Ladies and Gentlemen:

Following are noteworthy actions of the Executive Committee since the July Board Meeting.

The Executive Committee (EC) met in Minneapolis on October 20 and also by teleconference on December 12, the minutes of which have been published.

At the October meeting, the EC heard a lengthy presentation by the Mintz & Hoke (MH) team on the status of the discovery and strategy phase of the lifelong learning project. The MH team led the EC members through several exercises designed to gather data for the project and provided the EC with their research and findings to date. MH will present final strategies to the Board at the January Board meeting.

Considerable discussion was held in the EC regarding the Parity Act. At the October meeting, General Counsel Imlay gave a comprehensive report on the status of the Act, which was still active in Congress at the time as part of the House Financial Services and General Government Authorization Act. Plans were also discussed to lay the groundwork for pursuing the administrative route to implement the provisions of the Parity Act before the end of the year. Subsequent discussion was held at year end and the EC instructed General Counsel Imlay to proceed in filing a Petition, which was also presented to the Board in December. See ODV:27784

The EC has been monitoring the implementation of the new Volunteer Monitor Program and the continuing efforts to acquire final approval from the FCC of the new Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the Amateur Auxiliary. This has been a long standing project and hopefully the MOU will be finalized soon and then the Program fully implemented.

The EC reviewed RM-11815, a Petition to permit road-mounted wireless power transfer (WPT) systems for charging electric vehicles. It asks for rules permitting very high-power wireless mobile charging of vehicles via power emitters embedded in roadways. The major concern is that harmonic and spurious interference is potentially very likely caused by such WPT systems. The EC instructed General Counsel Imlay to file comments on the Petition and to evaluate the need for reply comments as warranted. Comments were filed on October 29. The matter will need continued monitoring.
The EC reviewed the work of the Ad Hoc Committee (Bellows, Norris, Raisbeck and Imlay) charged with the review of the ARRL Policy on Board Governance and Conduct of Members of the Board of Directors and Vice Directors (Minute 47, January 2018 Board Meeting). I want to thank the Ad Hoc Committee for their important work on this assignment. This proved to be a very challenging assignment and resulted in two different draft proposals for the EC to consider. After lengthy discussion, the EC recommended one proposal to be submitted to the Board and the other proposal to be provided to the Board for alternate consideration. Those two drafts were submitted to the Board and comments were solicited in November. See ODV:27689

Some additional items of note that the EC provided input and instruction on include:

1. Filed opposition comments to Radwin Petition for Rulemaking RM-11812, to protect Amateur operation from interference and raised noise floor in the 5 GHz band

2. Develop white paper on ARRL’s position concerning FCC Enforcement Advisory (No. 2018-3, DA-18-980) on the implementation and use of non-certified VHF/UHF radios and the marketing of them to the general public

3. Meeting with FCC’s WTB Chief of Staff urging more rapid resolution of a series of long-pending rulemaking proceedings, i.e. Symbol Rate petition (Docket No. 16-239) and the ARRL Entry Level License Enhancement petition (no placed on public Notice since filing in February)

4. Continue monitoring potential threats to the 5.850 – 5.925 GHz, 10 GHz, and 24 GHz bands for impact on national broadband planning

5. Motion to present at Board meeting concerning Article 1 provision to bring in compliance with Connecticut law

6. Review of rules and regulations for Advisory Committees and recommendations to be referred to PSC by the Ad Hoc committee

7. Prepare comments to be filed in the NTIA proceedings, NTIA Docket 181130999-8999-01, Developing a Sustainable Spectrum Strategy for America’s Future

8. Prepare comments concerning Mitigation of Orbital Debris NPRM and Order on Reconsideration, Docket 18-313
I want to thank the members of the EC for their hard work and dedication to Amateur Radio and the League.

Respectfully submitted,

Rick Roderick - K5UR
Chair, Executive Committee