

# Maine Pilotage Commission



MaineDOT ~ Room 227B Conference Room  
December 6, 2024

## Minutes of Pilotage Commission Meeting

In compliance with MRSA 38 § 85 and in fulfillment of the Maine Pilotage Commission’s duties addressed in MRSA 38 § 90, a meeting of the Maine Pilotage Commission was held on December 6, 2024.

Maine Pilotage Commission Members constituting a quorum were:

Carrie Norton	– Public Member (Chair)
David Gelinas	– Pilot Member
Levi Ross	– Industry Member
Jerry Morrison	– Pilot Member
Lindsey Pinkham	– Public Member
Adam Philbrook	– Pilot Member
Brian Downey	– Pilotage Commission Administrator

Interested Parties present were:

<sup>1</sup> Mark Klopp	– Klopp Marine Services
<sup>1</sup> Susan Klopp	– Klopp Marine Services
Calvin Klopp	– Portland Pilots, Inc.
<sup>1</sup> Steve Brenton	– Portland Pilots, Inc.
Jim Cohen	– Attorney
<sup>1</sup> Robert Peacock	– Quoddy Pilots
Mike Ames	– Interested Party

<sup>1</sup> *Remote participation via video feed.*

MaineDOT and legal staff present were:

Chris Mayo	– MaineDOT
John Belisle	– Maine Attorney General’s Office
Matt Burns	– MaineDOT

### Call to Order (Carrie Norton)

Carrie Norton opened the meeting at 10:32 a.m. and acknowledged a quorum.

### **Review/Approval of the Minutes from November 18, 2024 (Carrie Norton)**

After considering the content of the November 18, 2024 Pilotage Commission meeting minutes, Carrie Norton moved to accept the minutes as drafted; Jerry Morrison seconded the motion. Hearing no objections or abstentions, it was thus:

RESOLVED to accept the minutes of the November 18, 2024 Maine Pilotage Commission meeting.

### **Review/Approval of the Minutes from November 21, 2024 Legislative Subcommittee Meeting (Brian Downey)**

After considering the content of the November 21, 2024 Legislative Subcommittee meeting minutes, Lindsey Pinkham moved to accept the minutes as drafted; Levi Ross seconded the motion. Hearing no objections with Carrie Norton abstaining, it was thus:

RESOLVED to accept the minutes of the November 21, 2024 Maine Pilotage Commission Legislative Subcommittee meeting.

### **Draft Commission Legislation (Chair)**

Mr. Downey reviewed the goals of the Sub-committee as a non-voting review entity to analyze the language of draft legislation that would shift jurisdiction the of the Maine Pilotage Commission to include the sea pilots serving Portland Harbor and Casco Bay. He further summarized the feedback developed by the Legislative Subcommittee and sought a Commission vote in support of the draft legislation as amended. David Gelinis moved to support the proposed / draft “Act to Enable the Maine Pilotage Commission to Oversee Pilots Operating In Portland Harbor” as amended. Lindsey Pinkham seconded the motion. Hearing no objections or abstentions, it was thus:

RESOLVED to support the proposed / draft “Act to Enable the Maine Pilotage Commission to Oversee Pilots Operating In Portland Harbor” as amended.

Chris Mayo suggested a letter of support from the Maine Pilotage Commission to the legislature’s Joint Standing Committee on Transportation would be appropriate if the bill is sponsored and is presented to the legislature.

Additionally, Carrie Norton moved that Lindsey Pinkham serve as the primary witness (with Carrie Norton as the secondary) to testify if needed to support the bill if it is sponsored and is presented to the legislature. David Gelinis seconded the motion. Hearing no objections and with Carrie Norton and Lindsey Pinkham abstaining, it was thus:

RESOLVED that Lindsey Pinkham will serve as the primary witness (with Carrie Norton as the secondary) to testify, if needed, to support the Act to Enable the Maine Pilotage Commission to Oversee Pilots Operating In Portland Harbor if it is sponsored and is presented to the legislature.

### **Fairway Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (Brian Downey)**

The Coast Guard issued an **Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking** seeking public input on the potential establishment of shipping safety fairways (“fairways”) in the Gulf of Maine. The fairway locations would be added to 33 CFR Part 166. The Approaches to Maine, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts Port Access Route Study (MNMPARS) found that fairways are needed to

preserve safe navigation routes to and from U.S. ports throughout the study area, and recommended coordinates for these fairways. The Coast Guard is considering these coordinates as its starting point for the potential establishment of fairways in the Gulf of Maine.

Establishing the recommended fairways would prohibit artificial islands or fixed structures within designated areas and would reduce the risk of vessel collisions, allisions, and groundings. Fairways would also reduce the potential for increased transit time and associated economic impacts that could result from redirecting vessel traffic, should offshore structures be integrated into the Marine Transportation System on the outer continental shelf (OCS).

Comments and related material must be received by the Coast Guard on or before January 21, 2025. The full ANPRM may be viewed using the following link:

<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2024/11/19/2024-26830/shipping-safety-fairways-in-the-gulf-of-maine>

### **Investigation (Brian Downey)**

Mr. Downey outlined the details of a minor investigation case involving AZAMARA JOURNEY. On October 14, 2024 at approximately 0832 the cruise ship AZAMARA JOURNEY allided with the Breakwater at the Port of Eastport, Eastport, ME.

The hard landing did not result in any personnel injuries or pollution but caused damage to the ship's hull and minor damage to the dock (broken concrete and damaged ladder).

There were no emergency actions taken as the damage was isolated and did not result in injury, flooding, or pollution. The pilot properly notified the Maine Pilotage Commission as well as the Coast Guard of the accident. He further volunteered both breath and urine specimens for alcohol and drug testing which resulted in negative results. Both Carrie Norton and Lindsey Pinkham responded to the vessel and collected evidence as part of the Pilotage Commission's investigation process.

The general conclusions of the investigator's analysis found no particular misconduct, negligence or misconduct on the pilot in his performance of duties.

### **New Business/Old Business (Carrie Norton)**

None raised.

### **Opportunities for Improvement**

No opportunities for improvement were offered and none had been received via the web-link.

### **Commission/License Status (Brian Downey)**

Mr. Downey reviewed the current status of commissions and licenses as noted below.

### **Commission/License Status (Brian Downey)**

- Commission Renewals
  - Pinkham (August 18, 2025)
  - Norton (August 18, 2025)
  - Philbrook (August 18, 2024)
  - Gelinas (August 18, 2025)
  - Moody (May 17, 2023) (Re-filed)
  - Morrison (August 18, 2024) (Re-filed)
  - Ross (August 18, 2024) (Re-filed)
  
- License Renewals
  - None
  
- Upcoming Renewals
  - None

Carrie Norton moved to set the next meeting for January 23, 2025, Lindsey Pinkham, seconded the motion. Hearing no objections or abstentions, it was thus:

RESOLVED to convene a meeting of the the Maine Pilotage Commission on .  
January 23, 2025.

### **Next Meeting:**

Carrie Norton moved to set the next meeting for April 9, 2024. Lindsey Pinkham seconded the motion. Hearing no objections or abstentions, it was thus:

RESOLVED to reconvene the Maine Pilotage Commission on:

April 9, 2025 at 10:30 p.m.

MaineDOT  
Room 216  
24 Child Street  
Augusta, ME 04330

### **Adjourn (Carrie Norton)**

Carrie Norton moved to adjourn, Lindsey Pinkham, seconded the motion. Hearing no objections or abstentions, it was thus:

RESOLVED to adjourn the Maine Pilotage Commission meeting. Carrie Norton adjourned the meeting at approximately 12:24 p.m..

Respectfully submitted:

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Carrie Norton  
Maine Pilotage Commission  
Chairperson

Respectfully submitted:

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Brian J. Downey Jr.  
Maine Pilotage Commission  
Administrator