



MEMORANDUM

TO: Officers, Directors and Vice Directors

FROM: Jim Tiemstra, K6JAT

DATE: April 28, 2017

RE: *The Cost of ARRL Governance After the Elimination of Vice Directors*

The Plan proponents have suggested in a somewhat oblique manner that there is one consideration, other than the matters discussed in the Day Pitney Memorandum, which justifies elimination of the position of Vice Director: cost (*see*, 4/3 Memo. pp. 6-7, and 4/28 Memo. p. 3). Indeed, the 4/28 Memo is the first communication that contains a cost estimate of Vice Directors attendance at BOD meetings. Of course, the cost of any one particular activity in running the League does not exist in a vacuum. However, no further analysis has been provided as to how this artificial expense savings issue implicates much broader issues concerning Board restructuring which should be addressed in this context.

A basic premise of League governance is that it cannot (or chooses not to) have a salaried BOD. We're all volunteers (with the exception of the salaried officers whose individual salaries dwarf the collective annual expense of the VDs), and therefore, unquestionably provide enormous value to the League far in excess of any minor expense reimbursement. Indeed, the entire discussion fails to address the issue properly, i.e. - what is the value of the Vice Directors to the League?

I submit that there are at least four areas that must be investigated before any informed decision can be made:

1. What is the value of a VD's role in support of his/her Director?
2. What is the value of a VD's function in the governance of the League?
3. What is the value of a VD's role in the League's functions?
4. What is the value of the VD's service to the membership?

Once these questions have been quantified, the question must be asked: are there other financial demands on the League that are more worthy of this allocation of resources? (e.g. - a need for newer or different publications, LoTW, DXCC, contests, etc.) Alternatively, will the proposed new cadre of "fan club" assistants to the Directors adequately fulfill these roles and functions at a significantly lesser cost?

As far as I can tell, no analysis of the long term benefit to the League of the current Plan has been undertaken. If it has, it certainly has not been disclosed to the BOD.