

Ethics and Elections Committee January 2012 Report

The six months of activity on the Ethics and Elections Committee continued the recent trend of more contentious elections that started several years ago. Committee members received and worked on a number of tough issues, sorting through more than 150 e-mail messages concerning committee business.

After seeing a number of ballots returned to sender by the US Postal Service in the 2010 election cycle, the previous E&E Committee recommended that changes be made to the envelopes being used to return ballots. These changes were implemented this year and the problem did not occur in the 2011 elections.

Two groups started the process of gathering signatures for Section Manager recall elections but did not gain enough signatures to go forward. Continuing disputes in one Section have generated requests for the E&E Committee to intervene in Field Organization appointee issues, which were declined.

After the 300-word statements for the 2011 election were circulated to the Board, there were a number of messages suggesting that we should put the 300-word statements on the ARRL web site. Director Ahrens raised a number of good questions that need to be reviewed if that process is to go forward. It may be useful to do this in conjunction with the implementation of the digital version of QST as additional opportunities. The Committee did not move forward on this as attention was soon diverted to a number of questions that came up about campaign web sites and mailings by candidates.

The Committee spent considerable time assessing complaints about truthfulness in candidate campaign emails and web sites in one Division where the race was particularly intense. During this process Director Sarratt, who was the E&E chairman, decided to resign to make sure there was no question about fairness and objectivity.

One conference call was held to discuss complaints about candidate web site statements, and a few changes were requested and quickly made by the candidate. The easy use of email and web sites for campaigning has led to some candidates being less accurate than they should be. The Committee examined the material provided to candidates urging truthfulness but did not come to any consensus on improvements.

The November ballot counting process went smoothly, with the old counting machine surviving another year of use. Perhaps it can be retired this year if the Board accepts the Executive Committee recommendation for a change to electronic balloting. The document certifying the election is included with this report.

Lastly, the Committee reviewed the qualifications of a candidate for possible election as ARRL Treasurer.

Thanks to all Committee members for their quick work as issues came up during the last six months and to CEO/Secretary Sumner for his assistance.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom Frenaye". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Tom Frenaye, K1KI, Chairman
Dennis Bodson, W4PWF
Bob Vallio, W6RGG

Certification of Committee of Tellers

We, the undersigned, having been appointed by the Ethics & Elections Committee of the American Radio Relay League, Inc., to serve as a committee of tellers, hereby certify that we have this day examined and counted the ballots in the current autumn ARRL director elections and do find as follows:

Atlantic Division

For Director:

Bill Edgar, N3LLR
John Mueller, K2BT
Philip Theis, K3TUF

$$\begin{array}{r} 1,628 \\ \underline{755} \\ 1,368 \end{array}$$

Spoiled or Invalid

$$\underline{10}$$

Delta Division

For Director:

Mickey Cox, K5MC
David Norris, K5UZ

$$\begin{array}{r} 1,153 \\ \underline{1,313} \\ 4 \end{array}$$

Spoiled or Invalid

Midwest Division

For Director:

Cliff Ahrens, KØCA
Keith Kaiser, WAØTJT

$$\begin{array}{r} 1,276 \\ \underline{802} \\ 4 \end{array}$$

Spoiled or Invalid

Now, therefore, pursuant to the provisions of By-Law 20, and by virtue of authority delegated to us by the Ethics & Elections Committee, we hereby declare elected the following for the office in the division indicated, all for a term of three years starting 12:00 noon, January 1, 2012

ATLANTIC DIVISION

Director- Bill Edgar, N3LLR

DELTA DIVISION

Director- David Norris, K5UZ

MIDWEST DIVISION

Director- Cliff Abrens, K0CA

Done in Newington, Connecticut, November 18, 2011

(s) Dennis Bodson, W4PWF

(s) Bunny Miller, N1VXY

(s) Steve Frung, K1K

CERTIFICATION OF INDEPENDENT PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

A representative of this firm having witnessed the opening of the sealed ballots in the above-described elections, and having observed the counting of the ballots and ascertained the results thereof, we hereby certify that the tally of votes recorded above is correct. However, we did not and could not challenge or evaluate the validity of any individual ballots.

P. M. May CPA

Independent Public Accountants

on behalf of JH Gohn LLP