

**BOARD FOR BRANCH PILOTS
EXAMINING COMMITTEE
March 12, 2026**

The Examining Committee of the Board for Branch Pilots met on Thursday, March 12, 2026, at the Virginia Port Authority, 600 World Trade Center, Norfolk, Virginia. The members indicated below were present:

Capt. J. W. Whiting Chisman, III
Capt. E. Waightstill Avery
Capt. January N. Collins
Capt. Clarence M. Young

The following captains were present and appeared before the Committee for examination:

Capt. Mark S. Anderson
Capt. Austin C. Capps
Capt. J. Alexander Hanna
Capt. Matthew C. Morse

Capt. Avery called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM.

Capt. Avery reviewed Emergency Evacuation procedures.

There was no public comment.

At 8:32 AM Capt. Chisman offered a motion, seconded by Capt. Young, to recess the meeting and that the committee immediately reconvene in closed meeting for the purpose of administering **Exams** as permitted by § 2.2-3711.A of the Code of Virginia.

The motion was approved by unanimous vote. Members voting yes were Capts. Avery, Collins, Chisman, and Young.

At 12: 24 p.m. Capt. Avery read the following certification of closed session:

WHEREAS, the Examining Committee of the Board for Branch Pilots has convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, § 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by this Committee that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Examining Committee of the Board for Branch Pilots hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were

discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the committee.

Call for the vote:

Capt. Avery: Aye

Capt. Collins: Aye

Capt. Chisman: Aye

Capt. Young: Aye

After reconvening in open session, the Examining Committee recommended approval of Capt. Mark S. Anderson and Capt. J. Alexander Hanna for a raise in grade from a Bravo License (34,000 gross tons and 31 feet maximum draft) to a Charlie license 38,000 gross tons and 34 feet maximum draft, and an extension of route upon the Chesapeake Bay from Sea to Wolf Trap to include Cape Charles Anchorage and from Sea to Cheatham Annex upon the York River.

The Examining Committee also recommended the approval of Capt. Austin C. Capps and Capt. Matthew C. Morse for a raise in grade from Golf classification (75,000 gross tons and 44 feet maximum draft) to a Hotel classification (91,000 gross tons and 47 feet maximum draft). The Exam Committee agreed to present a report at the Board for Branch Pilots March 12, 2026, Board Meeting for Board approval.

Being no further business, Capt. Avery adjourned the meeting at 12:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Capt. E. Waightstill Avery