

**BOARD FOR BRANCH PILOTS MEETING
MINUTES**

The Virginia Board for Branch Pilots met on Thursday, March 30, 2017, at the Virginia Port Authority, 600 World Trade Center, Norfolk, Virginia, with the following members present:

Charles R. Amory, Jr.
Captain Robert H. Callis, III
Captain J.W. Whiting Chisman, III
Captain J. William Cofer
Thomas P. Host, III
Patrick B. McDermott
Christine N. Piersall
Meade G. Stone, Jr.

Board member, Captain John A. Morgan, Jr., was not present for the meeting.

Board staff present for all or part of the meeting:

Kathleen R. Nobsch, Executive Director

Agency staff present for all or part of the meeting:

Jay W. DeBoer, Director

Elizabeth Peay, Assistant Attorney General was present from the Office of the Attorney General.

Ms. Nobsch informed the Board that Captain Morgan sends his regrets.

Finding a quorum of the Board present, Mr. Stone, President, called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

Call to Order

Ms. Nobsch advised the Board of the emergency evacuation procedures.

**Safety
Evacuation
Instructions**

Ms. Piersall moved to approve the agenda. Mr. Host seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by Messrs., Mme. and Captains: Amory, Callis, Chisman, Cofer, Host, McDermott, Piersall and Stone.

**Approval of
Agenda**

Captain Cofer moved to approve the minutes from the December 15, 2016, Board meeting, as amended. Captain Callis seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by Messrs., Mme. and Captains: Amory, Callis, Chisman, Cofer, Host, McDermott, Piersall and Stone.

**Approval of
Minutes**

There were no public comments.

**Public Comment
Period**

Captain Schacherer provided a detailed presentation on Limited Branch Pilot

Presentation:

Tonnage and Draft Limitations. Limited Branch Pilot license limits had been reviewed and increased in 2006 and 2011. Since the 2011 increase, the size of ships, specifically containerships, has increased dramatically. Capt. Schacherer showed that in 2007 Limited Branch Pilots could pilot 93% of the 7,137 ship movements for that year. In calendar year 2016, Limited Branch pilots could pilot only 64% of the 6,201 ship movements. The proposed limits would increase that number to 76%. Capt. Schacherer also showed a significant drop in vessel numbers for the ships in the existing Alpha license. It was recommended by Capt. Cofer that the Board review the presentation and then it will be addressed at the June meeting. A discussion continued concerning the increase in the size of containerships and the arrival of the 13,500 TEU vessel *Cosco Development* on May 8th. Normally ships have been 11,000 TEUs or less, now they are increasing to 13,500 TEUs. Approximately six of nine ships in the Ocean Alliance service will require closure of the channel when entering or exiting the port. The U.S. Coast Guard will close the channel in Norfolk for about one hour when these ships need to pass. This will impact other ships, especially tide ships. The channel will continue to close until it has been widened and is 55 feet. The Virginia Port Authority and the Army Corps of Engineers are working closely together to develop an economic analysis on how to accomplish this task.

Limited Branch Pilot Tonnage and Draft Limitation Review

The 13,500 TEUs ships will be factored into the two year apprenticeship training program. Tug boat operators will receive on-the-job training.

Ms. Nobsch announced the Virginia Maritime Association 14th Annual International Trade Symposium is scheduled for May 10-12 at the Norfolk Waterside Marriott in Norfolk. Mr. McDermott and Mr. Stone expressed interest in attending. Ms. Nobsch will seek approval for Mr. McDermott and Mr. Stone to attend the symposium.

Virginia Maritime Association Symposium

Mr. DeBoer provided a brief update on the 2017 General Assembly and bills that would have had an impact on the agency if they had passed.

General Assembly Update

Financial statements were provided for informational purposes. Ms. Nobsch stated she confers with the Director of Financial Services annually, and there are no anticipated fee increases in the foreseeable future for licensed Branch Pilots.

Financial Statements

It was reported that as of March 1, 2017, there were 45 licensed pilots.

Branch Pilots Licensed Population

Ms. Nobsch recognized National Maritime Day, May 22nd. Ms. Nobsch thanked all Board members for their time and expertise devoted to their profession and the Board. Ms. Nobsch noted that staff will be sending an email to all licensed branch pilots recognizing them on National Maritime Day.

Important Date

The Virginia Pilot Association Apprenticeship Committee letter dated March 30, 2017, was reviewed by the Board. The Committee proposes that the route Sea to Cape Charles Anchorage be included in the early stages of the initial licensing of limited branch pilots. The proposed change will be formally included in the Apprenticeship Program which will be before the Board for final review and approval at the December 15, 2017 meeting.

Other Business

Ms. Nobsch informed the Board that there is still one outstanding Statement of Economic Interest that keeps the Board from 100% compliance.

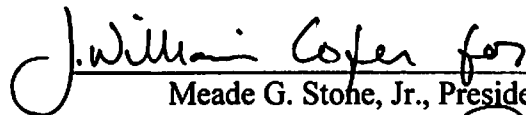
**Statement of
Economic
Interest**

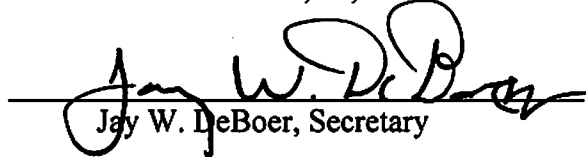
Conflict of Interest forms and travel vouchers were completed by all members present.

**Conflict of
Interest Forms**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

Adjourn


Meade G. Stone, Jr., President


Jay W. DeBoer, Secretary

**STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
CONFLICT OF INTERESTS ACT**

**TRANSACTIONAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
for Officers and Employees of State Government**

1. Name: Charles R. Amory, Jr.
2. Title: Board Member
3. Agency: Board for Branch Pilots
4. Meeting/IFF Date: Board Meeting March 30, 2017

5. I have a personal interest in the following transaction:

Nature of Personal Interest Affected by Transaction:

I declare that I am a member of the following business, profession, occupation or group, the members of which are affected by the transaction:

I am able to participate in this transaction fairly, objectively, and in the public interest.

or

I did not participate in the transaction.

6. I **do not** have a personal interest in any transactions taken at this meeting.

Charles R. Amory, Jr.
Signature

3-30-17
Date

**STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
CONFLICT OF INTERESTS ACT**

**TRANSACTIONAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
for Officers and Employees of State Government**

1. Name: Robert H. Callis, III
2. Title: Board Member
3. Agency: Board for Branch Pilots
4. Meeting/IFF Date: Board Meeting March 30, 2017

5. I have a personal interest in the following transaction:

Nature of Personal Interest Affected by Transaction:

I declare that I am a member of the following business, profession, occupation or group, the members of which are affected by the transaction:

Virginia Pilot Assn.

I am able to participate in this transaction fairly, objectively, and in the public interest.

or

I did not participate in the transaction.

6. I do not have a personal interest in any transactions taken at this meeting.

Robert H. Callis, III
Signature

3/30/17
Date

**STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
CONFLICT OF INTERESTS ACT**

**TRANSACTIONAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
for Officers and Employees of State Government**

1. Name: J.W. Whiting Chisman III
2. Title: Board Member
3. Agency: Board for Branch Pilots
4. Meeting/IFF Date: Board Meeting March 30, 2017
5. I have a personal interest in the following transaction:

Nature of Personal Interest Affected by Transaction:

I declare that I am a member of the following business, profession, occupation or group, the members of which are affected by the transaction:

I am able to participate in this transaction fairly, objectively, and in the public interest.

or

I did not participate in the transaction.

6. I **do not** have a personal interest in any transactions taken at this meeting.

J.W. Whiting Chisman III
Signature

3-30-17
Date

**STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
CONFLICT OF INTERESTS ACT**

**TRANSACTIONAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
for Officers and Employees of State Government**

1. Name: J. William Cofer
2. Title: Board Member
3. Agency: Board for Branch Pilots
4. Meeting/IFF Date: Board Meeting March 30, 2017
5. I have a personal interest in the following transaction:

Nature of Personal Interest Affected by Transaction:

I declare that I am a member of the following business, profession, occupation or group, the members of which are affected by the transaction:

I am able to participate in this transaction fairly, objectively, and in the public interest.

or

I did not participate in the transaction.

6. I **do not** have a personal interest in any transactions taken at this meeting.

J. William Cofer
Signature

3-30-17
Date

**STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
CONFLICT OF INTERESTS ACT**

**TRANSACTIONAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
for Officers and Employees of State Government**

1. Name: Thomas P. Host III
2. Title: Board Member
3. Agency: Board for Branch Pilots
4. Meeting/IFF Date: Board Meeting March 30, 2017

5. I have a personal interest in the following transaction:

Nature of Personal Interest Affected by Transaction:

I declare that I am a member of the following business, profession, occupation or group, the members of which are affected by the transaction:

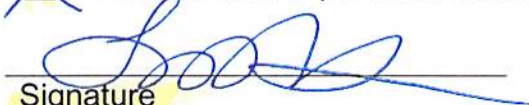
I am able to participate in this transaction fairly, objectively, and in the public interest.

or

I did not participate in the transaction.

6. I **do not** have a personal interest in any transactions taken at this meeting.

Signature



Date

3-30-17

**STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
CONFLICT OF INTERESTS ACT**

TRANSACTIONAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
for Officers and Employees of State Government

- 1. Name: Patrick B. McDermott
- 2. Title: Board Member
- 3. Agency: Board for Branch Pilots
- 4. Meeting/IFF Date: Board Meeting March 30, 2017

5. I have a personal interest in the following transaction:

Nature of Personal Interest Affected by Transaction:

I declare that I am a member of the following business, profession, occupation or group, the members of which are affected by the transaction:

I am able to participate in this transaction fairly, objectively, and in the public interest.

or

I did not participate in the transaction.

6. I do not have a personal interest in any transactions taken at this meeting.

Patrick B. McDermott
Signature

3/30/2017
Date

**STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
CONFLICT OF INTERESTS ACT**

TRANSACTIONAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
for Officers and Employees of State Government

1. Name: Christine N. Piersall
2. Title: Board Member
3. Agency: Board for Branch Pilots
4. Meeting/IFF Date: Board Meeting March 30, 2017

5. I have a personal interest in the following transaction:

Nature of Personal Interest Affected by Transaction:

I declare that I am a member of the following business, profession, occupation or group, the members of which are affected by the transaction:

I am able to participate in this transaction fairly, objectively, and in the public interest.

or

I did not participate in the transaction.

6. I **do not** have a personal interest in any transactions taken at this meeting.

Christine Piersall
Signature

3/30/2017
Date

STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
CONFLICT OF INTERESTS ACT

TRANSACTIONAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
for Officers and Employees of State Government

1. Name: Meade G. Stone, Jr.
2. Title: Board Member
3. Agency: Board for Branch Pilots
4. Meeting/IFF Date: Board Meeting March 30, 2017

5. I have a personal interest in the following transaction:

NONE

Nature of Personal Interest Affected by Transaction:

NONE

I declare that I am a member of the following business, profession, occupation or group, the members of which are affected by the transaction:

NONE

I am able to participate in this transaction fairly, objectively, and in the public interest.

or

I did not participate in the transaction.

6. I do not have a personal interest in any transactions taken at this meeting.

Meade G. Stone, Jr.
Signature

3/30/2017
Date