

MINUTES OF ARRL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Number 507

Hartford, CT– October 14, 2017

Pursuant to due notice, the ARRL Executive Committee convened at 8:30 AM at the Marriott Hartford/Windsor on Saturday October 14, 2017 with Rick Roderick, K5UR, in the Chair. Present were committee members First Vice-President Greg Widin, KØGW; Chief Executive Officer / Secretary Tom Gallagher, NY2RF; and Directors Mike Lisenco N2YBB; David Norris, K5UZ; Dale Williams, WA8EFK; Jim Boehner, N2ZZ; and Bob Vallio, W6RGG. Also present were Second Vice-President Brian Mileshosky, N5ZGT; International Affairs Vice-President Jay Bellows KØQB; ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD; and Assistant Secretary Dan Henderson, N1ND, acting as Recording Secretary. Guests present were Directors Tom Abernethy, W3TOM, Atlantic Division; Tom Frenaye, K1KI, New England Division; and Dick Norton, N6AA Southwestern Division.

1. On the motion of Mr. Vallio, seconded by Mr. Lisenco the agenda was **ADOPTED** as follows:
 1. *Welcome and consideration of agenda for the meeting*
 2. *President's report*
 3. *Chief Executive Officer and Secretary's report*
 4. *General Counsel's report*
 - A) *FCC/Regulatory items*
 - i) *Review of Enforcement issues/concerns*
 - ii) *Status update/reporting items and/or FCC submissions since July 2017 Board Meeting*
 - iii) *Open Items with no FCC action since July 2017 Board meeting*
 - B) *Local antenna/RFI cases*
 - C) *Organizational matters*
 - D) *Other legal/regulatory matters*
 5. *Legislative matters*
 - A) *Status – HR 555 - Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2017*
 6. *International matters*
 7. *Organizational matters*
 - A) *Next steps on comprehensive review of Articles of Association and By-Laws*
 - B) *Change to the indemnification clause in Article 15*
 - C) *Review of Rules and Regulations regarding Advisory Committees*
 8. *Review of pending action items including work in progress by committees*
 - A) *Amateur Auxiliary Study Ad Hoc Committee*
 - B) *Develop plan for implementation of Entry Level License Committee recommendations*
 - C) *Trademark Review Committee update*
 9. *Recognition of new Life Members*
 10. *Other business and adjournment*
2. Mr. Roderick offered the President's report and entertained comments. He expressed concern in the continued drop in membership numbers. He expressed pride in the ARRL's efforts in providing relief to Puerto Rico for the Hurricane Maria recovery. He requested Mr. Gallagher to express the thanks of the Executive Committee to the Headquarters staff for their efforts to assist with Hurricane relief efforts.

3. Mr. Imlay began the report of the General Counsel. A possible petition for partial reconsideration in FCC Docket 15-26 (with respect to power levels in the 76-81 GHz band for Amateur Radio operators) was discussed. On the motion of Mr. Norris, seconded by Dr. Boehner, it was decided to investigate the utility of an experimental license for the band, which would allow for select stations to collect data. Such data could be used to determine if the ARRL should file a petition to adjust the current Report & Order.
4. The committee moved to Mr. Gallagher presenting the joint CEO/Secretary's report. The January QST will be trimmed to a standard magazine size. This change will result in significant savings over the year. He offered that by having standing committees reduce in-person meeting by one a year, significant resources could be saved. Dr. Boehner noted that if more teleconference meetings are to be considered, upgrading of videoconferencing software should be considered. Gallagher highlighted the efforts of the "Force of 50" – the ARRL Amateur Radio volunteers who deployed to Puerto Rico. They were assembled and equipped within 48-hours from the time the initial request from the American Red Cross was received at ARRL Headquarters

On the motion of Mr. Gallagher, seconded by Mr. Williams, the Committee resolved into a Committee of the Whole at 9:45 AM consisting of the Committee members, Vice-Presidents and General Counsel. The Committee of the Whole rose at 12:23 PM and on the motion of Dr. Boehner, seconded by Mr. Norris, the report of the Committee of the Whole was approved.

On the motion of Mr. Lisenco, seconded by Mr. Norris, the Executive Committee **voted** that "Within 2 weeks the Secretary will call a special Board meeting to consider the Ethics and Elections Committee recommendation and related items."

The committee was on break for lunch from 12:25 until 12:59 with all persons previously noted present. Mr. Gallagher continued his report. He is recommended that the Programs and Services Committee be tasked to conduct a thorough evaluation of all current program offerings to the membership, with a report back to the Executive Committee in the fall of 2018. He also recommended that the ARRL consider adopting alternative dispute resolution methods in lieu of court action. In response to the Board's July request, he continues to investigate possible alternative locations for the ARRL incorporation. The stress on the IT Department caused by increasing resource demands continues to be a concern.

On the motion of Mr. Norris, seconded by Dr. Boehner, it was **voted** to request the Programs and Services Committee to begin the evaluation of all membership program offerings, with their study to include coordination with the Administration and Finance committee.

On the motion of Mr. Lisenco, seconded by Mr. Norris, the committee **voted** to direct General Counsel to draft a by-law change proposal to develop and implement alternative dispute resolution methods for the ARRL.

5. The committee returned to the report of General Counsel. FCC Docket 10-119, adopted in July 2017, has a disconnect between the Part 73 rules which allows a broadcast station to retransmit signals from the Amateur service without the consent of the Amateur licensee and the current Part 97.113 (b). There is a potential liability to an Amateur's license if they are involved in the direct gathering of the information retransmitted, in direct conflict with Part 97.113. On the motion of Mr. Vallio, seconded by Dr. Boehner, the committee directed General Counsel to prepare and file

a request for declaratory ruling asking the FCC to correct discrepancies between Part 73.1207(c) and Part 97.113(b).

Mr. Imlay next requested guidance on a possible ARRL response to the August 30, 2017 Public Notice of Technology Advisory Council's "technical inquiry into reforming technical regulations" in radio services. The purpose of the notice is to identify FCC technical rules that are obsolete or might be ripe for change in light of current communications technologies. Mr. Imlay was requested to work with ARRL resources to develop a series of recommendations for possible deregulation, with such recommendations to be brought back to the Executive Committee.

Next, Mr. Imlay discussed a potential ARRL response to the National Forest Service Transmitter Site Regulations and Fee Structure and its impact on Amateur Radio repeater sites on NFS leased land. The committee directed Mr. Imlay to continue to track and monitor this situation and that it might consider potential action as warranted after more information is gathered

6. Mr. Lisenco spoke to the status of S 1534, the Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2017 and moving it forward in the US Senate. The legislative team continues to work all avenues to secure passage and implementation of the bill.
7. Mr. Bellows reviewed the report of the International Affairs Vice-President. In reviewing the responses to the current natural disasters in the Caribbean and Central America, the Region 2 leadership is looking to develop workshops, funded through Region 2, to provide more opportunities to train the various national societies to better plan and assist for disaster relief and recovery communications. He also indicated that the Region 2 Administrative Council is looking to develop an on-going system of review band planning, rather than working on it at only specific intervals.
8. Mr. Imlay reported on the Day, Pitney concerns on the two changes to the Articles of Association, taken at the July 2017 Board meeting and reflected in Board Minutes 27 and 29 of the meeting. It was decided to share the Day, Pitney recommendations with the full Board in sufficient time for consideration of possible changes/actions at the January 2018 Board meeting.
9. The committee requested a red-line version of previously discussed By-Law changes that were not associated with Vice-Directors be circulated to the full Board in time for possible consideration at the January 2018 Board meeting.
10. Discussion next turned to the discussion of a review of the rules and regulations concerning Advisory committees. Mr. Norris will head a working group to look at this issue and make possible recommendations, with Dr. Boehner and Mr. Henderson to serve on the committee. They will report back to the Executive Committee when they have completed their review.
11. Mr. Mileshosky briefly discussed the recent work on the Amateur Auxiliary Study Ad Hoc Committee. The committee has completed its discussions and a first draft of the new training manual incorporating the proposed changes has been written. The committee is reviewing and editing the draft manuscript, which will be presented to the Executive Committee for review and comments. We are waiting feedback from the FCC on the proposed MOU for the Amateur Auxiliary. Several topics related to in-house management of the revised program still must be

resolved. It is hoped to have the package completed shortly, so that it can be circulated to the Board for consideration in January.

12. Discussion next turned to developing a plan for implementation of recommendations that might come from the Entry Level License Committee. Mr. Imlay will work with Mr. Bellows and Mr. Frenaye to develop a specific proposal for the frequencies and modes to be requested to expand the current Technician class operating privilege. The goal is to have this proposal to the Executive Committee in time to be reviewed by the full board at their January 2018 meeting.
13. On the motion of Mr. Vallio, seconded by Dr. Boehner, the list of new life members was **approved (with applause)**.
14. After comments from several attendees, and on the motion of Dr. Boehner, seconded by Mr. Lisenco, the meeting adjourned at 5:23PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Henderson, N1ND
Assistant Secretary, ARRL