

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

FINANCE COMMITTEE BOARD OF PILOT COMMISSIONERS

**Hampton Inn & Suites
19 South Second Street
Fernandina Beach, FL 32034
April 7, 2005 1:00 p.m.**

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Buffington, Chair of the Finance Committee called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

Members Present

Commissioner Buffington, Chair
Commissioner Sweeney, Vice-Chair
Commissioner Hiers
Commissioner Robas

Members Not Present

Commissioner Phipps

Others Present

Robyn Barineau, Executive Director
Elise Rice, Government Analyst
Ed Tellechea, Board Counsel
Mary Ellen Clark, Board Counsel
Drew Winters, Prosecuting Attorney
Galen Dunton, Consultant
John Jacobson, Biscayne Bay Pilots Association
Allen Thompson, Tampa Bay Pilots Association
David da le Parte, FSPA
Jorge Viso, FSPA
Gretchen Rayborn, FSPA
Barrie Snyder, St. Johns Pilots Association
Joe Brown, St. Johns Pilots Association
Jim Fuller, St. Andrews Pilots Association

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING

January 6, 2005

MOTION: Commissioner Robas made a motion that the Committee approve the minutes as submitted.

SECOND: Commissioner Sweeney seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Commissioner Sweeney questioned if the action items noted in the minutes had been resolved. Commissioner Buffington responded that they were resolved, and he was going to report on them.

REVIEW OF 2ND QUARTER RESULTS

Commissioner Buffington stated that the question raised regarding the action items in the minutes, the methodology used for the surcharge information that the Committee received was confusing. However, he determined that the methodology is consistent and the figures are accurate at the end of the year. Commissioner Buffington stated that the problem was in the Department e-mails he had received there were some key details omitted. He stated that he now has the information that deals with the accounts receivables and it does all balance out. He stated that he was very appreciative to receive this information.

Commissioner Buffington reported on the 2nd quarter. He stated that the numbers at this time indicate that they are not meeting the projections. However, if you look at the previous revenues, the 1st half is normally lower.

Following discussion, Commissioner Buffington reported that in the end, the financial statements are on the right track and accurately reflect revenues.

Commissioner Buffington reported that the expenses were below budget and one reason was due to the refunding of the unused costs for the Rate Review Board. He stated that the mid-year percentage changed to 29% as opposed to 26%. Commissioner Buffington reported that for DOAH some of the cases might be eliminated which would be a \$20,000 savings and will also help with the rising cost of the Attorney General's Office. He reported that Testing was high because there were two (2) exams given for the year, and there may be some changes that might be influencing this as well. Commander Dunton stated that they brought in two (2) new experts but that should not affect costs. Commissioner Buffington stated that they were in good shape with just a little increase.

REVIEW OF CURRENT GROSS PILOTAGE ASSESSMENT RATE

Commissioner Buffington asked if anyone wanted to propose a change to the current gross pilotage assessment rate. Commissioner Robas asked if he was comfortable with where they are at this time and Commissioner Buffington responded that he was comfortable.

Commissioner Buffington stated that he had heard that there was discussion about eliminating the trust funds.

Ms. Barineau responded that she had not heard anything about this; however she would check on this and will report back her findings.

Commissioner Sweeney asked about the surcharge in the hand-outs.

Commissioner Buffington responded that the first three (3) pages was a comparison for the prior fiscal year. He stated that the last three (3) pages was an indication of the revenues with there being a one month lag time.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.