

**ARRL Executive Committee Meeting**  
**July 7, 2021**  
**11:00 AM - 1:00 PM EST**  
**ARRL Executive Conference Room & Zoom Meeting**

**Chair:**

Rick Roderick, K5UR

**Voting Members Present:**

Tom Abernethy, W3TOM

Kermit Carlson, W9XA

Bud Hippisley, W2RU

John Stratton, N5AUS

Dale Williams, WA8EFK

**Present without vote:**

David Minster, NA2AA

Mike Raisbeck, K1TWF

**Also Present:**

David Siddall, K3ZJ, FCC Counsel

Kelly Wells, Executive Assistant/Meeting Recorder

**Observers:**

Micky Baker, N4MB

Lee Cooper, W5LHC

Bob Famiglio, K3RF

Ed Hudgens, WB4RHQ

Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA

Bill Morine, N2COP

Rick Niswander, K7GM

Mike Ritz, W7VO

Phil Temples, K9HI

Mark Tharp, KB7HDX

Bob Vallio, W6RGG

Scott Yonally, N8SY

## ARRL Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Via Zoom & ARRL Headquarters Executive Conference Room

July 7, 2021

1. **Call to Order & Welcome:** President Rick Roderick, in the Chair, performed roll call and determining a quorum present, the ARRL Executive Committee Meeting was called to order at 11:02 AM EST. Mr. Minster introduced Kelly Wells, Executive Assistant to the Members and Observers.
2. **Approval of Agenda:** On the motion of Mr. Carlson, seconded by Mr. Williams, the agenda was ADOPTED.
3. **Chief Executive Officer and Secretary Update:** Mr. Minster requested to move into a Committee of the Whole to discuss personnel matters. On the motion of Mr. Carlson and seconded by Mr. Williams, the Committee moved into a Committee of the Whole from 11:08 to 11:48 AM EST.
4. **Upon the motion of Mr. Abernethy, seconded by Mr. Carlson, the report of the Committee of the Whole was ADOPTED.**
5. **Headquarters Opening Plans:** Mr. Minster was asked for to provide details pertaining to the event being held on July 15, 2021, at ARRL Headquarters, 225 Main Street, Newington, CT. Mr. Minster communicated that the event would commence at 10:00 AM EST, in front of ARRL Headquarters. The Ceremony will include Dignitaries from the Connecticut General Assembly, and speakers representing NOAA and FEMA.
6. **FCC Counsel's Update and FCC Matters:** Mr. Siddall discussed the concerns captured in the EC Minutes, dated June 8, 2021, Agenda Item #6, regarding pending items before the FCC. Mr. Siddall reported that he has emphasized to FCC Staff the need for addressing the amateur items that have been pending for a number of years. It was agreed that Mr. Siddall will continue to advocate for FCC action, reinforcing the comments made by Mr. Roderick. ARRL's options and actions will be re-evaluated at the next EC meeting.

**FCC Counsel's Update and FCC Matters (Continued):** Privacy of personal information has been a matter of on-going concern by licensees. Amateur requests have included masking email and home addresses on the FCC ULS and associated CORES websites. There appears to be inconsistencies in how these matters have been handled, and an FCC proceeding initiated in 2015 to address related matters may be helpful to address the increased concerns that have arisen from the new requirement that all amateur applications provide an email address for official FCC communications. Mr. Siddall stated his belief that the FCC staff is actively working to address these matters.

**Fees:** An FCC announcement that fees for applications processed by the Office of Engineering and Technology and the Media Bureau would be in effect on July 15, 2021, was misread by some amateurs to mean that amateur application fees will take effect on that date. Statements posted in the Facebook® community caused confusion. Mr. Siddall quickly advised that *"The FCC is phasing fees in by bureau, as work is completed on the licensing system. The FCC statement ... explicitly states that the July 15 date is for licensees regulated by the Media Bureau and Office of Engineering and Technology. Radio amateurs are regulated by the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau. There is no established date yet for amateur licensing fees to become effective...."*

Mr. Siddall discussed VEC matters, including a pending proposal by the FCC's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau to increase the number of authorized VECs. He went on to note that under the governing statute and implementing rules, the VEC and VE functions are entirely voluntary and uncompensated. The only fees that can be collected are those to recover out-of-pocket costs.

The topic then shifted to the upcoming July 15, 2021, meeting between VECs and FCC staff. Mr. Siddall, at the request of Maria Somma, requested the meeting to ensure that VECs and FCC staff share a common understanding as to what is expected when the collection of fees commences for amateur applications.

Mr. Siddall discussed an FCC proposal to relocate maritime equipment use for tracking fishing gear in the 1900-2000 kHz band to an AIS segment in the VHF range. The EC provisionally directed those comments be filed in favor of the proposed relocation so long as doing so would not impair the safety of life purposes of the AIS.

- 7. Other Business:** Mr. Minster shared the New Life Member report with the Committee. **On the motion of Mr. Abernethy, seconded by Mr. Carlson, the new ARRL Life Members were APPROVED (with applause).**

8. **There being no further business, on the motion of Mr. Hippisley and seconded by Mr. Abernethy the meeting was adjourned at 1:04 PM EST.**

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Kelly Wells  
Recording Secretary