

**Report of the Executive Committee
ARRL Board of Directors
July 2021**

Ladies and Gentlemen:

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

The FCC opened a comment period on January 5, 2021, to consider whether it should open a window to accept requests for up to five more Volunteer Exam Coordinators (VECs) in the amateur service, WT Docket No. 21-2. (ODV:31588) The EC worked with Mr. Siddall on a response and comments were filed on February 4, 2021, noting that adding VECs would have no effect on the number of examination opportunities or available examiners. Increasing the number of VECs would expand the complexity of VEC coordination and management, increase demand on FCC resources to interface with additional organizations, and raise the potential for abuse and fraud. (ODV:31914) The EC subsequently worked on Reply Comments which were filed by Mr. Siddall on February 19, 2021. (ODV:32029)

On April 2, 2021, the FCC published the effective dates for RF exposure standards, ET Docket No. 19-226, with the new rules to be effective on May 3, 2021. (ODV:32203) The rules changes resulted in some ambiguity with regard to the practicality of required measurements on the amateur LF frequencies, handheld and mobile units. Recall that ARRL formally asked the FCC for clarification back on May 6, 2020. (ODV:32203) The EC held discussions with the RF Safety Committee, ARRL Laboratory staff, and Dr. Lapin to assess and interpret the new rules in preparation to update our members on the new exposure rules. The group subsequently spent considerable time working on information for articles and FAQ to be distributed to our members. They deserve a big “thank you” for a real team effort.

Our members voiced considerable concern regarding FCC’s requirement that all applications filed the FCC must include an email address effective June 29. The EC worked closely with Mr. Siddall in seeking a resolution with the FCC to remedy these privacy concerns and requested that Amateur’s email addresses not be made public. Fortunately, due to these efforts, on May 13, FCC informed Mr. Siddall that FCC’s ULS website will continue to mask email addresses, thus they will not be visible to the public. (ODV:32368)

The EC has been closely monitoring our pending items before the FCC and the growing concerns regarding lack of attention to Amateur proceedings. Mr. Siddall is working towards communicating our concerns to appropriate FCC staff in attempts to move these pending items along, some having been open for several years.

The EC held virtual meetings almost monthly since the January, 2021, Board meeting. The committee is working closely with Mr. Minster on operation and organization matters.

The EC decided at the April 5, 2021, meeting that the July Board meeting will be held in person and, if necessary, following pandemic protocol. See Minutes ODV:32209

The EC held a meeting on May 3, 2021. See Minutes ODV:32387

The EC held a meeting on June 8, 2021. See Minutes ODV:32535

The EC held a meeting on July 7, 2021. Minutes pending.

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 Kermit Carlson – W9XA
Director Bud Hippisley – W2RU
Director John Stratton – N5AUS
Director Dale Williams – WA8EFK
First Vice President Mike Raisbeck – K1TWF
Chief Executive Officer David Minster – NA2AA
President Rick Roderick – K5UR