Report of the Executive Committee ARRL Board of Directors July 2025

Ladies and Gentlemen:

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

The EC worked with CEO Minster on a Member Bulletin providing a summary of actions taken at the January Board meeting and committee meetings. The Member Bulletin was distributed to members on January 22.

Tad Cook, K7RA, made an extraordinary contribution to Amateur Radio by writing the ARRL W1AW Propagation Bulletin for thirty-six years. He was also a dedicated ARRL member for over forty-four years. Upon a recommendation from his friends and colleagues from the Western Washington DX Club in recognition of his dedication and service to ARRL and the Amateur Radio service, the EC voted to confer the ARRL President's Award to Mr. Cook. The award and plaque were expedited and presented to Mr. Cook by Director Tharp prior to his death on April 13.

On March 13, 2025, the FCC initiated a new proceeding titled "Delete, Delete, Delete" in which it seeks suggestions for regulations that should be deleted or modified. GN Docket No. 25-133. Counsel Siddall reported that while the proceeding is not necessarily of direct consequence to radio amateurs, it could be if commenters request Part 97 deletions or changes and the FCC decides to take up those issues in a subsequent NPRM. Counsel Siddall outlined a plan to seek member input and the EC worked extensively with Counsel Siddall on communications to members about the proceeding and how to provide comments.

Information about the proceeding was published on the ARRL website and in the ARRL Letter on March 20. The next day, a Member Bulletin was sent to members from the EC regarding the proceeding and a link to provide feedback. After monitoring comments to the FCC, the EC worked with Counsel Siddall on a draft filing to the FCC. Comments were subsequently filed on April 11. See ODV message same date. It was later determined that additional reply comments were not necessary.

Last year the FAA was directed to amend its regulations to ensure that high altitude ballons transmit, at a minimum, their altitude, location, and identity. This has been a concern of the amateur community that uses amateur radio pico transmitters on balloons. In early April, the FAA Administrator authorized the Part 101 Aviation Rulemaking Committee (ARC) to advise the Administrator for findings and recommendations for continuous aircraft tracking requirements in a manner that is

accessible to air traffic controllers. The ARRL was invited to be represented on the ARC and the EC approved CEO Minster to designate a staff individual to be assigned to the committee as our representative. Steve Goodgame was designated as our representative.

Counsel Siddall reported that the FCC opened a broad inquiry looking at protecting and improving GPS. Last year NextNav had proposed meeting this demand by using the 902-928 MHz band, which the ARRL opposed. See ODV email 8/15/24, Website and ARRL Letter 8/15/24; ODV email 9/6/24, Website and ARRL 9/12/24. The EC worked with Counsel Siddall on a filing with FCC as a follow-up Reply comments to emphasize the public interest in protecting this band spectrum and also to emphasize that other less disruptive options are available. GN Docket No. 25-110. See ODV:200, May 13, 2025. The EC then worked on communications to members regarding the League's efforts to renew defense of the 902-928 MHz band. Articles were published on the ARRL website on March 14 and in the ARRL Letter on March 15, 2025.

The EC reviewed and approved a response by ARRL to IARU officials regarding the proposed IARU Restructuring Proposal. The current IARU proposal is an attempt to strengthen the global IARU as a single body which weakens the autonomy of the three IARU Regions. Consequently, ARRL is opposed to the plan.

The EC held a virtual meeting on January 6, 2025. See Minutes in ODV 2/6/25.

The EC held a virtual meeting on May 8, 2025. See Minutes in ODV:212.

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 Jim Boehner – N2ZZ
Director Bill Lippert – AC0W
Director Jeff Ryan – K0RM
Director Scott Yonally – N8SY
Director Art Zygielbaum – K0AIZ
First Vice President Kristen McIntyre, K6WX
Chief Executive Officer David Minster – NA2AA
President Rick Roderick – K5UR