

Board of Louisiana River Pilot Review and Oversight

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: Monday, June 14, 2021
Location: 2728 Athania Pkwy, Metairie, LA 70002
Time 1:00 pm

Board Members Present:

Jack Anderson	Interim Chair
Christopher Blache	Interim Secretary
Charles Gilchrist	Member
Lee Jackson	Member
Jennifer Marusak	Member
James Patterson	Member (via Zoom)
Robert Schromm	Member
Judge Conn Regan	Member

Also Present:

Kevin Alario
Mary Delesdernier
David Renegar
Art Lentini
Ralph Wall
Michael Bopp
Casey Clayton
Mark Delesdernier, III
William Dutel
Tyler Gray (via Zoom)
Michael Delesdernier

PROCEEDINGS:

1. Meeting was called to order at 1pm.
2. Members identified above were in attendance.
3. Judge Regan moved that the minutes from the March meeting be approved. Capt. Jackson seconded the motion and the minutes were approved by unanimous consent.
4. There were no public comments.

5. Mission and Goals of the Board

Capt. Anderson stated that the mission of the board is to provide oversight for the commissioners and examiners. He provided a brief history of the board. He further said that the primary responsibility of the board is to open communications amongst the parties. He hoped that this board could be a vehicle to resolve the disputes arising in the recent legislative session.

Many of the board members urged transparency and better communication amongst all the parties.

6. Review Duties and Responsibilities of the Board

The board discussed the duties and responsibilities of the board as stated in the statutes and regulations.

It was recommended that the commissioners and examiners report accidents, consent disciplines and adjudications at each meeting of the board. A proposed meeting template was reviewed and discussed.

The board agreed that the reporting process should start for the year 2021.

The board discussed the method for filing grievances. The need for a mechanism to receive complaints was discussed. The creation of a board website was also discussed. Jennifer Marusak offered to assist in the development of a website. The board formed an informal committee to work on industry outreach. The committee will include Jennifer Marusak, Jim Patterson, Robert Schromm and Conn Regan.

The board discussed the reporting requirements to the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development.

The board discussed standard forms for reporting requirements.

A request was made by Jennifer Marusak for copies of each pilot group's statutes and regulations.

7. The board discussed the Adoption of Emergency Regulations. Capt. Anderson proposed the following motion:

IT IS HEREBY MOVED that: any emergency regulation adopted by the Board of Commissioners or Examiners shall immediately be provided to the board and to each member of the board. Within ten days of receipt of the emergency regulation, any individual member of the board may require a meeting of the board by giving notice to the chairman or, in the absence of a chairman, to any other officer of the board for

the purpose of holding a meeting to review the emergency regulation for approval or rejection. Any meeting called for consideration of an emergency regulation shall be held within thirty days of the request for a meeting. If the board votes to reject the emergency regulation, it shall be nullified and of no effect.

It was moved by Jennifer Marusak and seconded by Chis Blache.

During the discussion Mr. Dutel suggested that the motion exceeded the board's authority. He further state that pursuant to the APA, the Governor and the House Committees had oversight of the Emergency Rules.

Following this discussion, the board unanimously agreed to table the motion for further review.

8. Capt. Jackson provided a brief statement on his efforts to make the maritime industry more inclusive. Capt. Anderson opened up discussion among the board members on this subject. Capt. Jackson welcomed each member's participation. The board acknowledged that this challenge exists and would participate in this process as requested.
9. The board discussed the composition and funding of the board. The board discussed the need to compensate the judges at an appropriate level which requires statutory action.

Following this discussion the board created an informal committee to discuss statutory amendments to include: compensation of judges, number of judges and the Emergency Regulations. The committee includes Robert Schromm, Jack Anderson and Chris Blache.

Capt. Anderson informed the board that he was serving as interim chairperson and asked if the board was satisfied with the current leadership including Chris Blache as secretary/treasurer. The board recommended that the leadership not be changed.

10. The Middleberg-Riddle Group has the old board files. Staff has prepared releases and indemnification agreements for Middleberg to release the files. The files should be recovered shortly.
11. The meeting was adjourned at 2:26 pm.