

ARRL Executive Committee Meeting
March 21, 2022
11:00 AM ET via Zoom

- 1. The Executive Committee of the ARRL Board of Directors was called to order at 11:00 AM Eastern Time via Zoom with President Rick Roderick, K5UR, in the Chair.** Present were committee members: Directors Tom Abernethy, W3TOM; Bill Lippert, AC0W; Kristen McIntyre, K6WX; John Robert Stratton, N5AUS; and Dale Williams, WA8EFK. **Present without vote:** 1st VP Mike Raisbeck, K1TWF; and CEO David Minster, NA2AA. Also present was ARRL FCC Counsel David Siddall, K3ZJ.

Present as observers were International Affairs VP Rod Stafford, W6ROD; Directors: Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA; David Norris, K5UZ; Ria Jairam, N2RJ; Fred Kemmerer, AB1OC; Art Zygielbaum, KØAIZ; Jeff Ryan, KØRM; Mike Ritz, W7VO; Dick Norton, N6AA; Vice Directors: Robert Famiglio, K3RF; Ed Hudgens, WB4RHQ; Scott Yonally, N8SY; Phil Temples, K9HI; Mark Tharp, KB7HDX; Anthony Marcin, W7XM; Bill Morine, N2COP; Jim Schilling, KG4JSZ; Lee Cooper, W5LHC; and CFO Diane Middleton, W2DLM.

- 2. On the motion of Mr. Abernethy, seconded by Ms. McIntyre, the Agenda was ADOPTED.**

- 3. Chief Executive Officer/Secretary's update**

Mr. Minster provided updates on numerous topics.

Personify: Personify will be converting this upcoming weekend with the software going live early next week.

CQ Magazine: There was a discussion about CQ's struggles to provide their magazine timely and an issue with their fulfillment of CQ awards processed through LoTW.

ARRL Handbook 100th Edition: Next year's handbook will be the 100th edition that will include extra material and a sleek look. There is significant work currently taking place to make this edition special.

W1AW: ARRL is working to get the Maxim Memorial Station on the National Registry of Historical Places. Once ARRL is successful and the plaque is purchased, it is our desire to invite Senator Blumenthal for the placement and tie in the 100th edition of the ARRL Handbook.

Foundation Club Grants Program: The committee has been working hard to establish the criteria for the program. There will be two application periods, first in April and another later this summer.

Strategic Plan: Mr. Minster will be partnering with Mr. Kemmerer to establish a strategic plan working group. Mr. Minster will also be reaching out to the consultant working with IARU Region 1 to see if they would be willing to and able to work with ARRL.

In Person Speakers: As discussed during the last A&F meeting, due to budgetary constraints in-person staff participation will be limited to major shows and events while smaller events will be supported via virtual means. The goal is to get clubs to utilize presentations in the learning center. Another objective will be to expand the speaker group with volunteers outside of Headquarters staff such as board members and field organization leaders.

Upcoming Events: Staff is preparing for Dayton Hamvention, SEA-PAC, Friedrichshafen, Huntsville, and the Northeast HamExpo. Also noteworthy is that Josh Johnston and Mike Walters will be presenting two of the three English language EmCom presentations at the IARU Region 2 EmCom Meeting.

Mr. Minster entertained questions.

4. FCC Counsel's Update and FCC Matters

Changes at the FCC: The FCC is in stage 2 of 3 on returning to the office, with a mixture of working in the office and at home. Access to the FCC headquarters building remains restricted and meetings with staff continue to be by virtual means. The Commission meeting on March 16 was the first in-person agenda meeting of the Commissioners in two years, but staff participated virtually. Planning and related negotiations with the union continue for a full opening later this year.

FCC Rulemakings: Despite efforts over the past six months, there is no indication that the Commission is near to resolving any of the pending amateur radio proceedings. We continue to focus on actions to direct the Commission's attention to the now-urgent matters.

FCC Application Fees: The Commission staff has indicated that collection of application fees will begin by the end of April. The staff is going to meet again shortly with all Volunteer Exam Coordinators (VECs) to update them on the details and mechanics of fees collection. It is clear that fees will **not** be handled by the VECs, but instead, will be paid by applicants directly to the Commission. The staff also has emphasized that the fee is for handling the application, not for issuing a license. Fees for applications that are denied or dismissed will not be refunded. This most likely will occur in the context of vanity call sign applications.

Forest Service Fees: The League filed comments in February opposing fees proposed by the Forest Service to cover their administrative costs. The Service proposed a new flat \$1,400.00 fee for all users big and small, commercial and non-commercial. There were over 700 comments filed, and the Service opened up a second period for additional comment that closes on March 30.

CEPT Assembly Suspension: Note was taken that the CEPT Assembly suspended the memberships of the Russian Federation and Belarus as of March 18, by written vote of CEPT members.

The committee was on break from 12:41 PM - 12:52 PM with all returning as noted above except CFO Diane Middleton.

5. Legislative Advocacy Committee status report

Mr. Stratton discussed the current efforts taking place in Washington and then entertained questions.

6. Electronic Balloting Plan

Mr. Zygielbaum, on behalf of the Ethics and Elections Committee, presented a summary of the progress made on selecting an electronic balloting vendor, how the process would work and a timeline for the election cycle. He presented an aggressive schedule to launch electronic balloting for the 2022 election cycle that will include educating the membership through QST articles and other communication methods. He noted that at this time, the electronic balloting process would only be for Director and Vice Director elections. At the moment, this process would be too costly for the smaller Section Manager elections.

Mr. Zygielbaum entertained questions.

On the motion of Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Abernethy, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED to accept the electronic balloting plan and its implementation in accordance with the plan.

7. Club Recognition

a. On the motion of Mr. Williams (on behalf of Mr. Kemmerer), seconded by the Executive Committee it was **VOTED UNANIMOUSLY** (with applause) that:

Whereas, the Androscoggin Amateur Radio Club (“the Club”) is the longest continuous operating amateur radio club in Maine,

Whereas, the Club has been affiliated for at least 70 years,

Whereas, for many years the Club has provided access to members and other hams to multiple VHF linked repeaters, including analog, D-STAR and Yaesu System Fusion,

Whereas, the Club for decades has organized and run the annual Androscoggin Hamfest & Convention, featuring a wide variety of amateur radio presentations, including solving RFI problems, satellite communications, and the ARRL Forum, and hosted many NTS and other annual meetings,

Whereas, the Club has sponsored many Volunteer Examinations, bringing new people into the amateur radio community,

Whereas, Club members support multiple public service events, including the Dempsey Challenge, and other races and hikes,

Whereas, the Club is a staunch supporter of SKYWARN and ARES®, providing a valuable public service throughout southern Maine,

THEREFORE, be It Resolved that the ARRL Board of Directors hereby congratulates and recognizes the Androscoggin Amateur Radio Club for its contributions to amateur radio on its 70th anniversary of ARRL affiliation.

- b. On the motion of Mr. Williams (on behalf of Mr. Kemmerer), seconded by the Executive Committee it was **VOTED UNANIMOUSLY** (with applause) that:

Whereas, the Ellsworth Amateur Wireless Association (“the Association”) affiliated with the ARRL on May 10th, 1962,

Whereas, the Association’s call sign, W1TU, initially belonged to Maine’s iconic amateur radio operator, Charles Ellsworth, who was the radio operator in Newfoundland who on April 15, 1912 received the initial SOS of the sinking Titanic, and the Association has proved worthy of their namesake,

Whereas, the Association offers its members multiple opportunities each year with on-air activities, including ARRL Field Day, Winter Field Day, QRP portable operations at the waterfront park among the public, and disaster exercises with Hancock County Emergency Management Agency and ARES® and neighboring EmComm teams,

Whereas, the Association has organized and conducted numerous Ham Radio Symposiums with hams and others from around the state in attendance, featuring demonstrations in satellite communications, QRP kit-building, youth robotics team, and more,

Whereas, members support multiple community events with amateur radio communications including the Mount Desert Island Marathon,

Whereas, the Association has helped organize and run Ham Radio Week at Camp Beech Cliff on Mount Desert Island where kids learned to solder and built electronic kits, participated in Zombie (fox) Hunts, and made local and DX contacts via the amateur radio bands,

Whereas, the Association has given numerous amateur radio presentations to the 4-H youth in Hancock County,

Whereas, the Association has successfully promoted amateur radio to the public via newspapers articles, social media, and in person,

Whereas, the Association has conducted ham radio classes and Volunteer Examinations bringing new people into the amateur radio community,

Whereas, the Association has gone above and beyond what is expected, and deserves special recognition,

THEREFORE, be It Resolved that the ARRL Board of Directors hereby congratulates and recognizes the Ellsworth Amateur Wireless Association for its contributions to amateur radio on its 60th anniversary of ARRL affiliation.

- c. On the motion of Mr. Williams (on behalf of Mr. Kemmerer), seconded by the Executive Committee it was **VOTED UNANIMOUSLY** (with applause) that:

Whereas, the Meriden Amateur Radio Club, W1NRG, was affiliated with ARRL on May 26th, 1948,

Whereas, the Club has been affiliated for at least 75 years,

Whereas, the Meriden Amateur Radio Club has conducted programs such as fox hunts to train operators on transmitter location and CQ Santa to allow children to speak with Santa on the air,

Whereas, the Meriden Amateur Radio Club conducts SKYWARN nets as well as informational nets on HF, VHF, UHF and on Zoom for their membership and interested Connecticut hams,

Whereas, the Meriden Amateur Radio Club maintains close ties with the Yale Amateur Radio Club, W1YU,

Whereas, the Meriden Amateur Radio Club sponsors and operates the annual Nutmeg Hamfest,

Whereas, the Meriden Amateur Radio Club continues be an active organization and a strong proponent of amateur radio in Connecticut,

Whereas, the Meriden Amateur Radio Club has grown to be a significant force for education, commitment to emergency communications, and a partner in the enjoyment of the hobby,

THEREFORE, be It Resolved that the ARRL Board of Directors hereby congratulates and recognizes the Meriden Amateur Radio Club for its contributions to amateur radio on its 75th anniversary of ARRL affiliation.

- d. On the motion of Mr. Williams (on behalf of Mr. Kemmerer), seconded by the Executive Committee it was **VOTED UNANIMOUSLY** (with applause) that:

WHEREAS, the Providence Radio Association (“the Association”), first known as the Elmwood Radio Association, was founded in 1919,

WHEREAS, the Association has been affiliated with the ARRL for 101 years,

WHEREAS, in the 1920s, Association members pioneered the early development of wireless, including technical articles published in QST by Association President Alpha Learned, 1AAU,

WHEREAS, in 1925, the Association’s call sign was 1LI,

WHEREAS, in 1935, the Association’s club station, W1INM, was moved to 3 Valley Street in Olneyville, the site of a former broadcast station consisting of two 80-foot towers,

WHEREAS, the Association was active in the war effort during the second world war, as evidenced by the fact that many of its members went into military service while others at home provided radio training at the YMCA in Providence,

WHEREAS, the Association obtained the club call sign W1OP in 1954,

WHEREAS, the Association participates annually in numerous contests and has established itself as one of the preeminent contest stations in the Northeast,

WHEREAS, the Association has established a remote capability for its members using a fiber optic internet remote connection,

WHEREAS, the Association has established a “Work RI FTx” campaign, providing thousands of Rhode Island digital contacts to stations around the world,

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the ARRL Board of Directors hereby congratulates and recognizes the Providence Radio Association for its contributions to amateur radio on its 103rd anniversary of existence and 101st anniversary of ARRL affiliation.

- e. On the motion of Mr. Abernethy, seconded by Executive Committee it was **VOTED UNANIMOUSLY** (with applause) that:

WHEREAS, the Reading Radio Club (“the Club”) was established on March 10, 1921;

WHEREAS, the Club became affiliated with the ARRL on February 17, 1922;

WHEREAS, in the 1920's the Club members promoted a fraternal spirit among amateurs and all persons interested in radio communications by assisting each other whenever possible and helping potential new amateurs in securing their operating licenses;

WHEREAS, the Reading Radio Club has essentially operated continuously from its date of inception to the present day as an active, vibrant ARRL affiliated amateur radio club;

WHEREAS, the Club has had an active radio amateur civil emergency service net affiliated with the Berks County Emergency Management Agency and an active Amateur Radio Emergency Service net which is affiliated with the ARRL;

WHEREAS, the Club has a long and colorful history organized by this group of experimenters and licensed radio amateurs having established an amateur club station license in 1921 assigned the call letters 3BDP, assigned to the Club and sporting spark gap equipment located at their club building in Reading, Pennsylvania;

WHEREAS, many of the licensed radio amateurs in the Club became radio operators serving in the military;

WHEREAS, in 1949 the Federal Communications Commission assigned the new call letters W3PFT to the Club, which was changed in 1964 to W3CCH, and then in 1965 to W3BN;

WHEREAS, the Club continues to advance the state of the art in amateur radio and provides services to the Club members and to the public generally.

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the ARRL Board of Directors hereby congratulates and recognizes the Reading Radio Club for its contributions to amateur radio on its 101st anniversary of existence and its 100th anniversary of ARRL affiliation.

8. On the motion of Mr. Minister, seconded by Mr. Lippert, it was **VOTED** (with applause) that:

WHEREAS, Rick Lindquist, WW1ME, has been an Amateur Radio Operator for 64 years (formerly K2RHJ, K1YHK, W8EXK, WBØEAA, N4APK, KX4V, N1RL, WW3DE, WW1ME) and a loyal ARRL member for 48 years, and

WHEREAS, Rick Lindquist, WW1ME, joined the ARRL staff in 1995, serving as Product Review Editor and then Senior News Editor before retiring in 2007, and continues to serve as the Managing Editor of *NCJ*, the *National Contest Journal*, and

WHEREAS, Rick Lindquist, WW1ME, recently retired from the position of ARRL News Editor, having produced, since 2013 from his home in Maine, news content for the ARRL website,

the weekly ARRL Letter, the columns "Happenings" and "Amateur Radio World" in *QST*, as well as voicing the weekly ARRL Audio News which he launched in 1997, and

WHEREAS, Rick Lindquist, WW1ME, has been a major print and audio voice for ARRL, recognized by radio amateurs around the world,

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the ARRL Board of Directors recognizes and extends its gratitude and thanks to Rick Lindquist, WW1ME, for his dedicated service to ARRL The National Association for Amateur Radio® and its members.

9. Recognition of new Life Members

The committee reviewed the list of new Life Members.

On the motion of Mr. Abernethy, seconded by Mr. Williams, the recognition of new Life Members CARRIED (with applause).

10. There being no further business, on the motion of Ms. McIntyre, seconded by Mr. Lippert, the meeting adjourned at 1:23 PM.

Respectfully submitted by,

David A. Minster, NA2AA
ARRL Secretary