

**ARRL Executive Committee Meeting**  
**January 06, 2025**  
**2:00 PM ET via Zoom**

1. **The Executive Committee of the ARRL Board of Directors was called to order at 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time via Zoom with President Rick Roderick, K5UR, in the Chair.** Present were committee members First Vice President Kristen McIntyre, K6WX, Directors Jim Boehner, N2ZZ, Bill Lippert, ACOW, Jeff Ryan, KORM, Art Zygielbaum, KOAIZ. Present without vote were CEO David Minster, NA2AA, and FCC Counsel David Siddall, K3ZJ.

**Present as observers** were Second Vice President Mike Ritz, W7VO; International Affairs Vice President Rod Stafford, W6ROD; Treasurer John Sager, WJ7S; CFO Diane Middleton, W2DLM; Directors Bob Famiglio, K3RF; Scott Yonally, N8SY; Ed Wilson, N2XDD; Tom Frenaye, K1KI; Mark Tharp, KB7HDX; John Stratton, N5AUS; Vice Directors Lynn Nelson, WOND; Ed Hudgens, WB4RHQ; Roy Hook, W8REH; Phil Temples, K9HI; Michael Sterba, KG7HQ; and Bill Morine, N2COP.

**On the Motion of Director Boehner, seconded by Director Lippert, the Agenda was ADOPTED.**

2. **Chief Executive Officer/Secretary's Update**

CEO Minster provided updates on the following topics.

*Cyber Attack* – CEO Minster noted that the Controller's department has been diligently working on transferring data from Personify and the E-store to the accounting system and they are making substantial headway.

*DXCC system* – As stated by CEO Minster, the DXCC group has essentially input all of the DXCC applications going back to May and has processed data through the end of October. Hundreds of certificates and envelopes with endorsements have been sent out. They are working hard to catch up. CEO Minster further explained to the committee that one challenge with the DXCC system is that it requires Windows 98. ARRL does not have access to modern security software that can run on this older version. The solution was to migrate the entire DXCC processing onto a stand-alone network that uses a non-network interface to move data between LoTW and the DXCC application.

*Reflectors* – CEO Minster noted that IT and various individuals who have used the reflectors in the past have been evaluating the old Mailman version 2 and the newer Mailman version 3 software that runs the reflectors. CEO Minster clarified there are pros and cons with both

versions which has slowed the restoration process. The consensus is the older version's benefits are in greater demand. CEO Minster tentatively decided that ARRL would return to the older version and get the reflectors running again. We will migrate the messages without history and numbering to version 3 in the future.

*Bulk Mail System* – CEO Minster told the committee that this Wednesday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, he and the IT team are meeting regarding the bulk mail system. He noted IT can bring up the system as it was previously working; however, that version is pure text. There is no HTML. Feedback has been to integrate a system into one that allows for graphics along with additional features HTML provides. The team will further research tools that provide the solution that best fits ARRL's needs. The bulk mail service is being restructured with the same due diligence as other internal systems ARRL uses in the wake of the cyber-attack. IT and ARRL management are dedicated to implementing the most up to date software with the most up to date security measures. This will ensure that ARRL is working efficiently while being modern and secure. ARRL is not cutting corners to “speed up the process”.

*Strategy* – CEO Minster updated the committee that the strategy plan approved at the July BOD meeting is still being formalized; however, ARRL management has followed the board's approved directives. Further, CEO Minster noted that when the Board meets next week, he will have exciting, positive developments to share regarding Steve Goodgame and the progress of the Education Department in the STEM objectives set forth by the board.

*By-Law 46* - CEO Minster took the opportunity to express his thoughts on the previous two years working to update the By-Law 46. He noted the committee's collaboration with the Connecticut Counsel has been excellent. The updated version of by-law 46 is urgently needed. A version that encompasses the responsibilities of board members and fully indoctrinates a code of conduct required to conduct ARRL business professionally. Keeping true to the fiduciary duties to the ARRL and staying true to our predecessor's vision of what the ARRL stands for is paramount.

*False Statements* - CEO Minster noted that recent statements posted by a section manager were false. Numerous members of the committee discussed how this negatively impacts ARRL. There was general agreement that false statements posted for general consumption occur when individuals opine on facets of ARRL with limited information. It was advised that the Directors make a concerted effort to reach out to those individuals and request they gather accurate information before forming and posting erroneous information. ARRL HQ can and does field questions from constituents who question certain ARRL practices. If ARRL HQ cannot solve the issue, CEO Minster requested that the issue proceed to the Executive Committee or the Board for further discussion. In the future, the board needs to produce a protocol to enable Field Services management to act accordingly when false narratives are being communicated to members. After discussion by the committee members, a request

was made to copy the directors on any correspondence regarding this issue. CEO Minster confirmed such communications would be sent to the board of directors.

CEO Minster then entertained questions.

### 3. **FCC Counsel's Update**

Mr. Siddall began by describing personnel changes that are expected at the top levels of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) on and after the January 20 Presidential Inauguration. He called the EC's attention to several issues of interest to the Amateur community that are likely to be of particular interest to the new FCC leadership.

ARRL's petitions to update the FCC's Amateur rules (FCC Part 97) remain pending. The major ones are to enhance Technician Class privileges (RM-11828) and to rebalance the 80/75 meter subbands (RM-11759), but there are other more focused requests, such as to eliminate the amplifier gain limit, to delete the existing VHF/UHF symbol rate limitations, and to delete obsolete information from publicly-available records. The ARRL has strongly advocated that the new FCC take up these and other needed rules updates in a single omnibus proceeding. The effort to obtain this result will kick in when key management positions are filled by the new FCC Administration.

Mr. Siddall also discussed efforts to focus the Commission's attention on handsets that are widely available from commercial Internet sources. Many of the subject handsets are programable in a manner that enables unlicensed individuals to interfere with a wide variety of commercial and safety-of-life services on VHF and UHF frequencies, including Amateur communications.

Counsel Siddall then entertained questions.

### 4. **Recognition of New Life Members**

The committee reviewed the list of new Life Members.

**On the Motion of Director Zygielbaum, seconded by Director Boehner, the recognition of new Life Members CARRIED unanimously with applause.**

### 5. **Other Business**

President Rick Roderick thanked the Committee for their time.

**6. There being no further business, and on the Motion by Director Ryan, seconded by Director Boehner, the Committee VOTED to adjourn at 3:18 p.m.**

Submitted by,  
Danielle LaFleur,  
Executive Assistant