

# **Board of Louisiana River Pilot Review & Oversight**

Minutes of the Board of Louisiana River Pilot Review & Oversight Meeting  
August 22, 2013

Location: Middleberg, Riddle & Gianna  
201 St. Charles Ave. – 31<sup>st</sup> Floor  
New Orleans, LA 70170

## **Board Members Present:**

Terry Q. Alarcon  
Richard J. Garvey  
Capt. Craig C. Andrews  
Bruce Bradley  
Harry C. Hank  
Steve H. Hathorn  
Dale J. Hymel  
Lee Jackson  
Richard M. Lyons  
Brett A. Palmer  
Charles P. Steinmuller

## **Also Present:**

Richard A. Sherburne, Jr. – MRG Attorney  
Christopher R. Barbier – MRG Legal Assistant  
Brian J. Eiselen  
Thomas D. Forbes  
Michael A. Colomb  
Senator Francis Heitmeier

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Judge Garvey

## **Approval of Meeting Minutes from June 19, 2013 Meeting:**

(Transcript p. 6)

The meeting minutes from the June 19, 2013 meeting were approved by unanimous vote of the Board.

### **MV IVER Incident Update:**

(Transcript p. 6-14)

Mr. Eiselen addressed the board regarding the status of the talks between the ship owners, the pilot group and the examiners. The area of the MV IVER Incident grounding is at Medora Crossing, but the talks address other areas of the river that ship owners have concerns about. Going forward, there is now open lines of communications between the ship owners and the pilot groups to address any issues that may arise. Mr. Forbes, who represents the ship owner, Vroon Shipping, indicated that the ship owners wanted to see improvement with communications and that seems to be taking place. There are also some ship handling concerns, but these can be addressed between the ship owners and the pilot groups on an individual basis. This complaint has focused attention on these issues and the ship owners have noticed that things are improving with less grounding.

Following this discussion, there was a motion brought by Mr. Jackson for the Board to continue this matter without date to allow for the parties to work toward a resolution. It was noted that if a resolution could not be reached, the Board would address the situation. The motion was seconded by Judge Garvey and passed unanimously.

### **Bank Account Relocation:**

(Transcript p.15-20)

Mr. Barbier discussed the research he conducted in regards to the transfer of the Board's bank account from the Whitney Bank. By far, the bank most interested in the Board's business was Capital One Bank. All of the banks contacted charged fees, but the fees were waived for account balances over \$2,500. Capital One's Spark Business Interest Checking offered 300 account transactions a month plus payment of interest on the bank balance. It was recommended to the Board that the checking account be switched to Capital One Spark Interest Checking. Judge Alarcon, Judge Garvey and Lee Jackson will be the signatories on the account.

Mr. Bradley moved to transfer the Board's checking account from Whitney Bank to Capital One Bank. Mr. Palmer seconded the motion. The vote in favor was unanimous.

### **Future Funding:**

(Transcript p. 22-35)

Mr. Sherburne reminded the Board members that the Board has no formal funding mechanism. Senator Heitmeier reported that when the funding bill he introduced was passed, his intent was to have both the Pilot Fee Commission and the Board funded by the legislature. As it turned out, the funding went only the Fee Commission and not to this Board. He tried to work that out during his time with the legislature, and they still have to go back to the legislature to see about funding. The money that the board did

receive was part of the last budget of the Blanco administration. It was a supplemental appropriations bill. The board is going to have to proceed to get some permanent funding. Mr. Sherburne pointed out that in order to secure funding for the July 1 budget, the appropriate paperwork needs to be done by late November or early in December. Judge Alarcon wants to have one more meeting before that time frame and the Board can make a decision then. Judge Alarcon wants the next meeting to discuss some thoughts on the direction of the board, what the members like and dislike and future plans to come up with a budget.

**Next Meeting Date:**

(Transcript p. 41)

A meeting date of October 29, 2013 at 1:00 p.m. was selected. The meeting will take place at Middleberg, Riddle & Gianna.

**Adjournment:**

(Transcript p. 41)

The meeting was adjourned at 1:43 p.m.

---

Richard Lyons – Secretary/Treasurer