

## ARRL Executive Committee Meeting

May 3, 2021

11:00 AM ET via Zoom

**1. The Executive Committee of the ARRL Board of Directors was called to order at 11:01 AM Eastern Time via Zoom with President Rick Roderick, K5UR, in the Chair.** Present were committee members Tom Abernethy, W3TOM; Kermit Carlson, W9XA; Bud Hippisley, W2RU; John Robert Stratton, N5AUS; Dale Williams, WA8EFK; Mike Raisbeck, K1TWF; and David Minster, NA2AA. Also present were ARRL FCC Counsel David Siddall, K3ZJ, and Carla Pereira, KC1HSX, serving as meeting recorder.

Present as observers were Mickey Baker, N4MB, Fred Hopengarten, K1VR, Ria Jairam, N2RJ, Bill Lippert, AC0W, Dick Norton, N6AA, Mike Ritz, W7VO, Lee Cooper, W5LHC, Ed Hudgens, WB4RHQ, Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA, Bill Morine, N2COP, Phil Temples, K9HI, Mark Tharp, KB7HDX, Scott Yonally, N8SY, Rod Stafford, W6ROD, and Bob Vallio, W6RGG.

**2. On the motion of Mr. Abernethy, seconded by Mr. Carlson, the Agenda was ADOPTED.**

**3. Chief Executive Officer/Secretary's update – Mr. Minster**

Mr. Minster requested to move into a Committee of the Whole to discuss personnel matters.

**On the motion of Mr. Hippisley, seconded by Mr. Carlson, the committee moved into a Committee of the Whole from 11:03 – 11:44 AM.**

**4. Upon the motion of Mr. Abernethy, seconded by Mr. Carlson, the report of the Committee of the Whole was ADOPTED.**

5. Returning to the CEO/Secretary's update, Mr. Minster was asked for any updates regarding the Life Member payment plan option. He confirmed that the payment plan has been reinstated and is being processed manually.

Responding to a question regarding the status of Project Eagle, Mr. Minster reported that he is working on filling the third and final member slot on that committee and is awaiting response from a qualified candidate. Once that has been finalized they will be able to get started.

**6. FCC Counsel's report – Mr. Siddall**

Mr. Siddall discussed the status of various matters at the FCC that can be shared with members and his current focus on band plan matters. He also updated the committee on the FCC's VEC proposals. Mr. Siddall then discussed the most recent FCC enforcement advisory, noting that re-issuance of the notice reflects that the events of January 6<sup>th</sup> continue to reverberate in official Washington, including at the FCC, and that in his opinion wide-ranging investigations and studies are likely to continue. Licensees who comply with federal and state laws and the FCC's rules should not be concerned.

*The committee was on break from 11:50 AM – 1:07 PM with all returning as noted above.*

The committee returned to Mr. Siddall's report, discussing the prospect for future movement on amateur radio-related issues and the FCC's schedule. Responding to a question regarding member involvement, Mr. Siddall stated that member support at the right time will help realize our goals but stressed the importance of timing and content. The committee then discussed the matter of the FCC

making email addresses public, with Mr. Siddall reporting that in January he had requested that the FCC continue to mask amateur email addresses from public view in the Commission's public-facing database, but that there has not been a definitive response. The committee discussed issuing a statement to members that the League is addressing their concerns when an update is received from the FCC.

Mr. Siddall then said that in his opinion there is a need to publish more stories about the many positive aspects of amateur radio and its participants to balance the negative stories that seem to garner more attention but which convey to outsiders an overall false impression of our service and its benefits. The committee discussed possible ways to address that issue, such as initiating news items highlighting STEM activities, school projects, youth education, amateur space and Space Shuttle programs, and emergency activities and drills to better balance the occasional stories about enforcement activities and such.

Responding to a question regarding communication between the League and the FCC on RF exposure, the committee discussed the most effective methods of engaging the Commission, with Mr. Siddall noting that the situation is complex and we must take care to simplify rather than complicate the matter.

#### **7. VM Program report**

Referring to the report of the Volunteer Monitor Coordinator, there was discussion regarding the need to showcase the VM program.

#### **8. Legislative Advocacy Committee report – Mr. Stratton**

Mr. Stratton updated the group on the status of Representative Lesko's resolution for a National Amateur Radio Operator's Day, adding that we need to share a story with membership on our efforts to get it passed. Mr. Stratton also updated the committee on the status of the HOA bill.

#### **9. Other business**

Mr. Carlson returned to the topic of RF exposure, discussing the importance of RF exposure calculators, a new framework for the java script, and more in-depth evaluation, as soon as possible.

**10. Upon the motion of Mr. Stratton, seconded by Mr. Carlson, the group moved into a Committee of the Whole from 1:41 – 1:50 PM to discuss a personnel matter.**

**11. Upon the motion of Mr. Abernethy, seconded by Mr. Williams, the report of the Committee of the Whole was ADOPTED.**

**12. The next meeting of the Executive Committee is scheduled for June 7, 2021 at 11 AM ET.**

**13. There being no further business, on the motion of Mr. Hippisley, seconded by Mr. Williams, the meeting was adjourned at 1:53 PM.**

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