**E-Signatures 1**

Moved: Jairam

Seconded: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Whereas,**

The By-Laws of the ARRL do not specifically address the validity of electronic signatures for election petitions.

**Whereas,**

Members have expressed an interest in submitting signatures electronically for candidates for election.

**Whereas,**

The CoViD-19 crisis has resulted in the cancellation of many amateur radio events and has generally limited the physical movement of potential candidates for election, therefore limiting their ability to collect hand-signed signatures on paper.

**Whereas,**

Modern electronic signature systems such as, but not limited to, Adobe Sign and DocuSign, provide a facility to sign documents and provide a verifiable audit trail, including positively verifying the identity of the person signing, their IP address and location.

**It is accordingly resolved:**

That the By-Laws be amended as follows:

Electronic Signatures

47. The Secretary shall accept electronic signatures in lieu of written signatures for any of the purposes described in these by-laws, provided that such signatures are captured with and produce a verifiable audit trail, including positively identifying the identity of the signer, a copy of which shall be retained by the Secretary. Original handwritten signatures shall not be required if electronic signatures are used, and a copy of the audit record in an electronic format shall attest to the validity of the signatures.

**Cost:** Minimal administrative time to update the forms and make them available in electronic format such as PDF, as well preparation of instructions to advise candidates that they may submit signatures electronically. Additionally, there is a cost of $251.88 per year for an Adobe sign subscription. However, this may be included with an Adobe Creative Cloud plan, if we have one, in which case there is no additional cost. Additionally, if we so choose, we may simply require the candidate to use his or her own e-sign system account, in which case he or she will bear the cost as needed.