

Report to the Board of the Bandplanning Committee

January 2021

The Bandplanning Committee includes:

Director Jairam, N2RJ
Director Williams, WA8EFK
Director Carlson, W9XA
Director Ritz, W7VO
Ned Sterns, AA7A
Steve Ford, WB8IMY
1st Vice President Raisbeck, K1TWF, chair

The major activity of this Committee was accomplished last spring with the release of the band plan proposal. We now await action on the part of the FCC. Could be a while. The Committee as a whole has not met since then but we remain ready to step up activity if needed.

As has been noted before, one aspect of band planning has caused considerable confusion for those outside the Board, and particularly internationally; this is the difference between “voluntary band planning” and “regulatory band planning”. The former, of course, is represented by lists of mode and frequency recommendations, the latter is represented by government rules and regulations, which we here in the United States have in profusion, but are largely lacking in most other jurisdictions. We often refer to “band planning” without specifying which of these two we mean. New Year’s resolution for 2021 – be specific when referring to “band planning.”

One small bit of activity in the band planning space did occur this fall. In response to some reports of conflicting band planning activities for digital modes at the international level, I organized a Zoom meeting with Jay Bellows, K0QB , Ned Stearns, AA7A, Rod Stafford (IVP), W6ROD, Dave Sumner (IARU Secretary), K1ZZ, Al Penney (IARU Region 2 Band Planning), VO1NO, and Bill Vartorella (IARU Band Planning), KJ4ORK. The conversation was fruitful, and at this point activities appear to be harmonized. The noise level has subsided ...

73,

Mike Raisbeck, K1TWF

1st Vice President

