

**Report of the Executive Committee  
ARRL Board of Directors  
January 2022**

Ladies and Gentlemen:

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

Commercial fishing vessels can utilize equipment markers that operate in the 1900-2000 kHz band. The FCC sought comments on the advantages and disadvantages of continuing to use these frequencies to mark fishing equipment. WT Docket No. 21-230. The EC worked with Counsel Siddall on comments that were filed with the FCC in support of moving such transmitters used on fishing equipment from the top of the 160 meter band to an Automatic Identification System VHF channel at 160 MHz. The ARRL provided justification that moving the fishing buoy and equipment markers would provide substantial public interest benefits that are not attainable using the 1900-2000 kHz band. (ODV: 32673)

With hurricane season approaching and Hurricane Ida bearing down on the U.S. Gulf Coast in particular, the EC worked with Counsel Siddall in seeking an emergency request for a waiver from the FCC to facilitate relief communications. Through considerable effort in a short time frame and numerous communications with Mr. Siddall and FCC officials, the FCC granted a 60-day waiver to permit higher symbol rate data transmissions. (ODV: 32784)

Counsel Siddall has been closely monitoring the 3 GHz matter and H.R.5378. The EC and the Legislative Advocacy Committee worked with Mr. Siddall and our lobbyists to prepare for a hearing before the House Subcommittee on Communications and Technology. As a result, ARRL was able to provide testimony addressing the legislation and specifically requesting Congress to instruct the FCC in H.R.5378 that radio amateur secondary uses should continue to be authorized in the 3 GHz band on secondary and non-interfering basis. (ODV:32877)

The FCC International Bureau sought comments on two draft recommendations on the WRC-23 agenda. IB Docket No. 16-185. The EC reviewed comments prepared by Counsel Siddall with the assistance of Jon Siverling, WB3ERA, Technical Relations Specialist, which were in support of the Commission's World Radiocommunication Conference Advisory Committee draft recommendations concerning spaceborne radar sounders and space weather sensors. The comments were subsequently filed with the Commission. (ODV:32898)

The U.S. Forest Service is proposing to implement a statutorily required annual fee for new and existing communications use authorizations to cover administering its authorization program. This is serious matter and could negatively impact amateur installations. The EC has instructed Counsel

Siddall to prepare a response to oppose the fees. Comments are due by February 22, 2022.  
(ODV:33141)

The EC continues to monitor the status of our pending items before the FCC. Likewise, Counsel Siddall continues his efforts to seek FCC attention to pending Amateur proceedings.

The EC held three virtual meetings since the July, 2021, Board meeting.

The EC held a meeting on September 13, 2021. See Minutes ODV:32878

The EC held a meeting on October 25, 2021. See Minutes ODV:32998

The EC held a meeting on December 13, 2021. See Minutes ODV: 33248

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 Hippiisley – W2RU  
Director John Stratton – N5AUS  
Director Dale Williams – WA8EFK  
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