

**Report of the Executive Committee
ARRL Board of Directors
January 2017**

Ladies and Gentlemen:

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

The Executive Committee (EC) met in Rosemont, Illinois on October 22. The minutes were distributed to the Board in ODV:25911.

At the October EC meeting, Mr. Gallagher gave an informative presentation on where ARRL is at the moment and the state of the Amateur Radio industry. He discussed the budgetary challenges facing the League, organizational changes, an update on the strategic plan and major goals for 2017.

The EC reviewed a comprehensive response to FCC's ET Docket 16-191, the RF noise study by the Technological Advisory Council (TAC). Thanks to General Counsel Imlay, Ed Hare and the ARRL Lab Staff for an impressive study. Future strategy and action necessary on our part to push the FCC and TAC study is an open issue that needs to be addressed, especially given the ever-increasing problems with ambient man-made noise on the bands.

The EC worked on the League's response on the Symbol Rate WT Docket 16-239 after soliciting Board input and filed comments on October 11. Those comments reinforced our position for the deletion of the symbol rate limitation on data communications in the RTTY/data subbands and with a strong argument that there must be a bandwidth limit of 2.8 kHz on such emissions.

The EC evaluated whether to provide additional comments on WT Docket 16-243, the Petition for Rulemaking by Expert Linears America LLC to eliminate (and temporarily waive) the 15 dB gain limitation on Amateur power amplifiers. The League's initial comments were filed last year in May. After consideration, the EC decided not to file additional comments.

The EC instructed Mr. Imlay to develop a Petition for Rule Making to implement the WRC-15 5 MHz band allocation while retaining the existing domestic channels. The EC is currently reviewing a draft of the Petition.

Mr. Imlay reported to the EC on meetings with FCC concerning the Amateur Auxiliary program. This is a particularly serious topic given the closing of FCC field offices and the reduction in personnel. Vice President Milesosky heads the

Official Observer Study Committee charged with the responsibility of the review and revitalization of the program. This task will require significant effort and resources to implement, but is necessary to achieve improved FCC enforcement in the Amateur Radio Service. I plan to appoint representatives from both PSC and A&F as liaisons to the OO Study Committee to assure a coordinated effort. This project will also be carried as an open item with the EC.

A comprehensive study on broadband issues was done back in 2011 by the National Broadband Plan Committee. After that Committee was dismissed, the EC had the responsibility for monitoring this effort on an ongoing basis but, unfortunately, little attention was given to it. We need to get back on track and be proactive in addressing broadband spectrum issues. I've asked International Affairs Vice President Bellows, Director Blocksome and Mr. Imlay to update the study and prepare a plan. The EC will carry this is an open item to track progress.

I have asked Mr. Bellows, Mr. Imlay and Mr. Gallagher to work on a Code of Conduct and to review the By-laws for changes that may need to be made. The EC will review recommendations along with Day Pitney to assure compliance with Connecticut corporate law.

Respectfully submitted,

Rick Roderick - K5UR

Chair