

**Report of the Executive Committee
ARRL Board of Directors
January 2020**

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Following are noteworthy actions of the Executive Committee since the July Board Meeting.

The Executive Committee (EC) met in Denver on October 12, the minutes of which have been distributed (ODV:28967).

At the October meeting, Connecticut counsel, Ed Spinella, discussed the matter of relocation of ARRL domicile from Connecticut. He reviewed Connecticut statutes, in particular those regarding Connecticut non-stock corporations and restrictions on relocation. This is an open item pending further review at a later date.

Mr. Spinella also held discussion on the continued review of and work on the Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws. This has been a long-standing project which has taken considerable time by a number of individuals in recent years. This is an open item with the EC with plans for proposals to be fully vetted and proposed to the Board no later than the July, 2020, Board meeting.

The EC heard a presentation by Dr. Michel with an update on the Lifelong Learning project and the work of Mintz+Hoke on the design of the website and user experience sides of the project. Concerns were raised about the lack of a firm contract, including timeframes and deliverables for the project. The EC directed Dr. Michel, Mr. Hippisley, Mr. Ryan and Mr. Spinella to commence discussions with Mintz+Hoke to formalize a contract for the Lifelong Learning project with Mintz+Hoke.

The EC directed that two advisory committees be created by the Lifelong Learning Department to offer input and help guide the Lifelong Learning project. One committee is to be composed of subject matter experts to help guide content design and development. The other committee is to use a collaborative effort in a panel review of material from the perspective of the target audience.

The EC discussed various items at the meeting with Mr. Siddall including:

1. FCC Docket 16-239 (RM-11708) Symbol Rate Proceeding
2. Implementation of WRC-2015 60-meter Band Allocation
3. RF Exposure (Safety) Regulations
4. Enforcement Issues
5. Numerous FCC Petitions and Proceedings pending

The EC directed Mr. Famiglio, K3RF, to proceed in seeking a trademark attorney to be hired and to commence a review of ARRL trademarks to protect League intellectual property and to repair such trademarks as necessary. Mr. Famiglio subsequently retained counsel and the review is underway.

The EC spent considerable time working with Mr. Siddall on matters regarding FCC Docket 16-239 and the request that FCC delete symbol rate limits for data transmission in the Amateur Service rules. As the Board is aware, this matter dates back a number of years to the 2013 ARRL Petition for Rulemaking (RM-11708) regarding removal of the symbol rate limits with the adoption of a 2.8 kHz bandwidth limit. In accordance with Board directive in Minute 31 of the July Board meeting, the EC worked extensively on a response with Mr. Siddall, including a teleconference on September 9, to prepare a response. Mr. Siddall subsequently filed comments on September 17 (ODV:28789).

On October 24, New York University (NYU) filed a Petition for Declaratory Ruling with the FCC on issues related to encryption and Docket 16-239. The EC worked with Mr. Siddall on a Response which was filed on December 2 requesting the FCC dismiss the Petition for Declaratory Ruling (ODV: 29055). The EC and Mr. Siddall continued to monitor the replies to the Petition and the EC later directed Mr. Siddall to file additional reply comments. Reply comments were subsequently filed on December 17 (ODV:29130).

The EC had a round of visits with FCC officials on November 4-5 at FCC offices in Washington, D.C. This was an effort to personally introduce ourselves and to have an opportunity to tell the FCC about the ARRL and Amateur Radio. A number of open items were discussed including:

1. Symbol Rate Proceeding (Docket 16-239, RM-11708)
2. 60 Meter Band Allocation (RM-11785)
3. Changes to Amplifier Gain Restriction (RM-11767)
4. RF Exposure Regulation (ET Docket 13-84)
5. Entry-Level Amateur License - Technician Enhancement (RM-11828)
6. 80 Meter Band Realignment (RM-11759)
7. Amateur Radio Enforcement

Members of the EC and the Legislative Advocacy Committee attended part of the open FCC meeting held on December 12 in Washington, and then attended a second meeting with FCC officials in the Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau. Afterwards, the EC/LAC members held a meet and greet luncheon for notable individuals in the Washington area to discuss ideas and solicit feedback.

Mr. Siddall informed the EC that on November 21 the FCC issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (subsequently formally adopted by FCC on December 12) proposing to remove the Amateur allocation at 3.3-3.5 GHz in WT Docket 19-348. In addition, the

FCC also issued, and adopted, another NPRM in WT Docket 19-138 that would require “a fresh and comprehensive look” at rules for the 5.9 GHz band. The EC directed Mr. Siddall to proceed in opposing any threat to Amateur frequencies and to prepare to file comments in opposition.

On December 23, the Legislative Advocacy Committee (LAC) submitted information to the EC for review and comment concerning draft legislation effecting Amateur stations and private land use restrictions. The EC provided feedback and editing recommendations. The LAC subsequently provided the confidential information to the Board on January 8, 2020 (ODV:29338).

I want to thank the members of the EC for their hard work and dedication to Amateur Radio and the League.

Respectfully submitted,

Rick Roderick – K5UR
Chair, Executive Committee

Members:

Director Tom Abernethy – W3TOM
Director Bud Hippisley – W2RU
Director Fred Hopengarten – K1VR
Director John Stratton – N5AUS
Director Jim Tiemstra – K6JAT
First Vice President Greg Widin – K0GW
Chief Executive Officer Howard Michel – WB2ITX
President Rick Roderick – K5UR