



**State of Alaska  
Department of Commerce, Community &  
Economic Development Division of Corporations,  
Business, and Professional Licensing  
Board of Marine Pilots**

**Public Meeting Packet - April 29, 2026**

**Sitka Fine Arts Camp, Sitka Alaska**

**This meeting shall be conducted in person and is  
available via Zoom. Please contact staff at  
[BoardofMarinePilots@Alaska.Gov](mailto:BoardofMarinePilots@Alaska.Gov)  
for more information.**

## Board of Marine Pilots effective 04/01/2026

Name	Appointed	Reappointed	Expires
<b>Holbrook, Angel</b> (Ketchikan) Agent - NEW	3/30/2026		3/1/2030
<b>Habeger, Don</b> (Juneau) Public	5/24/2024		3/1/2028
<b>Mew, Andrew</b> (Anchorage) Agent/Manager	3/28/2024		3/1/2028
<b>Maynard, Colin</b> (Anchorage) Public - NEW	3/30/2026		3/1/2030
<b>Cunningham, James</b> (Homer) Pilot	5/25/2022	3/1/2025	3/1/2029
<b>Sinclair, Edward</b> (Juneau) Pilot	3/1/2019	03/10/2023	3/1/2027
<b>Thayer, Curtis</b> (Anchorage) Commissioner/DCCED/Designee — Chair	2/22/2010	4/11/2019	



## **Board of Marine Pilots - Spring 2026 Meeting**

Alaska Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing  
Wednesday, April 29, 2026, at 9:00 AM AKDT to Wednesday, April 29, 2026, at  
4:00 PM AKDT  
Sitka Fine Arts Camp - Sitka Alaska

**Meeting Details:** [https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/7\\_0qo8d2Q6GCc1rXRc8Oig](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/7_0qo8d2Q6GCc1rXRc8Oig)

**Meeting ID:** 830 4227 4021

### **Agenda**

- 1. 9:00 am - Roll Call/Call to Order**
- 2. 9:02 am - Review/Approve Agenda**
- 3. 9:04 am - Ethics Disclosures**
- 4. 9:05 am - Public Comment**
- 5. 9:10 am - Review/Approve Meeting Minutes**
  - A. January 21, 2026, meeting minutes**
- 6. 9:20 am - Association Reports**
  - A. 9:20- 9:25 am; AMP**
  - B. 9:25 - 9:30 am; SEAPA**
  - C. 9:30 - 9:35 am; SWAPA**
- 7. 9:40 am - Presentation; Landslide activity in Southeast - Impacts to waterway safety**
- 8. 10:10 - Regulations Projects**
  - A. Administrative Order 360 Priority 1 amendments**
  - B. Board Action on Regulations Project**
- 9. 10:30 am - Investigative Report**
- 10. 10:40 am - Yacht Navigation Packet Review**
- 11. 10:50 - Annual Report**

This is a draft report for the board to consider.

- 12. 11:15 am - NOAA Update**
- 13. 11:30 am Pilot Candidate Interview(s) - Executive Session**
- 14. Board action(s) - Pilot Candidates**
- 15. Adjourn**
- 16. Board members and staff will be taking a ship tour of the Eurodam following the board meeting. No action will be taken by the board during the tour, and no board business will be conducted.**

State of Alaska  
DEPARTMENT OF LAW

# ETHICS ACT PROCEDURES FOR BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

All board and commission members and staff should be familiar with the Executive Branch Ethics Act procedures outlined below.

## Who Is My Designated Ethics Supervisor (DES)?

Every board or commission subject to the Ethics Act<sup>1</sup> has several ethics supervisors designated by statute.

- The chair serves as DES for board or commission members.
- The chair serves as DES for the executive director.
- The executive director serves as DES for the staff.
- The governor is the DES for a chair.<sup>2</sup>

## What Do I Have To Disclose?

The Ethics Act requires members of boards and commissions to disclose:

- Any matter that is a potential conflict of interest with actions that the member may take when serving on the board or commission.
- Any circumstance that may result in a violation of the Ethics Act.
- Any personal or financial interest (or that of an immediate family member) in a state grant, contract, lease or loan that is awarded or administered by the member's board or commission.
- The receipt of certain gifts.

The executive director of the board or commission and its staff, as state employees, must also disclose:

- Compensated outside employment or services.
- Volunteer service, if any compensation, including travel and meals, is paid or there is a potential conflict with state duties.

- For more information regarding the types of matters that may result in violations of the Ethics Act, board or commission members should refer to the guide, *"Ethics Information for Members of Boards and Commissions."* The executive director and staff should refer to the guide, *Ethics Information for Public Employees.* Both guides and disclosure forms may be found on the [Department of Law's ethics website](#).

## How Do I Avoid Violations of the Ethics Act?

---

- Make timely disclosures!
- Follow required procedures!
- Provide all information necessary to a correct evaluation of the matter!<sup>3</sup>
- When in doubt, disclose and seek advice!
- Follow the advice of your DES!

## What Are The Disclosure Procedures for Board and Commission Members?

---

The procedural requirements for disclosures by members are set out in AS 39.52.220 and 9 AAC 52.120. One goal of these provisions is to help members avoid violations of the Ethics Act. The procedures provide the opportunity for members to seek review of matters in advance of taking action to ensure that actions taken will be consistent with the Act.

### Procedure for declaring actual or potential conflicts.

Members must declare potential conflicts and other matters that may violate the Ethics Act **on the public record and in writing to the chair**.

*Disclosure on the public record.* Members must identify actual and potential conflicts orally at the board or commission's public meeting **in advance** of participating in deliberations or taking any official action on the matter.

- A member must always declare a conflict and may choose to refrain from voting, deliberations or other participation regarding a matter.<sup>4</sup>
- If a member is uncertain whether participation would result in a violation of the Act, the member should disclose the circumstances and seek a determination from the chair.

*Disclosure in writing at a public meeting.* In addition to an oral disclosure at a board or commission meeting, members' disclosures must be made in writing.

- If the meeting is recorded, a tape or transcript of the meeting is preserved **and** there is a method for identifying the declaration in the record, an oral disclosure may serve as the written disclosure.
- Alternatively, the member must note the disclosure on the Notice of Potential Violation disclosure form and the chair must record the determination.

*Confidential disclosure in advance of public meeting.* Potential conflicts may be partially addressed in advance of a board or commission's public meeting based on the published meeting agenda or other board or commission activity.

- A member identifying a conflict or potential conflict submits a Notice of Potential Violation to the chair, as DES, in advance of the public meeting.
- This written disclosure is considered confidential.
- The chair may seek advice from the Attorney General.
- The chair makes a written determination, also confidential, whether the disclosed matter represents a conflict that will result in a violation of the Ethics Act if the member participates in official action addressing the matter.<sup>5</sup>
- If so, the chair directs the member to refrain from participating in the matter that is the subject of the disclosure.
- An oral report of the notice of potential violation and the determination that the member must refrain from participating is put on the record at a public meeting.<sup>6</sup>

*Determinations at the public meeting.* When a potential conflict is declared by a member for the public record, the following procedure must be followed:

- The chair states his or her determination regarding whether the member may participate.
- Any member may then object to the chair's determination.
- If an objection is made, the members present, excluding the member who made the disclosure, vote on the matter.
- *Exception:* A chair's determination that is made consistent with advice provided by the Attorney General may not be overruled.
- If the chair, or the members by majority vote, determines that a violation will exist if the disclosing member continues to participate, the member must refrain from voting, deliberating or participating in the matter.<sup>7</sup>

*If the chair identifies a potential conflict,* the same procedures are followed. If possible, the chair should forward a confidential written notice of potential violation to the Office of the Governor for a determination in advance of the board or commission meeting. If the declaration is first

made at the public meeting during which the matter will be addressed, the members present, except for the chair, vote on the matter. If a majority determines that a violation of the Ethics Act will occur if the chair continues to participate, the chair shall refrain from voting, deliberating or participating in the matter. A written disclosure or copy of the public record regarding the oral disclosure should be forwarded to the Office of the Governor for review by the chair's DES.

## Procedures for Other Member Disclosures

---

A member's interest in a state grant, contract, lease or loan and receipt of gifts are disclosed by filling out the appropriate disclosure form and submitting the form to the chair for approval. The disclosure forms are found on the [Department of Law's ethics website](#).

## What Are The Disclosure Procedures for Executive Directors and Staff?

---

Ethics disclosures of the executive director or staff are made in writing to the appropriate DES (chair for the executive director and the executive director for staff).

- Disclosure forms are found on the ethics website, noted above.

*Notices of Potential Violations.* Following receipt of a written notice of potential violation, the DES investigates, if necessary, and makes a written determination whether a violation of the Ethics Act could exist or will occur. A DES may seek advice from the Attorney General. If feasible, the DES shall reassign duties to cure a potential violation or direct divestiture or removal by the employee of the personal or financial interests giving rise to the potential violation.

- These disclosures are not required to be made part of the public record.
- A copy of a determination is provided to the employee.
- Both the notice and determination are confidential.

*Other Disclosures.* The DES also reviews other ethics disclosures and either approves them or determines what action must be taken to avoid a violation of the Act. In addition to the disclosures of certain gifts and interests in the listed state matters, state employees must disclose all outside employment or services for compensation.

- The DES must provide a copy of an approved disclosure or other determination the employee.

## How Are Third Party Reports of Potential Violations or Complaints Handled?

---

Any person may report a potential violation of the Ethics Act by a board or commission member or its staff to the appropriate DES or file a complaint alleging actual violations with the Attorney General.

- Notices of potential violations and complaints must be submitted in **writing** and **under oath**.
- Notices of potential violations are investigated by the appropriate DES who makes a written determination whether a violation may exist.<sup>8</sup>
- Complaints are addressed by the Attorney General under separate procedures outlined in the Ethics Act.
- **These matters are confidential**, unless the subject waives confidentiality or the matter results in a public accusation.

## What Are The Procedures for Quarterly Reports?

---

Designated ethics supervisors must submit copies of notices of potential violations received and the corresponding determinations to the Attorney General for review by the state ethics attorney as part of the quarterly report required by the Ethics Act.

- Reports are due in April, July, October and January for the preceding quarter.
- A sample report may be found on the Department of Law's ethics website.
- An executive director may file a quarterly report on behalf of the chair and combine it with his or her own report.
- If a board or commission does not meet during a quarter and there is no other reportable activity, the DES advises the Department of Law Ethics Attorney by e-mail at [ethicsreporting@alaska.gov](mailto:ethicsreporting@alaska.gov) and no other report is required.

If the state ethics attorney disagrees with a reported determination, the attorney will advise the DES of that finding. If the ethics attorney finds that there was a violation, the member who committed the violation is not liable if he or she fully disclosed all relevant facts reasonably necessary to the ethics supervisor's or commission's determination and acted consistent with the determination.

## How Does A DES or Board or Commission Get Ethics Advice?

---

A DES or board or commission may make a **written request** to the Attorney General for an opinion regarding the application of the Ethics Act. In practice, the Attorney General, through the state ethics attorney, also provides **advice by phone or e-mail** to designated ethics supervisors, especially when time constraints prevent the preparation of timely written opinions.

- A request for advice and the advisory opinion are confidential.
- The ethics attorney endeavors to provide prompt assistance, although that may not always be possible.
- The DES must make his or her determination addressing the potential violation based on the opinion provided.

It is the obligation of each board or commission member, as well as the staff, to ensure that the public's business is conducted in a manner that is consistent with the standards set out in the Ethics Act. We hope this summary assists you in ensuring that your obligations are met.

<sup>1</sup> The Act covers a board, commission, authority, or board of directors of a public or quasi-public corporation, established by statute in the executive branch of state government.

<sup>2</sup> The governor has delegated the DES responsibility to Guy Bell, Administrative Director of the Office of the Governor.

<sup>3</sup> You may supplement the disclosure form with other written explanation as necessary. Your signature on a disclosure certifies that, to the best of your knowledge, the statements made are true, correct and complete. False statements are punishable.

<sup>4</sup> In most, but not all, situations, refraining from participation ensures that a violation of the Ethics Act does not occur. Abstention does not cure a conflict with respect to a significant direct personal or financial interest in a state grant, contract, lease or loan because the Ethics Act prohibition applies whether or not the public officer actually takes official action.

<sup>5</sup> The chair must give a copy of the written determination to the disclosing member. There is a determination form available on the Department of Law's ethics web page. The ethics supervisor may also write a separate memorandum.

<sup>6</sup> In this manner, a member's detailed personal and financial information may be protected from public disclosure.

<sup>7</sup> When a matter of particular sensitivity is raised and the ramifications of continuing without an advisory opinion from the Attorney General may affect the validity of the board or commission's action, the members should consider tabling the matter so that an opinion may be obtained.

<sup>8</sup> The DES provides a copy of the notice to the employee who is the subject of the notice and may seek input from the employee, his or her supervisor and others. The DES may seek advice from the Attorney General. A copy of the DES' written determination is provided to the subject employee and the complaining party. The DES submits a copy of both the notice and the determination to the Attorney General for review as part of the DES' quarterly report. If feasible,

the DES shall reassign duties to cure a potential violation or direct divestiture or removal by the employee of the personal or financial interests giving rise to the potential violation.

6/14

---

The Attorney General and Department of Law staff may not provide legal advice to private citizens or organizations. Please contact an attorney if you need legal advice. The [Alaska Lawyer Referral Service](#) or your local bar association may be able to assist you in locating a lawyer.

Alaska Department of Law

1031 West 4th Avenue, Suite 200

Anchorage, AK 99501

[attorney.general@alaska.gov](mailto:attorney.general@alaska.gov)

Phone: (907) 269-5100 | Fax: (907) 276-3697

TTY: 907-258-9161

COPYRIGHT © [STATE OF ALASKA](#) · [DEPARTMENT OF LAW](#) · [EMAIL THE WEBMASTER](#)

## Ethics Disclosure Form

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>CONFIDENTIAL</b> <b>REQUEST FOR ETHICS DETERMINATION</b></p>
--

TO: \_\_\_\_\_, Designated Ethics Supervisor

\_\_\_\_\_  
*(Identify Your Department, Agency, Public Corporation, Board, Commission)*

I request advice regarding the application of the Executive Branch Ethics Act (AS 39.52.010 - .960) to my situation. The situation involves the following:

I have provided additional information in the attached document(s).

I believe the following provisions of the Ethics Act may apply to my situation:

- AS 39.52.120, Misuse of Official Position
- AS 39.52.130, Improper Gifts
- AS 39.52.140, Improper Use or Disclosure of Information
- AS 39.52.150, Improper Influence in State Grants, Contracts, Leases or Loans
- AS 39.52.160, Improper Representation
- AS 39.52.170, Outside Employment Restricted
- AS 39.52.180, Restrictions on Employment after Leaving State Service
- AS 39.52.190, Aiding a Violation Prohibited

**I understand that I should refrain from taking any official action relating to this matter until I receive your advice.** If the circumstances I described above may result in a violation of AS 39.52.110 - .190, I intend that this request serve as my disclosure of the matter in accordance with AS 39.52.210 or AS 39.52.220.

I certify to the best of my knowledge that my statement is true, correct, and complete. In addition to any other penalty or punishment that may apply, the submission of a false statement is punishable under AS 11.56.200 - AS 11.56.240.

\_\_\_\_\_  
*(Signature)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*(Date)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*(Printed Name)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*(Division, Board, Commission)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*(Position Title)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*(Location)*

*Designated Ethics Supervisor: Provide a copy of your written determination to the employee advising whether action is necessary under AS 39.52.210 or AS 39.52.220, and send a copy of the determination and disclosure to the attorney general with your quarterly report.*

**Ethics Disclosure Form**

**Receipt of Gift**

TO: \_\_\_\_\_, Designated Ethics Supervisor, \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Agency, Public Corporation, Board, Commission or Council)*

This disclosure reports receipt of a gift with value in excess of \$150.00 by me or my immediate family member, as required by AS 39.52.130(b) or (f).

- 1. Is the gift connected to my position as a state officer, employee or member of a state board or commission?  
 Yes    No
- 2. Can I take or withhold official action that may affect the person or entity that gave me the gift?  
 Yes    No

*(If you answer "No" to both questions, you do not need to report this gift. If the answer to either question is "Yes," or if you are not sure, you must complete this form and provide it to your designated ethics supervisor.)*

The gift is \_\_\_\_\_

Identify gift giver by full name, title, and organization or relationship, if any:

\_\_\_\_\_

Describe event or occasion when gift was received or other circumstance explaining the reason for the gift:

\_\_\_\_\_

My estimate of its value is \$ \_\_\_\_\_ The date of receipt was \_\_\_\_\_

The gift was received by a member of my family. Who? \_\_\_\_\_

*If you checked "Yes" to question 2 above, explain the official action you may take that affects the giver (attach additional page, if necessary):*

\_\_\_\_\_

I certify to the best of my knowledge that my statement is true, correct, and complete. In addition to any other penalty or punishment that may apply, the submission of a false statement is punishable under AS 11.56.200 - AS 11.56.240.

\_\_\_\_\_  
*(Signature)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*(Date)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*(Printed Name)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*(Division)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*(Position Title)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*(Location)*

Ethics Supervisor Determination:    Approve    Disapproved

\_\_\_\_\_  
Designated Ethics Supervisor\*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*(Date)*

*\*Designated Ethics Supervisor: Provide a copy of the approval or disapproval to the employee. If action is necessary under AS 39.52.210 or AS 39.52.220, attach a determination stating the reasons and send a copy of the determination and disclosure to the attorney general with your quarterly report.*

**State of Alaska  
Department of Commerce, Community &  
Economic Development Division of Corporations,  
Business, and Professional Licensing  
Board of Marine Pilots**



**Public Comment**

The board chair shall open public comment. The time allotted for comment will be divided between all individuals signed in to give comment. The group will be told how much time each person will have to speak. Board staff will keep track of the time and notify the individual when they need to wrap up their comment(s).

This is not the time for the board to respond to the comments. The board can choose to respond to any comments at the end of the comment period, send a letter with their response(s) to the individual, or they can choose to not respond.

Please be mindful of the time limit so that all who choose to speak will be given the same opportunity.

STATE OF ALASKA  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, COMMUNITY, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS, BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSING

## **BOARD OF MARINE PILOTS**

**CONDENSED MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD JANUARY 21, 2026**

*These draft minutes were prepared by the staff of the Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing. They have not been reviewed or approved by the Board.*

**By authority of AS 08.01.070(2) and in compliance with the provisions of AS 44.62, Article 6, a scheduled meeting of the Board of Marine Pilots was held on January 21, 2026, at the Alaska Energy Authority Building, 813 W Northern Lights Blvd, Anchorage, AK**

<b>Date:</b>	January 21, 2026
<b>Time:</b>	9:01 a.m.
<b>Location:</b>	Alaska Energy Authority Building: 813 W Northern Lights Blvd, Anchorage, AK
<b>Board Members Present:</b>	Chair Curtis Thayer, Captain Edward (Ed) Sinclair, Captain James Cunningham, Les Cronk, Andrew Mew, Joseph (Joe) Tougas, Don Habeger
<b>Board Members Absent:</b>	
<b>Division/SOA Staff Present:</b>	Renee Carabajal (Marine Pilot Coordinator), Melissa Dumas (Administrative Operations Manager), Patrick Kase (Investigator 3)
<b>Present from the Public:</b>	Jenni Sitton (SWAPA), Jessie Li (SEAPA), David Artz (AMP), Tiffany Keefe (SEAPA), Jon Cornelius (SEAPA), Mark Lundamo (SEAPA), Robert Dersham (SEAPA), Mike Tibbles (ASA), Paul Axelson (NPMI), Kris Mackie (SEAPA), Ashley Wieber (NPMI), Brian Olson (USCG), Abbie Lyons (USCG), Caroline Wilkinson (NOAA), Eric Chamberlin (ASA/PCL), Rick Erickson (CLAA), Luke Hasenbank (ALAMAR/CLAA)

<b>Review Agenda</b>		
<b>Brief Discussion:</b>	There was no discussion to amend the agenda.	
<b>Motion:</b>	Move to adjourn (First: Sinclair; Second: Habeger).	
<b>Discussion:</b>	No discussion, the board approved the motion by roll-call vote.	
<b>Recorded Votes (roll call):</b>	Cronk - Yes	Mew - Yes
	Cunningham - Yes	Tougas - Yes
	Sinclair - Yes	Habeger - Yes
		Thayer - Yes
<b>Ethics Disclosures</b>		
<b>Brief Discussion:</b>	There were no ethical disclosures by any board members or staff.	

<b>Review/Approve Minutes: October 15, 2025, Special teleconference December 2, 2025</b>		
<b>Brief Discussion:</b>	No discussion	
<b>Motion:</b>	Move to accept October 15, 2025, and December 2, 2025 (special teleconference) meeting minutes as written. (First: Habeger; Second: Mew).	
<b>Discussion:</b>	With nothing to discuss, the board approved the motion by roll-call vote.	
<b>Recorded Votes:</b>	Cronk - Yes	Mew - Yes
	Cunningham - Yes	Tougas - Yes
	Sinclair – Yes	Habeger - Yes
		Thayer - Yes
<b>Public Comment</b>		
<b>Brief Discussion:</b>	<p>Lt. Commander Caroline Wilkinson from NOAA addressed the board during public comment with a brief update on surveying and charting efforts in Alaska. The S102 product, which applies bathymetry to the new S100 chart standard, is rolling out in Southeast Alaska. They expect to release version 3.0 soon, transitioning from testing to maintenance. A key improvement is that you no longer need to download each chart individually; instead, you can toggle it on in CIQ for easier access. The full rollout for the rest of Alaska is anticipated around 2027. So far, they have surveyed the Port of Valdez, parts of Revelgado, and Glacier Bay, with plans to return to Revelgado in 2026. They are currently updating the Dutch Harbor deepening and widening on the charts, with updates expected within the next week or two. Lastly, both of their new survey vessels, the Surveyor and the Navigator, have had their keels laid, with one home-ported in Ketchikan to improve survey efficiency, especially since the current vessels are from the 1960s. These new vessels will feature advanced autonomous technology.</p>	
<b>Association Reports</b>		
<b>SEAPA</b>	<p>Captain Kris Mackie, SEAPA President, provided a report for SEAPA. SEAPA has 46 fully licensed pilots, 18 deputy pilots, and 15 trainees. They have 4 deputy pilots in the process of upgrading to full pilot licenses. SEAPA is on target to meet the dispatch needs for 2026. By the beginning of the 2026 cruise season, 5 of the deputy pilots should obtain their full pilot licenses.</p>	
<b>AMP</b>	<p>Captain David Artz of Alaska Marine Pilots provided the AMP report for Western Alaska. Captain Phil Brady from Florida passed away on 01/128/2026 – he fell from a ladder disembarking a vessel. AMP has 8 full pilots and 1 deputy pilot who is almost ready to apply for full pilot licensure. They have 1 pilot in training with SWAPA, to be transferred to Region 2. Currently, 5 individuals are in the training program, 3 of whom are in the hands-on portion.</p> <p>AMP is following the progress of its 2 regulatory amendment proposals: 1 approved by the Board in October 2023, and the other approved in April 2025. He spoke briefly regarding the issues with federal pilotage, deferring to A. Lyons, who will talk later in the meeting. The Dutch Harbor dredging is complete. AMP conducted simulators with the Army Corps of Engineers for the Port of Nome expansion project back in October; the project is changing based on cost estimates received.</p>	

SWAPA	<p>Jenni Sitton, Business Manager for SWAPA, provided the association report. SWAPA has 11 full-member pilots qualified for Very Large Crude Carriers (VLCCs) with 6 deputy pilots, 1 of whom has applied to upgrade to full pilot licensure. 1 complete pilot retired earlier this month. They have 1 pilot in the process of transferring from AMP, Region 3. They have 7 in the training program; 3 are in hands-on training. One had been held back from performing these maneuvers because his federal pilotage endorsement was restricted to tug and barge. Still, that issue has been resolved, so they look forward to him continuing his training. Cruise traffic this summer is expected to increase. They are looking at more cruise vessels in Valdez and in Whittier. They are looking at building a new all-weather pilot boat for Prince William Sound. This is due to expected increases in shipping from the Willow project. That should be at peak production in 2029. She presented an amendment to the SWAPA bylaws for the board's consideration. The amendment changes the age restriction for their transitional retirement program.</p>	
<b>SWAPA Bylaws amendment</b>		
<b>Brief Discussion:</b>	No discussion	
<b>Motion:</b>	Move to accept the SWAPA bylaws amendment regarding their transitional retirement program as written. (First: Sinclair; Second: Cronk).	
<b>Discussion:</b>	With nothing to discuss, the board approved the motion by roll-call vote.	
<b>Recorded Votes:</b>	Cronk - Yes	Mew - Yes
	Cunningham - Yes	Tougas - Yes
	Sinclair – Yes	Habeger - Yes
		Thayer - Yes
<p><i>After consideration for efficiency and time management, the board moved Agenda Item #7, Application Review, to the end of the meeting. As the following scheduled agenda item was set for 10:00 am, the board chose to move forward with agenda items that could be addressed.</i></p>		
<b>Updates from Marine Pilot Coordinator (FPC applications 2020-2025 and exam provider)</b>		
MPC updates	<p>MPC Carabajal provided a brief report comparing the number of foreign pleasure craft exemption applications received each year from 2020 – 2025. There were a few years when the numbers were down, but that went back up last year, with 21 vessels applying in calendar year 2025. 6 of the vessels that applied in 2025 had fees of \$5000 or higher, which significantly increased revenue.</p> <p>The division contracted with ProV, an exam provider based in Utah, to manage the exam question databases and remotely administer exams. There were no start-up costs with moving to this exam provider, unlike with the previous provider, which did not work out. MPC Carabajal has submitted all question banks, except Region 3. That question bank will be submitted next week. ProV anticipates being able to administer exams by March.</p> <p>There was a discussion regarding costs and options if the board does not want exams to be proctored remotely. MPC Carabajal will coordinate with board members to test the new exam system during the scheduled April exams so they can see how it works and determine whether they wish to make it an option for the Local Knowledge Exams.</p>	
<b>Division Update</b>		
	<p>Administrative Operations Manager, Melissa Dumas, joined the meeting to review the end-of-year FY2025 and 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter fiscal reports with the board. She provided a detailed review of revenue and expenses for the program for fiscal year 2025, which ended</p>	

	06/30/2026; the program ended the year with \$ 426,995 in revenue after expenses of \$132,396. She briefly went over the 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter report for FY26; the program received \$16,950 in revenue with \$69,420 in expenses, leaving a balance of \$374,525.
<b>Investigative Report</b>	
	Investigator 3 Patrick Kase provided the investigative report for the time period of October 9, 2025, through January 8, 2026, to the board. There are no closed cases, because he had closed everything in the prior quarter. There is one open case that opened at the end of 2025. This is for unlicensed practice or activity. For disclosure purposes, as the board is interested in additional details, this concerns allegations that a vessel was operating in compulsory waters without a licensed pilot aboard. That case is still open in the complaint stage, where investigations are addressing it with the respondents and obtaining their explanation. He hopes to have a resolution on that one shortly.
<b>US Coast Guard Update; Changes to Federal Pilotage</b>	
	<p>Abbie Lyons, Chief of Inspections for the USCG Sector Western Alaska and US Arctic and USCG Chief Bryan Olson joined to discuss changes to the federal pilotage. Ms. Lyons addressed the board first. Thad Wagner will be the new RAC Director, replacing Dan Reyes, who retired this summer. Thad has experience as a bosun in the Coast Guard and has worked on ships here, which will help. She thanked Brian Olson for covering this area during the transition. They have faced several licensing issues with the National Maritime Center (NMC). Senator Sullivan's staff is meeting with the NMC to address these problems. It is important to clarify the roles of the local Officer in Charge of Marine Inspections (OCMI) and the licensing OCMI at the NMC, particularly regarding first-class pilotage. Some updates about first-class pilotage in Western Alaska:</p> <p><b>**Round Trips:**</b> They are planning to remove the 75% route requirement that made grading difficult and define a round trip as a journey between geographic boundaries to a suitable facility.</p> <p><b>**Hours of Darkness:**</b> They will allow more flexibility in accounting for hours of darkness. Applicants can provide proof of limited visibility from weather conditions.</p> <p><b>**Designated Routes:**</b> They will drop routes like Kazikoff, Togiak, Nushigak, Naknik, St. Paul, and Icy Bay from federal pilotage routes due to low traffic. These routes will still be included in pilot training under the purview of the regional associations but will not be required by the local OCMI.</p> <p><b>**Review Cycle:**</b> They will now review our protocols every 2 to 3 years instead of every 30 years.</p> <p>For Uzinki and Saldovia, they will assess whether to limit requirements to AMHS operators, given low traffic on other vessels.</p> <p>Chief Olson answered questions from the board regarding potential changes in Southeast, which does not currently have a lack of vessel traffic. He asked that captains submitting round-trip reports for pilotage ensure their forms are legible so that the reports can be counted towards the requirements.</p>
<b>Schedule Future Meeting Date(s)</b>	
<b>Brief Discussion:</b>	After discussion, the board decided to hold their 2026 summer teleconference on July 29 <sup>th</sup> , 2026, with the Local Knowledge Exam scheduled for July 28, 2026. The board's fall meeting will be October 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2026, in Anchorage with exams being held October 13 <sup>th</sup> , 2026. The scheduled April 29 <sup>th</sup> , 2026 meeting will be in Sitka at the Sitka Fine Arts Camp and exams will be at the Sitka Public Library on April 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2026. MPC Carabajal requested that the board consider where they may be interested in holding their April 2027 meeting as the division will soon be working on the FY2027 travel plan. After a short discussion, it was determined that the board would meet in Cordova, AK for the April 2027 meeting.

<b>AO360 – Review and approval of the board’s plan for regulatory reduction</b>		
<b>Brief Discussion:</b>	Captain Sinclair reviewed the plan that the sub-committee worked on at the December 16, 2025, meeting with assistance from MPC Carabajal. The plan exceeds the reduction targets that AO360 requires. The sub-committee reviewed the list of regulations and discussed each one; most were straightforward changes. All changes come with the caveat that the public process for regulatory amendments will still apply, with communication with associations, industry stakeholders, and the public before any changes are finalized. The sub-committee was mindful of the potential of negative consequences for some changes. There are 3 regulation amendments on the plan that were projects previously approved by the board that are listed as priorities for 2026, and a late addition at the request of Captain Cunningham to allow the USCG medical evaluation form to be submitted in place of the form provided by the division for renewals.	
<b>Motion:</b>	Move to accept the plan drafted by the appointed subcommittee for regulatory reduction with priorities for 2026 and 2027 as presented. (First: Habeger; Second: Cronk).	
<b>Discussion:</b>	With nothing to discuss, the board approved the motion by roll-call vote.	
<b>Recorded Votes:</b>	Cronk - Yes	Mew - Yes
	Cunningham - Yes	Tougas - Yes
	Sinclair – Yes	Habeger - Yes
		Thayer - Yes
<b>Brief Discussion:</b>	Captain Sinclair asked whether there were any options to address the proposed amendment to 12 AAC 56.082(c) by AMP, approved by the Board at the October 2023 meeting, and placed on hold by AO358. MPC Carabajal addressed the board and public, letting them know that due to circumstances unknown to her, as she was not the MPC at that time, this proposed regulations project had not been submitted to the division regulations specialist following its approval. She let the board know they could request that she submit an AO358 waiver, which could potentially allow the project to move forward. If the waiver is not approved, the amendment will remain a high priority for 2026 regulations projects under the AO360 plan that the board just approved.	
<b>Motion:</b>	Move that MPC Carabajal should submit an AO358 waiver request to allow the proposed amendment to 12 AAC 56.082(c) as approved by the board in October 2023 to move forward in the regulations process. (First: Sinclair; Second: Cronk).	
<b>Discussion:</b>	With nothing to discuss, the board approved the motion by roll-call vote.	
<b>Recorded Votes:</b>	Cronk - Yes	Mew - Yes
	Cunningham - Yes	Tougas - Yes
	Sinclair – Yes	Habeger - Yes
		Thayer - Yes

<b>Application Review – Executive Session</b>		
<b>Motion:</b> <b>Off Record: 10:45 am</b> <b>Return to Record: 11:15 am</b>	I, Ed Sinclair, move that the Alaska State Board of Marine Pilots enter into executive session in accordance with AS 44.62.310(c), and Alaska Constitutional Right to Privacy Provisions, for the purpose of discussing subjects that tend to prejudice the reputation and character of any person, provided the person may request a public discussion; and matters which by law, municipal charter, or ordinance are required to be confidential. Board staff, Renee Carabaja, to remain. (First: Sinclair; Second: Mew).	
<b>Discussion:</b>	With nothing to discuss, the board approved the motion by roll-call vote.	
<b>Recorded Votes:</b>	Cronk - Yes	Mew - Yes
	Cunningham - Yes	Tougas - Yes
	Sinclair – Yes	Habeger - Yes
		Thayer - Yes
<b>Motion:</b>	Move to approve the Region 1 Marine Pilot applications with unlimited tonnage. Captain Tiffany Keefe, #126946 Captain Kathryn Miller, # 147160 Captain Mitchell Potter; # 147168 Captain Jeffery Varney, # 147164 (First: Mew; Second: Cronk).	
<b>Discussion:</b>	With nothing to discuss, the board approved the motion by roll-call vote.	
<b>Recorded Votes:</b>	Cronk - Yes	Mew - Yes
	Cunningham - Yes	Tougas - Yes
	Sinclair – Yes	Habeger - Yes
		Thayer - Yes
<b>Motion:</b>	Move to approve the Marine Pilot application for Captain Christopher Lemon, # 142760, for Region 2 with unlimited tonnage and VLCC (Very Large Crude Container) Endorsement.(First: Mew; Second: Habeger).	
<b>Discussion:</b>	With nothing to discuss, the board approved the motion by roll-call vote.	
<b>Recorded Votes:</b>	Cronk - Yes	Mew - Yes
	Cunningham - Yes	Tougas - Yes
	Sinclair – Yes	Habeger - Yes
		Thayer - Yes
<b>Board Comments:</b> Chair Thayer opened the floor for board member comments. Board members thanked Les Cronk for his years of service to the board and industry, as he is retiring and his term on the board will end in March. Joe Tougas was also thanked for his service on the board; he does not intend to apply for another term. Board members thanked MPC Carabaja for her work and professionalism; they appreciate how quickly she responds to them and others.		
<b>Adjourn:</b>		
<b>Brief Discussion:</b> <b>Off Record at 11:27 am</b>	Having completed all scheduled business on the agenda, the board adjourned.	
<b>Motion:</b>	Move to adjourn (First: Cronk; Second: Sinclair).	

<b>Discussion:</b>	With nothing to discuss, the board approved the motion via roll call vote.	
Recorded Votes (roll call):	Cronk - Yes	Mew - Yes
	Cunningham - Yes	Tougas - Yes
	Sinclair – Yes	Habeger - Yes
		Thayer - Yes
Date Final Minutes Approved by the Board: _____ Meeting _____ OnBoard		

**State of Alaska  
Department of Commerce, Community &  
Economic Development Division of Corporations,  
Business, and Professional Licensing  
Board of Marine Pilots**



**Association Reports**

Each of the 3 pilot associations will address the board with an update on their respective associations.

Alaska Marine Pilots (Region 3)  
Southeast Alaska Pilots Association (Region 1)  
Southwest Alaska Pilots Association (Region 2)

**From:** [Jenni Zielinski](#)  
**To:** [Board of Marine Pilots \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Swapa President](#); [Swapa Training](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Licensing and ongoing effects of government shutdown  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 1, 2026 1:00:56 PM

---

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside the State of Alaska mail system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Renee,

The Board of Marine Pilots is aware that recent government shutdowns have delayed mariner credentialing and the issuance of federal pilotage endorsements. As a result, trainees in our Training Program may experience delays due to the closure of local REC and NMC centers.

During the pandemic, alternative testing arrangements were implemented. In a similar spirit, SWAPA respectfully requests that the Board consider allowing Local Knowledge Exams to be administered outside of regularly scheduled BMP meetings when necessary. Without this flexibility, a trainee who is otherwise ready to test for a Deputy License may be required to wait until the next BMP meeting, potentially delaying the start of their pilotage career by up to three months. Such delays affect not only individual trainees but also the association's ability to fulfill its responsibilities to the citizens of the State of Alaska. Given the uncertainty surrounding the duration of the federal shutdown and the anticipated backlog once operations resume, any measures the Board can take to prevent additional delays would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Capt. Christopher Mitchell  
President

Southwest Alaska Pilots Association

[907-235-8783](tel:907-235-8783)

[swapa@swpilots.net](mailto:swapa@swpilots.net)

This message may contain confidential and/or privileged information. If you are not the addressee or authorized to receive this for the addressee, you must not use, copy, disclose, disseminate, or take any action based on this message or any information herein. If you have received this message in error, please advise the sender immediately by reply e-mail and delete this message. Thank you for your cooperation.

## **Chapter 56. Board of Marine Pilots**

(Words in **boldface and underlined** indicate language being added, words CAPITALIZED AND BRACKETED indicate language being deleted.)

### 12 AAC 56.011. TYPES OF LICENSES AND ENDORSEMENTS.

[(C) ON 9/19/2020, A DEPUTY MARINE PILOT WHO HOLDS A LESS THAN 65,000 GROSS TONS ENDORSEMENT WILL BE CONSIDERED TO HOLD A NOT MORE THAN 95,000 GROSS TONS ENDORSEMENT AND A DEPUTY MARINE PILOT WHO HOLDS A LESS THAN 90,000 GROSS TONS ENDORSEMENT WILL BE CONSIDERED TO HOLD A NOT MORE THAN 110,000 GROSS TONS ENDORSEMENT. THE DEPARTMENT WILL ISSUE A NEW LICENSE TO A DEPUTY MARINE PILOT THAT HAS A CHANGE IN ENDORSEMENT UNDER THIS SECTION REFLECTING THE NEW ENDORSEMENT.]

(D) ON 9/19/2020, EXPERIENCE TOWARD AN INCREASED TONNAGE ENDORSEMENT OBTAINED BY A DEPUTY MARINE PILOT WHILE HOLDING A LESS THAN 65,000 GROSS TONS ENDORSEMENT WILL BE COUNTED AS EXPERIENCE OBTAINED WHILE HOLDING A NOT MORE THAN 95,000 GROSS TONS ENDORSEMENT, AND EXPERIENCE TOWARD AN INCREASED TONNAGE ENDORSEMENT OBTAINED BY A DEPUTY MARINE PILOT WHILE HOLDING A LESS THAN 90,000 GROSS TONS ENDORSEMENT WILL BE COUNTED AS EXPERIENCE OBTAINED WHILE HOLDING A NOT MORE THAN 110,000 GROSS TONS ENDORSEMENT.

(E) ON APRIL 14, 2018, A DEPUTY MARINE PILOT WHO HOLDS A LESS THAN 50,000 GROSS TONS ENDORSEMENT WILL BE CONSIDERED TO HOLD A NOT MORE THAN 50,000 GROSS TONS ENDORSEMENT. THE DEPARTMENT WILL ISSUE A NEW LICENSE TO A DEPUTY MARINE PILOT THAT HAS A CHANGE IN ENDORSEMENT UNDER THIS SECTION REFLECTING THE NEW ENDORSEMENT.]

### 12 AAC 56.012. DOCUMENTATION OF SERVICE.

[(C) FOR THE PURPOSES OF AS 08.62.093 AND THIS SECTION,

- (1) "DAY" MEANS THE SAME AS "DAY" IN 46 C.F.R. 10.107;
- (2) "SERVICE" MEANS THE TIME SPENT ON DUTY ON A VESSEL THAT IS UNDERWAY;
- (3) "UNDERWAY" MEANS THAT A VESSEL IS NOT AT ANCHOR OR MADE FAST TO THE SHORE OR AGROUND;

(4) "YEAR" MEANS THE SAME AS "YEAR" IN 46 C.F.R. 10.107.]

12 AAC 56.025. APPLICATIONS. (a) To be eligible to take the regional local knowledge examination required by 12 AC 56.026(k), an applicant shall apply on a form provided by the department and pay the examination fees required in 12 AAC 02.240 at least 30 [60] days before the date of the examination. Not less than 30 days before the date of the examination, the applicant shall submit

(1) repealed 9/6/2024;

[(2) EVIDENCE THAT THE APPLICANT IS AT LEAST 25 YEARS OF AGE;]

(3) all existing evaluations of the applicant's training in an approved training program with a recognized pilot organization; at least 10 days before the date of the licensing examination the applicant shall submit all remaining evaluations necessary to demonstrate successful completion of all applicable regional training requirements listed in 12 AAC 56.028, and a letter from a recognized pilot organization stating the applicant has completed the organization's approved training program;

(4) a full-sized [CERTIFIED] copy of both sides of the applicant's valid United States Coast Guard license, with radar endorsement and an endorsement of first class pilotage without tonnage restrictions as required in 12 AAC 56.028 for the pilotage region in which the training occurred;

(5) repealed 8/9/97;

[(6) THE NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF THREE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD LICENSED MASTER MARINERS WHO MAY BE CONTACTED FOR A RECOMMENDATION ATTESTING TO THE APPLICANT'S PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS AND GOOD MORAL CHARACTER;]

(7) documentation of the applicant's education, employment record, and other special qualifications, including, if possible, copies of discharges, certificates, and letters;

(8) on a form provided by the department, a [NOTARIZED] statement by the applicant whether

(A) within the five years before the application, the applicant has

(i) been convicted of a felony;

(ii) been convicted of any repeat minor offenses involving excessive use of alcohol;

(iii) had a conviction involving the possession, use, or sale of drugs; or

(iv) had a marine or motor vehicle driver's license revoked, suspended, or limited in any jurisdiction; and

(B) the applicant is currently

(i) under investigation or subject to a disciplinary proceeding by the United States Coast Guard; or

(ii) under treatment for drug or alcohol abuse;

(9) a certificate that shows a negative result on a test for illegal drug use from a testing facility that complies with the requirements adopted in 12 AAC 56.940(b) conducted not more than 90 days before the date of the examination; the testing facility will mail the drug test results directly to the marine pilot coordinator; and

(10) evidence of a satisfactory physical examination on **the United States Coast Guard physical form** [A FORM PROVIDED BY THE DEPARTMENT] not more than 90 days before the date of the examination; the physical exam must demonstrate that the applicant is physically fit to perform the duties of a pilot, including an examination of eyesight, hearing, blood pressure, physical agility, and cognitive capabilities.

(b) Repealed 7/26/90.

(c) To be eligible to take the deputy marine pilot core examination required in 12 AAC 56.026(a)(3), an applicant shall apply on a form provided by the department and submit,

(1) at least 30 days before the date of the examination,

(A) the applicable application and examination fees required in 12 AAC 02.240;

(B) evidence of experience as required in

(i) AS 08.62.093(b)(1), (2), (3), (4), or (5); or

(ii) AS 08.62.093(b)(6) by enrollment in a board approved deputy marine pilot apprenticeship

program under 12 AAC 56.033;

(C) evidence that the applicant meets the requirement of AS 08.62.093(a)(1);

(2) before the examination, a full-sized [CERTIFIED] copy of both sides of the applicant's United States Coast Guard license, demonstrating compliance with 12 AAC 56.026(a)(2).

(d) Repealed 1/29/2009.

(e) Repealed 1/1/99.

(f) An applicant for an increased tonnage endorsement under 12 AAC 56.018 or 12 AAC 56.019 shall apply on a form provided by the department and submit the applicable application fee required in 12 AAC 02.240.

(g) An apprentice applying for a deputy marine pilot license under 12 AAC 56.033(b) must meet the requirements in (a) and (c) of this section.

(h) An applicant applying for a marine pilot license under 12 AAC 56.029 shall apply on a form provided by the department and submit,

(1) the applicable application fee required in 12 AAC 02.240;

(2) evidence that the applicant meets the requirements of 12 AAC 56.029(1), (5) and (6);

(i) An application that satisfactorily documents that applicable requirements for the examination, license, or endorsement are met is considered complete. The marine pilot coordinator shall review all submitted applications and approve those applications that comply with all applicable requirements. [IF AN APPLICATION IS NOT COMPLETE BY 30 DAYS BEFORE THE DATE OF EXAMINATION, THE APPLICANT MAY NOT BE APPROVED TO SIT FOR THAT EXAMINATION.]

(j) To be eligible to take the regional local knowledge examination required by 12 AAC 56.034(a)(5) or to activate a previously held marine pilot regional endorsement, an applicant shall apply on a form provided by the department and pay the examination fees required in 12 AAC 02.240 at least **30** [60] days before the date of the examination. Not less than 30 days before the date of the examination, the applicant shall submit

(1) repealed 9/6/2024;

(2) a full-sized [CERTIFIED] copy of both sides of the applicant's valid United States Coast Guard license, with radar endorsement and an endorsement of first class pilotage without tonnage restrictions as required in 12 AAC 56.034(a)(1) for the pilotage region in which the training occurred;

(3) all existing evaluations of the applicant's training in an approved training program under 12 AAC 56.035(a)(3) with a recognized pilot organization; at least 10 days before the date of the regional local knowledge examination the applicant shall submit all remaining evaluations necessary to demonstrate successful completion of all applicable regional training requirements required in 12 AAC 56.035(a)(3);

(4) a letter as required by 12 AAC 56.034(b) stating that the applicant has completed the organization's approved training program as required in 12 AAC 56.035(a)(3).

12 AAC 56.026. DEPUTY MARINE PILOT TRAINING PROGRAM.

(g) **Semi-annually** [EACH QUARTER], a trainee shall submit to the marine pilot coordinator a copy of each evaluation form received. The trainee [AND TRAINING PILOT] shall keep a copy of each evaluation in a training log.

[(I) THE BOARD OR THE MARINE PILOT COORDINATOR WILL APPROVE A CANDIDATE TO TAKE THE DEPUTY MARINE PILOT CORE EXAMINATION REQUIRED IN (A)(3) OF THIS SECTION IF THE APPLICANT MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF (A)(1) AND (A)(2) OF THIS SECTION AND THE APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS OF 12 AAC 56.025(C). THE BOARD OR THE MARINE PILOT COORDINATOR WILL APPROVE A TRAINEE TO TAKE THE DEPUTY MARINE PILOT REGIONAL LOCAL KNOWLEDGE EXAMINATION REQUIRED IN (K) OF THIS SECTION IF THE BOARD OR THE MARINE PILOT COORDINATOR DETERMINES THAT THE TRAINEE HAS SATISFACTORILY COMPLETED THE TRAINING REQUIREMENTS OF THIS CHAPTER AND HAS COMPLIED WITH THE APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS OF 12 AAC 56.025(A).]

[(K) FOLLOWING THE COMPLETION OF THE APPLICABLE TRAINING PROGRAM, A TRAINEE MUST PASS THE REGIONAL LOCAL KNOWLEDGE EXAMINATION AND THE ORAL EXAMINATION DESCRIBED IN 12 AAC 56.070(D) AND (F).]

12 AAC 56.027. SUPERVISED MOVEMENTS.

[(B) A LICENSEE HOLDING A LIMITED PILOT LICENSE MAY NOT SUPERVISE THE MOVEMENTS REQUIRED BY 12 AAC 56.028.]

12 AAC 56.028 (c) REGIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR DEPUTY MARINE PILOTS LICENSE

(1) completion of 90 supervised movements in active ports throughout the region, including

(A) Dutch Harbor/Captains Bay - **30 dockings and 30 undockings** [25 DOCKINGS AND 25 UNDOCKINGS] as follows:

(i) 10 of the dockings and 10 of the undockings must be performed within the period beginning October 1 and ending April 1;

(ii) 10 of the dockings and 10 of the undockings must be performed at night;

(iii) no more than 40 percent of the dockings and 40 percent of the undockings may be made under the supervision of the same training pilot;

(iv) a minimum of **15 of the dockings and 15 of the undockings** [10 DOCKINGS 10 UNDOCKINGS] in Dutch Harbor;

(B) in addition to the dockings and undockings required under (A) of this paragraph, **5 dockings and 5 undockings** [10 DOCKINGS AND 10

UNDOCKINGS] performed at any combination of outports within the region in  
(1) accordance with the regional training program approved by the board;

#### 12 AAC 56.070. EXAMINATIONS.

(e) The deputy marine pilot core examination required in 12 AAC 56.026(a)(3) consists of a written examination that covers the topics listed in (b)(1) - (5) of this section. The core examination may be administered and scored by the marine pilot coordinator. If the marine pilot coordinator administers the core examination, it will be given on a date and time to be determined by the marine pilot coordinator, after consultation with the applicant. If an applicant fails the deputy marine pilot core examination, the applicant may not retake the core examination for at least **30** [60] days.

#### 12 AAC 56.080. BIENNIAL LICENSE RENEWAL.

(b) To renew a marine pilot license, a marine pilot shall submit

(1) a completed renewal application on a form provided by the department; the application must demonstrate that the applicant meets the requirements of AS 08.62.120, including compliance with (c) of this section;

(2) on **the United States Coast Guard physical form** [A FORM PROVIDED BY THE DEPARTMENT], verification of a physical examination of the marine pilot conducted by a licensed physician within 60 days before the date of license renewal, including an examination of the marine pilot's eyesight, hearing, blood pressure, physical agility, and cognitive capabilities, confirming that the marine pilot is physically fit to perform the duties of a marine pilot;

[(I) THE BOARD WILL ACCEPT THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTATION FROM AN APPLICANT FOR LICENSE RENEWAL TOWARDS FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS SET OUT IN (C) OF THIS SECTION:

(1) SOUTHEASTERN ALASKA REGION – NOT LATER THAN DECEMBER 31, 2022, A PILOT SHALL PERFORM

(A) ON VESSELS OF 1,000 GROSS TONS OR TUG AND TOWS EXCEEDING 1,000 COMBINED GROSS TONS THAT ARE NOT SUBJECT TO AS 08.62, AT LEAST TWO ROUND TRIPS BETWEEN KETCHIKAN AND SKAGWAY, NOT TO INCLUDE TRANSITS OF PERIL STRAITS OR WRANGELL NARROWS DUE TO LIMITED VESSEL TRAFFIC; AND

(B) ON VESSELS OF 1,000 GROSS TONS OR MORE, ONE ROUND TRIP OR TWO ONE-WAY TRIPS

(I) THROUGH SNOW PASS;

(II) THROUGH DECISION PASS;

(III) THROUGH NORTH INIAN PASS;

(IV) INTO SITKA;

(V) IN GASTINEAU CHANNEL;

(VI) OVER TRACY ARM BAR OR INTO ENDICOTT ARM; AND

(VII) INTO GLACIER BAY;

(2) SOUTHCENTRAL ALASKA REGION – NOT LATER THAN DECEMBER 31, 2022, A PILOT SHALL PROVIDE PROOF OF A COMBINATION OF 30 DAYS

(A) WORKING AS A MASTER PILOT ON AN ENROLLED VESSEL OR AS A PILOT ON A VESSEL SUBJECT TO AS 08.62; AND

(B) AS AN OBSERVER ON AN ENROLLED VESSEL OR VESSEL SUBJECT TO AS 08.62 THAT

(I) SUCCESSFULLY PERFORMS FIVE DOCKINGS AND FIVE UNDOCKINGS INCLUDING AT LEAST ONE DOCKING AND UNDOCKING IN EACH OF THE THREE AREAS: COOK INLET, KODIAK ISLAND GROUP, AND PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND; OR

(II) FOR A PILOT WITH A VLCC ENDORSEMENT, SUCCESSFULLY PERFORMS FIVE DOCKINGS AND UNDOCKINGS ON TANKERS AT THE VALDEZ OIL TERMINAL, WITH AT LEAST TWO DOCKINGS AND UNDOCKINGS BEING ON VLCC VESSELS;

(3) WESTERN ALASKA REGION – NOT LATER THAN DECEMBER 31, 2022, A PILOT SHALL PROVIDE PROOF OF 60 DAYS PILOTING A VESSEL SUBJECT TO AS 08.62 OR 60

FAMILIARIZATION TRIPS ON VESSELS SUBJECT TO AS 08.62 IN ANY PORT OF WESTERN ALASKA REGION.]

#### 12 AAC 56.082. FAMILIARIZATION TRIPS

(c) To fulfill the familiarization trip requirement of 12 AAC 56.080(c)(2) in the Western Alaska Region, a pilot shall

[(1) PROVIDE PROOF OF A COMBINATION OF 60 DAYS PILOTING A VESSEL SUBJECT TO AS 08.62 AND FAMILIARIZATION TRIPS; THE COMBINATION MUST INCLUDE AT LEAST 20 DOCKINGS IN FIVE DIFFERENT PORTS; NO MORE THAN ONE HALF OF THE FAMILIARIZATION TRIPS OR DOCKINGS MAY OCCUR IN ANY ONE PORT; AND THE REMAINDER MUST OCCUR IN FOUR ADDITIONAL PORTS; DUTCH HARBOR AND CAPTAIN'S BAY ARE CONSIDERED AS ONE PORT FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS PARAGRAPH; OR]

(1) provide proof of at least 60 familiarization trips **within the region** a vessel subject to AS 08.62, a tug and tow of 1,000 gross tons combined, or an enrolled vessel of 1,000 gross tons or more, except fishing vessels as defined in 12 AAC 56.990, [AS FOLLOWS:

(A) 20 TRIPS IN DUTCH HARBOR;

(B) THREE TRIPS THROUGH ILIULIUK CHANNEL;

(C) FIVE TRIPS TO CAPTAIN'S BAY;

- (D) 12 TRIPS IN ANY COMBINATION TO AKUTAN, KING COVE, SAND POINT, OR CHIGNIK;
- (E) ONE TRIP TO COLD BAY;
- (F) THREE TRIPS TO NAKNEK;
- (G) TWO TRIPS TO TOGIK;
- (H) TWO TRIPS TO PORT MOELLER;
- (I) TWELVE ADDITIONAL TRIPS TO ANY COMBINATION OF PORTS IN (D)-(H) OF THIS PARAGRAPH.]

12 AAC 56.083. CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS. (a) Repealed 5/31/2000.

(b) A marine pilot with a VLCC endorsement applying for license renewal [FOR A LICENSE PERIOD THAT BEGINS ON OR AFTER JANUARY 1, 2001,] shall document that the marine pilot has satisfactorily completed a manned model course during one of the three biennial license periods immediately preceding the license period for which renewal is sought.

(c) Repealed 5/26/2007.

(d) Repealed 7/15/2006.

(e) A marine pilot or deputy marine pilot applying for license renewal [FOR A LICENSE PERIOD THAT BEGINS ON OR AFTER JANUARY 1, 2008,] shall document that the pilot has satisfactorily completed a board approved simulator or manned model course at a board approved facility within one of the three biennial license periods immediately preceding the license period for which renewal is sought.

(f) A marine pilot or deputy marine pilot applying for license renewal [FOR A LICENSING PERIOD THAT BEGINS ON OR AFTER JANUARY 1, 2008,] shall document that the pilot has satisfactorily completed continuing education as required in a board approved regional training program.

12 AAC 56.100. ESTABLISHED BOUNDARIES OF COMPULSORY PILOTAGE WATERS OF ALASKA. Specific boundaries of the compulsory pilotage waters of Alaska are as follows:

[(15) ALL WATERS SURROUNDING THE PRIBILOF ISLANDS OF ST. PAUL AND ST. GEORGE FROM THE SHORELINE SEAWARD TO THE OUTER LIMIT OF THE THREE-MILE TERRITORIAL SEAS;

(16) ALL WATERS SURROUNDING THE BERING SEA ISLANDS FROM SHOREWARD TO THE OUTER LIMIT OF THE THREE-MILE TERRITORIAL SEAS, INCLUDING ST. LAWRENCE ISLAND, NUNIVAK ISLAND, ST. MATTHEW ISLAND, AND LITTLE DIOMEDE ISLAND;

(17) ALL WATERS ENCOMPASSING THE ALEUTIAN ISLANDS FROM THE SHORELINE TO THE OUTER LIMIT OF THE THREE-MILE TERRITORIAL SEAS, INCLUDING ANY AND ALL ISLANDS AROUND THE FOX ISLANDS, RAT ISLANDS, NEAR ISLANDS, ANDREANOF ISLANDS, AND THE ISLANDS OF FOUR MOUNTAINS;

(18) ALL WATERS ENCOMPASSING THE SOUTH COAST OF THE ALASKA PENINSULA FROM CAPE KANATAK (PORTAGE BAY) TO CAPE PANKOF TO THE OUTER LIMIT OF THE THREE-MILE TERRITORIAL SEAS, INCLUDING ANY AND ALL ISLANDS AROUND THE SHUMAGIN ISLANDS, SEMEDI ISLANDS, PAVLOF ISLANDS, SUTWIK ISLAND, SANAK ISLAND, AND THE SANDMAN REEFS;

(19) ALL WATERS OF THE NORTH COAST OF THE ALASKA PENINSULA FROM CAPE KRENZIN TO THE SOUTHERN EXTREMITY OF EGEGIK BAY TO THE OUTER LIMIT OF THE THREE-MILE TERRITORIAL SEAS, INCLUDING AMAK ISLAND AND SEA LION ROCKS.]

#### 12 AAC 56.500. VLCC ENDORSEMENT REQUIRED

- (a) Due to the great mass, windage, and ship-handling peculiarities of very large crude carrier (VLCC) class vessels only pilots holding a VLCC endorsement may [PILOT] **dock/undock** those vessels in waters covered by this chapter.

#### 12 AAC 56.930. QUORUM.

[(B) FOR THE PURPOSE OF BOARD MEETINGS, HEARINGS, AND CONDUCTING ALL OTHER BOARD BUSINESS, EXCEPT EXAMINATIONS, A MAJORITY OF THE BOARD CONSTITUTES A QUORUM.]

#### 12 AAC 56.960. DUTIES OF PILOTS.

(k) A pilot organization shall report on a **semi-annual** [QUARTERLY] basis all pilotage performed by each pilot on vessels that were subject to AS 08.62. The report shall be submitted to the marine pilot coordinator [ELECTRONIC MAIL OR ON A 3.5" COMPUTER FLOPPY DISKETTE]. The report must include the following elements and be formatted in the same order:

- (1) pilot name;
- (2) date of departure;
- (3) time of departure;
- (4) date of arrival;

- (5) time of arrival;
- (6) place departed;
- (7) place arrived;
- (8) vessel name;
- (9) vessel gross tons;
- (10) vessel IMO number;
- (11) vessel type;
- (12) waters transited;
- (13) trainee name;
- (14) training evolution; and
- [(15) PILOT ASSOCIATION AFFILIATION].

Editor's note: For the purposes of 12 AAC 56.960, the marine pilot **coordinator can be contacted at [BoardofMarinePilots@Alaska.Gov](mailto:BoardofMarinePilots@Alaska.Gov)** [COORDINATOR'S MAILING ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER ARE MARINE PILOT COORDINATOR, DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS, BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSING, DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, COMMUNITY, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, P.O. BOX 110806, JUNEAU, AK 99811-0806: PHONE (907) 465-2548. THE MARINE PILOT COORDINATOR'S ELECTRONIC MAIL ADDRESS MAY BE OBTAINED BY CONTACTING THE DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS, BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSING].

12 AAC 56.970. PHYSICAL INCAPACITATION. A pilot who is physically incapacitated as a pilot for a period of 90 days or more shall not return to active pilot service until submitting evidence to the board of a satisfactory physical examination **by submission of United States Coast Guard physical form.**

#### 12 AAC 56.990 DEFINITIONS

[EDITOR'S NOTE: INFORMATION ON STANDARDS FOR CERTIFICATION OF CLASS A SIMULATOR SYSTEMS DESCRIBED IN 12 AAC 56.990(37) MAY BE OBTAINED BY CONTACTING DET NORSKE VERITAS AS, MARINE TECHNOLOGY AND PRODUCTION CENTER, COMPETENCE OPERATION AND MANAGEMENT, VERITASVEIEN 1, 1322 HOVIK, NORWAY; TELEPHONE: + 47 67 57 99 00; FAX: + 47 67 57 99 11; WEBSITE AT [HTTP://WWW.DNV.COM](http://WWW.DNV.COM).]



**MEMORANDUM**

DATE: April 17, 2026  
TO: Board of Marine Pilots  
THRU: Erika Prieksat, Chief Investigator  
FROM: Patrick Kase, Investigator  
RE: Investigative Report for the April 29, 2026 Meeting

The following information was compiled as an investigative report to the Board for the period of January 09, 2026 thru April 17, 2026; this report includes cases, complaints, and intake matters handled since the last report.

Matters opened by the Paralegals in Anchorage and Juneau, regarding continuing education audits and license action resulting from those matters are covered in this report.

**OPEN -**

<u>Case Number</u>	<u>Violation Type</u>	<u>Case Status</u>	<u>Status Date</u>
--------------------	-----------------------	--------------------	--------------------

**Closed - 1**

<u>Case #</u>	<u>Violation Type</u>	<u>Case Status</u>	<u>Closed</u>	<u>Closure</u>
---------------	-----------------------	--------------------	---------------	----------------

**MARINE PILOT**

2025-000683	Unlicensed practice or activity	Closed-Complaint	04/14/2026	No Action - No Violation
-------------	---------------------------------	------------------	------------	--------------------------

***END OF REPORT***

### Current Publication Dates – FPC Packet Review

- Coast Pilot 8 – 47<sup>th</sup> Edition **2025 – Updated 07/2025 (Web version updated 04/2026)**
- Coast Pilot 9 – 43<sup>rd</sup> Edition **2025 – Updated 2025 (Web version updated 04/2026)**
- Current Tide Table(s) – **2026**
- Current Tidal Current Table(s) – **2026**

The following will be uploaded to the board’s “Exemption” webpage:

- Resurrection Bay Supplemental (Alaska Boater’s Handbook) – **2012**
- Tongass Narrows Users Guide- **2012**
- Prince William Sound Supplemental (Alaska Boater’s Handbook) – **2016**
- VTS Regulations for Prince William Sound & Valdez – **2017**
- Alaska Boater’s Handbook – **2021**
- Cold Water Survival Guide – **2021**
- Kodiak Island Airport Corridor Guide – **2019**
- Pre-departure Check list (Alaska Boater’s Handbook) – **2021**
- Southeast Alaska Voluntary Waterway Guide – **2024**
- Wilderness Best Management Practices for Tracy Arm-Fords Terror Wilderness (Holkham Bay, Tracy Arm, Endicott Arm, and Ford’s Terror) – **2019**
- Lower Cook Inlet-Kachemak Bay Supplemental (Alaska Boater’s Handbook) – **2021**
- Alaska Marine Mammal and Harbor Seal Information – **2022**

Department of Commerce, Community  
and Economic Development

---

Division of Corporations, Business  
and Professional Licensing

# Board of Marine Pilots

## Annual Report

Fiscal Year 2026



Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development  
Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing

P.O. Box 110806  
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0806  
Email: [License@Alaska.Gov](mailto:License@Alaska.Gov)

*This report is required under Alaska Statute 08.01.070(10).*

**Board of Marine Pilots  
FY 2026 Annual Report**

**Table of Contents**

Board Membership

**Page X**

Accomplishments

**Page X**

Activities

**Page X**

Needs

**Page X**

**Board of Marine Pilots  
FY 2026 Annual Report**

**Board Membership *(as of the Date This Report was Approved)***

**Date of Final Board Approval: 4/29/2026**

Angel Holbrook, Vessel Agent  
Andrew Mew, Agent/Manager  
Colin Maynard, Public Member  
Don Habeger, Public Member  
Edward Sinclair, Marine Pilot  
James Cunningham, Marine Pilot  
Curtis Thayer, Commission DCCED Designee - Chair

## Board of Marine Pilots FY 2026 Annual Report

### Accomplishments

Over the course of the year, the board continued its work to establish, audit, and enforce the standard as set in Alaska Statute 08.62 to:

- Ensure that persons entering the practice meet rigorous standards of competency, and maintain such standards during their practice;
- Assist the public in the knowledge of who is licensed  
<https://www.commerce.alaska.gov/web/cbpl/ProfessionalLicensing/BoardofMarinePilots.aspx>);
- Approve the standards by which pilot organizations are operated and trainees are selected;
- Approve or disapprove rates for pilotage services; •Ensure that drug and alcohol testing is compliant;
- Ensure that sufficient pilots are available to provide service;
- Vessels subject to pilotage have a licensed pilot while transiting compulsory waters; and
- Educate the public about the statutes and regulations governing marine pilotage in Alaska.

The board reviewed, updated, and published the foreign pleasure craft navigation packet for 2026. The board also maintained its review of applications for pleasure craft of foreign registry seeking exemption from pilotage for vessels between 65 feet and 175 feet. The board approves pilotage exemptions if the requesting vessel meets the exemption requirements in 12 AAC 56.115.

As of the date of this report, the board approved 10 applications for exemption from pilotage requirements for foreign pleasure crafts with an additional 5-10 anticipated before the end of the fiscal year. The board approved licenses for (7) Deputy Marine Pilots and (9) Marine Pilots. Core and Local Knowledge exams were administered to 12 total candidates.

Investigations – for FY 2025, 2 new investigations were opened and 1 investigations were closed. At the time of this report, there are no open investigative cases for this program.

The board also completed a comprehensive review of regulations pursuant to Administrative Order 360 and developed a plan for regulatory reduction of discretionary regulations. The planned amendments will reduce administrative requirements for licensure while maintaining the highest standards for safety for the public and the state waterways.

## Board of Marine Pilots FY 2026 Annual Report

### Activities

The board completed a comprehensive review of regulations pursuant to Administrative Order 360 and developed a plan for regulatory reduction of discretionary regulations. The planned amendments will reduce administrative requirements for licensure while maintaining the highest standards for safety for the public and the state waterways. Previously opened regulations projects were incorporated into the plan as top priorities for completion before the end of calendar year 2026.

The board met five times during fiscal year 2026:

- \*July 23, 2025, via teleconference
- \*October 15, 20245, via teleconference
- \*December 2, 2025, via teleconference
- \*January 21, 2026, in Anchorage
- \*April 29, 2026, in Sitka

During these quarterly meetings, the board had participation from NOAA (presentation on charting), CLIA/CLAA (reports on cruise ship season and outlook for next season), and all three of the state pilot associations (association reports from AMP, SEAP, SWAPA). The board continued to support association bylaws and training program amendments while ensuring changes comport with statutes and regulations.

Renewal for the Deputy Marine Pilots, Marine Pilots and Vessel Agent licenses was 12/31/2024 and the licenses will renew again 12/31/2026.

Active License numbers as of the date of this report:

- Deputy Marine Pilots – 20
- Marine Pilots – 71
- Registered Vessel Agents - 7

**Board of Marine Pilots  
FY 2026 Annual Report**

**Needs**

**The board and industry have noticed considerable impacts to the licensing process due to federal closures of the National Maritime Center which directly affects federal pilotage needed for each region. The board will continue to monitor the situation and work on alternate avenues for licensure that comply with existing statutes and regulations.**