed an effective and comprehensive three year plan to deliver quality training with these funds.

6. Commission Comments: Mr. Jim McLeod, Manager of the Maine State Ferry Service had performed the role of the Pilotage Commission Administrator (required by Pilotage Rules) but voluntarily vacated his position to pursue employment outside of Maine. Although occurring in Fiscal Year 2014, Brian Downey was hired to perform the role of Pilotage Commission Administrator.

7. Commission Recommendations: The Commission recognizes the need to provide all current pilots with Electronic Chart Display and Information System (ECDIS) training. ECDIS is a sophisticated new electronic navigation tool which is being phased into use via international regulation. Although pilots are not specifically required by law or regulation to complete ECDIS training, the Commission agrees that the training is critical to assuring safety and pollution prevention. Pilots need to be familiar with the capabilities and limits of these new systems to ensure navigational safety. The Commission is already taking steps to deliver this important training in Fiscal Year 2014 using existing resources.