

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
BUREAU OF PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL AFFAIRS

F I N A L M I N U T E S

SPECIAL MEETING OF:

**PENNSYLVANIA STATE
NAVIGATION COMMISSION**

TIME: 10:43 A.M.

PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Eaton Board Room

Commonwealth HUB

2525 North 7th Street

Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17110

as well as

VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

July 30, 2025

Pennsylvania State
Navigation Commission
July 30, 2025

COMMISSION MEMBERS:

K. Kalonji Johnson, Chairperson, Deputy Secretary for
Regulatory Programs, Chairperson
Jill Whitcomb, Department of Environmental Protection
Designee - Absent
Altoro Hall, Senior Director of Manufacturing,
Industrial Real Estate, and Retention, Philadelphia
Department of Commerce
Michael D'Agostino, Esquire, Delaware Seat,
Governor's Appointee Delaware County - Absent
William Keller III, Philadelphia Seat, Governor's
Appointee Philadelphia County
Sean Schafer, Esquire, Bucks County Seat, Governor's
Appointee Bucks County
Eric C. James, Mayor's Appointee
James Roche, Mayor's Appointee
Matthew Sullivan, Delaware Seat, Governor's Appointee
Delaware County

COMMISSION PERSONNEL:

Jason McMurry, Esquire, Commission Counsel
Karl Geschwindt, Esquire, Commission Pros Liaison
Sparkle Thompson, Commission Administrator
Dennis Harney, Executive Assistant, Pennsylvania
Department of Environmental Protection
Riley Baker, Esquire, Prosecution Department of State

ALSO PRESENT:

Jeff Moller, Attorney, Pilots' Association for the Bay
and River Delaware
Jerry Medd, Chairman, Apprentice Program Training
Committee, Pilots' Association for the Bay and River
Delaware
David Cuff, President, Pilots' Association for the Bay
and River Delaware
Toby Davis
Raina Barnes, Apprentice Pilot
Allison Walker, Sargent's Court Reporting Service,
Inc.

1 ***

2 Pennsylvania State
3 Navigation Commission

4 July 30, 2025

5 ***

6 The special meeting of the Pennsylvania State
7 Navigation Commission was held on Wednesday, July 30,
8 2025. K. Kalonji Johnson, Chairperson, officially
9 called the meeting to order at 10:43 a.m.

10 Chair Johnson requested a roll call of attendees.

11 ***

12 [Pursuant to Section 708(a)(5) of the Sunshine Ace, at
13 9:30 a.m., the Commission entered into Executive
14 Session with Jason McMurry, Esquire, Commission
15 Counsel, for the purpose of conducting quasi-judicial
16 deliberations and to receive the advice of Commission
17 Counsel. The Commission returned to open session at
18 10:43 a.m.]

19 ***

20 Motion to Amend Agenda

21 CHAIR JOHNSON:

22 I'm going to need a motion from
23 Commission members to amend the Agenda
24 to provide for Public Comment before
25 Matters for Discussion. I just need a

1 motion and a second on that.

2 MR. SCHAFER:

3 I'll motion.

4 MR. JAMES:

5 I'll second.

6 CHAIR JOHNSON:

7 Having been motioned and seconded, all
8 in favor for approval, say aye.

9 [The motion carried unanimously.]

10 ***

11 Public Comment

12 [Raina Barnes, Apprentice Pilot, was asked if she
13 wanted to address the Commission before the discussion
14 regarding her apprenticeship. She stated she would
15 address the Commission after their discussion.]

16 ***

17 Matters for Discussion

18 [Jerry Medd, Chairman, Apprentice Program Training
19 Committee, Pilots' Association for the Bay and River
20 Delaware, provided the Commission with a general
21 update of the apprentice training program. He stated
22 the program was proceeding smoothly.

23 Mr. Medd stated the issues with Ms. Barnes'
24 apprenticeship were communicated from the training
25 committee to the leadership of the Pilots' Association

1 who contacted the Commission. He added the final
2 letter received by the Commission provided a synopsis
3 and recommendation on her training.]

4 ***

5 Report from Commission Counsel

6 [Jason McMurry, Esquire, Commission Counsel, stated
7 while in Executive Session, the Commission reviewed
8 the information received from the apprentice program
9 with regard to Ms. Barnes' program performance.]

10 MR. MCMURRY:

11 I believe it's been the decision of the
12 Commission in Executive Session to make
13 a motion to have Ms. Barnes removed
14 from further participation in the
15 apprentice program. With that, I look
16 for a motion.

17 MR. SCHAFER:

18 Just to say one thing. I know the
19 gravity of the situation, understand
20 how important this is, but based on the
21 evidence and what we discussed in
22 Executive Session, I'll would make that
23 motion.

24 MR. SULLIVAN:

25 I'll second.

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Johnson, abstain; Keller, aye; Schafer,
aye; James, aye; Roche, aye; Sullivan,
aye; Hall, aye.

[The motion carried. K. Kalonji Johnson abstained
from deliberations and voting on the matter.]

Public Comment

[Raina Barnes, Apprentice Pilot, inquired if there
would be an opportunity for an appeal. Mr. McMurry
stated she has the right to file legal action to
appeal. He stated she might consider consulting with
her attorney for legal actions and remedies. He
stressed he could not make specific recommendations to
her as he is the Commission's Counsel. He noted there
is not a specific appeal mechanism to the Commission.]

Adjournment

CHAIR JOHNSON:

If there are no other matters for
discussion, I would ask for a motion
for adjournment.

MR. ROCHE:

I'll make the motion to adjourn.

MR. SCHAFFER:

1 Second.

2 CHAIR JOHNSON:

3 Having been moved and seconded, I will
4 now call this meeting adjourned at
5 10:55 a.m. on Tuesday, July 30th.

6 ***

7 [There being no further business, the Navigation
8 Commission for the Delaware River and its Navigable
9 Tributaries Meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.]

10 ***

11

12 CERTIFICATE

13

14 I hereby certify that the foregoing summary
15 minutes of the Pennsylvania State Navigation
16 Commission meeting, was reduced to writing by me or
17 under my supervision, and that the minutes accurately
18 summarize the substance of the Pennsylvania State
19 Navigation Commission meeting.

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Allison Walker

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Minute Clerk

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Sargent's Court Reporting

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Service, Inc.

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NAVIGATION COMMISSION FOR THE DELAWARE RIVER AND ITS
NAVIGABLE TRIBUTARIES
REFERENCE INDEX
July 30, 2025

TIME	AGENDA
10:43	Official Call to Order
10:43	Members Introduced
10:44	Amendment to Agenda
10:45	Public Comment
10:45	Matters for Discussion
10:50	Report from Commission Counsel
10:52	Public Comment
10:56	Adjournment