

**Board of Pilot Commissioners for Harris County Ports
Pilot Board Investigation and Recommendation Committee
Advisory Subcommittee Meeting**

November 8, 2016

A meeting of the Advisory Subcommittee (the "Subcommittee") of the Pilot Board Investigation and Recommendation Committee (the "PBIRC") was convened on November 8, 2016, at the Port of Houston Authority Executive Offices, Fourth Floor Executive Conference room, at 111 East Loop North Houston, Texas 77029. The following members and staff were present:

Captain Marcus Woodring, Chairman
Captain Robert Shearon
Captain David Foret – Proxy
Captain Richard Russell
Paul Caruselle
Captain Mike Usher, PBIRC Compliance Coordinator

Chairman Woodring called the meeting to order.

- 1) M/T NEW DAWN grounding on May 2, 2016, in the Houston Ship Channel.

Proposed findings: It was determined that prevailing weather conditions of strong winds, rain and tide, causing near white out conditions and poor vessel response to helm orders, caused the vessel to ground. No evidence of pilot error.

Proposed recommendation: Close matter to file.

Captain Usher asked for a motion to close matter to file. Motion was brought by Mr. Caruselle, seconded by Captain Shearon. Chairman Woodring, Captain Foret (Proxy), and Captain Russell voted Aye. Nays none. Motion APPROVED.

- 2) M/V BAO RUN allision with Sidney Sherman 6-10 Bridge on July 12, 2016, in the Houston Ship Channel.

Proposed findings: It was determined that the Pilot Card provided to the pilot had incorrect air draft calculations. No evidence of pilot error.

Proposed recommendation: Close matter to file.

Captain Usher asked for a motion to close matter to file. Motion was brought by Chairman Woodring, seconded by Captain Shearon. Mr. Caruselle, Captain Foret (Proxy), and Captain Russell voted Aye. Nays none. Motion APPROVED.

- 3) M/T AFRAMAX RIVER allision with mooring dolphins in the vicinity of ITC Terminal on September 6, 2016, in the Houston Ship Channel.

Proposed recommendation: Warrants a full PBIRC hearing due to serious nature of incident.

Captain Usher asked for a motion for full PBIRC hearing. Motion was brought by Mr. Caruselle, seconded by Chairman Woodring. Captain Foret (Proxy), Captain Shearon, and Captain Russell voted Aye. Nays none. Motion APPROVED.

- 4) M/V SEA LAND EAGLE grounding in the vicinity of Bayport Flare on September 27, 2016, in the Houston Ship Channel.

Proposed findings: It was determined that the vessel did not respond to commands as anticipated by the pilot. Pilot had tractor tug made up center lead aft to assist with outbound turn into the main channel (Houston Ship Channel) while departing Bayport Ship Channel. With tug assist, hard over starboard helm and increased engine revolutions, the vessel steered across main channel and grounded bow on the red side. No evidence of pilot error.

Proposed recommendations: Close matter to file. Adhere to Houston Pilots Association draft restrictions for Bayport Flare.

Captain Usher asked for a motion to close matter to file. Motion was brought by Mr. Caruselle, seconded by Captain Russell. Chairman Woodring, Captain Foret (Proxy), and Captain Shearon voted Aye. Nays none. Motion APPROVED.