

## **Report to the Board of the Bandplanning Committee**

**July 2020**

The Bandplanning Committee includes:

Director Jairam, N2RJ  
Director Williams, WA8EFK  
Director Carlson, W9XA  
Director Ritz, W7VO  
Ned Sterns, AA7A  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Raisbeck, K1TWF, chair

This term of the Committee was a continuation of the last term, in which a fairly detailed plan was prepared to cover changes in the need for spectrum for digital modes, and to address to the extent possible the particular interference problems involving digital modes. The bulk of the work was done under the able leadership of then 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Widen, K0GW. Since the release of that report to the Board in January, only minor adjustments have been made to the excellent work done under him.

After the January Board meeting this Committee undertook some public outreach to gather opinions and perspectives on the bandplan proposal. This resulted in quite a lot of activity. Roughly 300 comments were submitted via a drop box style comment collection system, and a bandplanning group was established to permit 2-way communication. This resulted in a lot of activity, much centered (directly or indirectly) on the well-known Winlink controversy, and some centered on the band allocation changes proposed in the Technician Enhancement proposal. Both of these we considered outside the Committee's scope, but were interesting nonetheless. There was a lively discussion of automatic interference and frequency use detection as it might affect automated unattended stations. While this will in the long term be important from both technological and regulatory points of view, it was felt by the Committee that things need to develop and mature a bit more before we can productively dive into the topic.

We did make minor adjustments to the January plan to support EmComm operations outside the 48 states (ie., the Pacific, Alaska, and the Carribean.) These were necessary in order to accommodate the somewhat different band layouts in effect in these regions.

At this point, the work of the Committee as authorized last year has been accomplished. While ordinarily a Committee would at this point disband, we recommend that the Bandplanning Committee remain on inactive status, ready to take on any new surprises. We are submitting a motion to that effect.

I would direct you to the final version of previous Bandplanning report, which most of you have already seen, and the latest version of the band chart, which I am posting along with this report. An associated motion will be presented separately

73,

Mike Raisbeck, K1TWF

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President