ARRL 2026 SECOND BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MINUTES

JULY 17, 2026 – 9:00 AM ET

Summary Agenda

1) Roll Call

2) Moment of Silence

3) Courtesies

4) Consideration of the agenda of the meeting

5) Receipt and consideration of financial reports

6) Motion to Adopt Consent Agenda

7) Receipt of Officer's reports

8) Consideration of items removed from Consent Agenda

9) Consider recommendations of the Standing Committees

10) Proposals for amendments to Articles of Association and By-Laws

11) Consider additional recommendations as contained in reports

12) Directors' motions

13) Other business

14) Closing courtesies

15) Adjournment

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1. Pursuant to due notice, the Board of Directors of the American Radio Relay League, Inc. met in second session. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM, Friday, July 17, 2026, with President Rick Roderick, K5UR, in the Chair and the following Directors, constituting a quorum, present:

Marty Newingham, AG3I, Atlantic Division
Joshua Long, W9HT, Central Division
Vernon "Bill" Lippert, ACØW, Dakota Division
David Norris, K5UZ, Delta Division
Scott Yonally, N8SY, Great Lakes Division
Ed Wilson, N2XDD, Hudson Division
Art Zygielbaum, KØAIZ, Midwest Division
Tom Frenaye, K1KI, New England Division
Mark Tharp, KB7HDX, Northwestern Division

John Litz, NZ6Q, Pacific Division
James Boehner, N2ZZ, Roanoke Division
Jeff Ryan, KØRM, Rocky Mountain Division
Dick Norton, N6AA, Southwestern Division
John Robert Stratton, N5AUS, West Gulf Division

Director Mickey Baker, N4MB, of the Southeastern Division, was unable to attend. Southeastern Division Vice-Director Andrew Milluzzi, KK4LWR served as Director during the meeting pursuant to Article 7 of the Articles of Association.

Also present without vote were:

Kristen McIntyre, K6WX, First Vice-President
Rick Niswander, K7GM, Second Vice-President
Rod Stafford, W6ROD, International Affairs Vice-President
John Sager, WJ7S, Treasurer
David Minster, NA2AA, Chief Executive Officer and Secretary
Diane Middleton, W2DLM, Chief Financial Officer

The following Vice Directors were also in attendance:

Raymond Sokola, K9RS, Atlantic Division
Christian Stallkamp, KI0D, Dakota Division
John Mark Robertson, K5JMR, Delta Division
Roy Hook, W8REH, Great Lakes Division
David Galletly, KM2O, Hudson Division
Dave Propper, K2DP, Midwest Division
Phillip Temples, K9HI, New England Division
Michael Sterba, KG7HQ, Northwestern Division
Carol Milazzo, KP4MD, Pacific Division
William Morine, N2COP, Roanoke Division
Mel Parkes, NM7P, Rocky Mountain Division
Andy Milluzzi, KK4LWR, Southeastern Division
John Kitchens, NS6X, Southwestern Division

Also present were:

Joel Harrison, W5ZN, Secretary of the International Amateur Radio Union
Allan Boyd, VE3AJB, President of Radio Amateurs of Canada
David Siddall, Esq., K3ZJ, FCC Communications Counsel
Danielle LaFleur, KC1UKS, Senior Executive Secretary

Cathleen Curry, Recording Secretary

Not present at the meeting were:

Robert Ronk, W9AP, Central Division
Lee Cooper, W5LHC, West Gulf Division

Moment of Silence

2. A moment of silence was observed in memory of Amateurs who have passed away since the last meeting, especially: Brent Taylor, VY2HF; Herman "Duke" Knief, W4DK; Elwood Downey, WB0OEW; Mel Ming, N7GCO; Ed Stuckey, AI7H; Bill Balzarini, KL7BB; John Talipski, N3ACK; Wayne Irwin, W1KI; Stephen Greenbaum, WB2KDG; John Portune, W6NBC; Stanley Kittelson, WD0DAJ; Michael Hansen, KC0YQU; Kenneth Schaefer, KB0CWR; Scot Thompson, WB0WOT; Lodema Epperson, KI6UGV; Umesh Ghodke, K6VUG; Paul Beeman, W2PB; Robert Todaro, N1XL; Patrick Reagan, K2CQM; Maury Greenberg, WB2MSB; Jerald Abrams, WB2ZEX; Michael Smith, KD2ZSW; James Joyce, K2ZO; Melissa Schaefer, N5HX; Robert Kile, W7RH, and David Assaf III, W5XU; ARRL Awards Program Manager Sharon Taratula.

Courtesies

3. President Roderick greeted the board and guests. He noted that he expected a productive meeting with all the appropriate courtesies while the meeting was in session. President Roderick presented ARRL certificates and pins to the following new Board members (with applause): Second Vice President Niswander, K7GM, Directors Newingham, AG3I, and Long, W9HT, and Vice Directors Sokola, K9RS, Stallkamp, KI0D and Robertson, K5JMR.

4. Mr. Harrison, W5ZN, Secretary of the IARU brought greetings on behalf of the IARU's President Tim Ellam. He updated the Board on IARU's restructuring. The IARU Administrative Council has decided not to move forward with the proposal submitted by an ad-hoc committee to review the Articles of Association that proposed some radical changes. The Administrative Council wanted to be very transparent to ensure all member societies, especially ARRL, understood what was being proposed before it was put out for a vote. Appreciation was expressed for the time that ARRL President Roderick, CEO Minster, International Affairs Vice President Stafford, and the ARRL Board took to review the proposal and provided extensive feedback. It played a very important role in coming to the decision to reject the proposal. When it comes to IARU's core mission – to defend and promote amateur radio within the International Telecommunications Unions, they are 100% focused on that mission.

IARU Secretary Harrison continued by discussing WRC27, the World Radio Communications Conference in 2027. The agenda for this conference was set at the conclusion of WRC23. In between these two conferences, there are ongoing meetings to address the agenda items and countries are making proposals about various issues. He noted that there are ten agenda items that the amateur radio community is paying close attention to that could have a potential impact on amateur radio.

He closed by expressing his appreciation for ARRL's support and as serving as the International Secretariat.

5. Mr. Boyd, VE3AJB, President of the Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC), brought greetings on behalf of the Radio Amateurs of Canada. He reported that last September, RAC held its annual general meeting in Ottawa, where RAC was honored to welcome ARRL's President Rick Roderick and his wife Holly. President Roderick participated in both working meetings and the annual general meeting. President Roderick's visit reinforced that RAC faces many of the same opportunities and challenges. Mr. Boyd noted that by sharing ideas and experiences, both organizations are finding better ways to improve amateur radio in both countries. He expressed appreciation for President Roderick's and other board members' insight and the collaborative spirit that continues to grow between the organizations.

RAC had a successful year, welcoming approximately 900 new members during Mr. Boyd's first year as President. He noted that although numbers are still being compiled for this year, they expect them to exceed the prior year. He continued by noting that education remains a top priority. RAC offers online basic and advanced qualification classes that began during COVID. Their Morse Code training program continues to attract increased participation. RAC continues to work with their regulator, Innovation Science and Economic Development Canada. Through the Radio Advisory Board, they meet twice yearly with regulators and their top officials. They approached RAC to ask how to improve tower regulations, and RAC submitted a proposal to increase the antenna construction exemption from 15m (45 ft) to 20m (60 ft). They are also advocating reasonable accommodations for amateurs living in condos, apartments, strata developments, rental properties and communities governed by homeowners' associations. The government has been willing to talk to RAC to see if they will get involved with municipalities.

On a final note, Mr. Boyd thanked the ARRL Board for all the condolences sent to RAC over the recent passing of RAC Vice President Brent Taylor, VY2HF. Mr. Taylor was a dedicated leader, valued colleague, and a dear friend whose passion for amateur radio touched countless lives. He is deeply missed.

6. Director Norris, as President of the ARRL Foundation, brought greetings from the Foundation. He reported that the Foundation received a new record this year of 264 submitted scholarship applications. 163 scholarships were granted in 2026 with a similar value as last year.

He continued by extending the Foundation's sincere gratitude to ARDC for their continued generous support. Noting that together, they are making a positive impact on the future of the hobby. He also expressed his gratitude to all the volunteers on the ARRL Foundation scholarship committee, chaired by Kermit Carlson, W9XA, and Christina Lessard, KC1TDM, for their diligent work and contributions throughout another successful scholarship cycle.

Director Norris reported that the Foundation held its annual meeting via Zoom on January 29, 2026; all board members were present, and all incumbent officers kept their current titles after nominations and voting. Committee assignments were made. On May 26, 2026, the Foundation Board met again by Zoom to discuss the generous donation made by Dr. Edward Snyder, W1YSM, and family for around $100,000 to sustain the Marconi project on a larger scale. Financial details were discussed, and funding and expenditures options were presented by Foundation Treasurer Niswander. After discussion, the Board unanimously accepted the gift and set up a program and requisite terms of reference for the grant.

In addition, he thanked the ARRL Grants Committee, chaired by David Minster, NA2AA, for their work in awarding the ARRL Foundation Grants. In total, 35 grants were awarded in 2025 totaling over $60,000. So far in 2026, the February grant cycle resulted in ten grants being awarded out of the 27 applications received. The June 2026 grant cycle saw 32 grant applications, which will be reviewed by the end of July. Per the ARRL Board Motion, the Foundation awarded three division-level convention grants thus far in 2026. The Southwestern Division received a grant of $5,000; the Delta Division for $8,000; and the Great Lakes Division received $3,554.

Director Norris concluded by saying it was a privilege to serve as the ARRL Foundation President and to lead the wonderful team, and asked Foundation Board members to stand to be recognized (with applause).

Consideration of the Agenda

7. Director Norris moved, seconded by Director Boehner, to adopt the agenda. Seeing no objection, the agenda was **ADOPTED**.

Receipt and Consideration of Financial Reports

8. Treasurer Sager reviewed the investment results for the second quarter and first half of 2026 as detailed in his written report. The second quarter 2026 return on investments was $3.7 million or 8.8%, and the first half return on investments was $3.2 million or 7.5%. The value of the ARRL investment portfolio as of June 30, 2026, was $45,759,652. The amount of unrestricted and board endowed funds, as reported in the ARRL 2025 Audited Financial Report, was $22.6 million, up from $19.5 million in 2024. In the past two years, the ARRL investment portfolio has contributed a total of $3.4 million to operations and has still increased by approximately $10 million. The tailwinds in the investment markets have benefited ARRL. The key determinants of future market performance will be inflation trends, central bank policy, corporate earnings, and forward earnings guidance. Artificial Intelligence and the buildout of digital infrastructure, along with global geopolitical developments, will continue to influence investment market performance.

Mr. Sager reported on the July 7, 2026, meeting of the Investment Management Committee (IMC), where the IMC reviewed investment results and the ARRL investment policy statement.

After discussion, the IMC elected to make no changes to the investment policy or asset allocation at this time.

Mr. Sager answered a question about reserves in the portfolio to provide for operations in a recessionary economic environment.

9. Referring to her detailed report, CFO Middleton stated that the ARRL had lower deficit spending from operations than expected during the first half of the year, mostly due to the timing of new hires along with the timing of other planned expenses. She also noted that ARRL's balance sheet remains solid due to the resilient investment markets and bequests.

She then entertained questions.

Consideration of the Consent Agenda

The following reports were removed from the Consent Agenda: Communication Counsel's report; Administration & Finance Committee report; Public Relations Committee; DX Advisory Committee; Technical Standards Committee; Working Group to Assist Radio Licensees with Non-Voluntary Limited Operating Opportunities.

10. Director Norris moved, seconded by Director Yonally, to adopt the Consent Agenda. Seeing no objections, the Consent Agenda was **ADOPTED**.

Consideration of items removed from Consent Agenda

11. Director Frenaye removed the Communication Counsel's report and asked Counsel Siddall to discuss FCC filings. Counsel Siddall discussed issues, options, and plans for moving forward on the League's FCC agenda. He will be working with the Executive Committee and intends to consult the full Board before moving forward in the early fall. Counsel Siddall was also asked about the status of the proposal for a lifetime license and confirmed that the issue is being worked on. Counsel Siddall added that a draft Notice of Proposed Rulemaking was just released by the FCC in which it proposes to add unlicensed satellite services to the 900, 2400, and 5700 MHz "unlicensed" terrestrial bands. These bands also are used on a licensed basis in the Amateur and Amateur-Satellite Services, and a response is under consideration.

The Board was on break from 10:20 AM to 10:39 AM, with all members previously noted present.

12. Director Norton removed the Administration & Finance Committee report. He posed a question about why non-committee Directors attending Committee meetings are unable to speak and ask questions during committee meetings. It was confirmed that there is a Standing Order in place which confirms that any Director may attend a committee meeting, but it does not give a non-committee member the right to speak during the meeting; therefore, such a matter follows Robert's Rules of Order which does not grant non-members the right to speak during a committee meeting. It was further noted that Director Nortons questions were answered during the A&F committee meeting break. Only committee members are allowed to speak during committee meetings unless permission is granted by the committee chair.

13. Director Frenaye removed the Public Relations Committee report. Director Frenaye expressed a concern related to the "terms of reference" for the committee. He opined that this committee appears to function as support to the CEO and headquarters rather than reporting to the Board. The CEO and the Board can both use the advice from the Public Relations Committee, but the committee seems to be stuck in the middle, and he looks forward to having further discussions about it in the future. He concluded by thanking the committee for their report.

14. Director Norris removed the DX Advisory Committee report. Director Norris noted there has been a lot of activity recently and the committee has provided a "wish list", but to date, no motions have been made to implement any of these items. He also remarked that there are a few open slots on the committee and asked the board if they were aware of anyone who might be interested in serving on the committee to please ask them to reach out to their Director.

It was noted that there seems to be some animosity among some members of the DXAC and CAC, as when the committees make recommendations to the PSC, they are not approved and implemented. It was asked if it could be a result of members of these advisory committees not understanding the role of advising PSC through deliberation and creating a recommendation for PSC to review. The Chairman of PSC commented that the DXAC's report contained many suggestions, and all were reviewed by the PSC, but none were advanced due to lack of majority vote. It was also noted that PSC gets input from other places, such as from members and other Board members, and they take the action they believe is appropriate for the ARRL.

15. First Vice President McIntyre removed the Technical Standards Committee report. First Vice President McIntyre inquired about the specific plans for the committee going forward. Acting Director Milluzzi responded that as a new member of the committee and board liaison, the committee has not met due to scheduling conflicts, but his understanding was the committee was supposed to be the formalization of the CSI work into a transmission standard.

16. Acting Director Milluzzi removed the Working Group to Assist Radio Licensees with Non-Voluntary Limited Operating Opportunities report. Acting Director Milluzzi requested a status update from the committee chair. Director Boehner, as chair of the committee, responded with a brief history of the committee's work and noted that the committee has recently been provided a webpage to populate with content. It will contain helpful links and all the files the working group has developed. Once formalized, the website will be promoted to the membership.

Consider Recommendations of the Standing Committees

17. The Programs and Services Committee moved that:

WHEREAS, the ARRL Technical Innovation Award is granted annually to individuals who are licensed radio amateurs with accomplishments and contributions which are of the most exemplary nature within the framework of technical research, development and application of new ideas and future systems in the context of Amateur Radio activities,

WHEREAS, the ARRL's Programs and Services Committee serves as the award panel and reviews the nominations received from the members and selects the winner(s) of this award,

WHEREAS, Stu has simplified use of VOACAP propagation engine for users through his K6TU.net platform,

WHEREAS, he has developed methods to create custom terrain profiles for use with HFTA for terrain analysis and antenna modeling,

WHEREAS, Stu has developed HFTASweep to generate a full 360 pattern of the projected antenna performance, and

WHEREAS, his work combining propagation prediction, terrain analysis and antenna modeling has been pivotal in the planning of DXpeditions for site planning to optimize antenna choices and locations.

THEREFORE, the ARRL Board of Directors, with the recommendation of the Programs and Services Committee does hereby bestow the 2026 ARRL Technical Innovation Award to Stuart Phillips, K6TU.

The motion was **APPROVED** unanimously (with applause).

18. The Programs and Services Committee moved that:

WHEREAS, the ARRL Technical Service Award is given annually to individuals who are licensed radio amateurs whose service to the amateur community and/or society at large is of the most exemplary nature within the framework of Amateur Radio technical activities,

WHEREAS, the ARRL's Programs and Services Committee serves as the award panel and reviews the nominations received from the members and selects the winner of this award,

WHEREAS, Rob Sherwood, NC0B, has pioneered receiver testing, performance and reporting resulting in his Receiver Test Data website highlighting the best receivers, WHEREAS, Rob has conducted numerous presentations at hamfests and to clubs educating attendees on receiver performance, and

WHEREAS, he has published numerous articles on receiver performance education numerous hams on evaluating receivers for their personal use.

THEREFORE, the ARRL Board of Directors, with the recommendation of the Programs and Services Committee does hereby bestow the 2026 ARRL Technical Service Award to Rob Sherwood, NC0B.

The motion was **APPROVED** unanimously (with applause).

19. The Programs and Services Committee moved that:

WHEREAS, the ARRL Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Award is given annually to a licensed radio amateur under the age of 21. The nominee must be a current ARRL member. The nominees' accomplishments and contributions to both the community of Amateur Radio and the local community should be of the most exemplary nature,

WHEREAS, the ARRL's Programs and Services Committee serves as the award panel and reviews the nominations received from the members and selects the winner(s) of this award,

WHEREAS, Kylee Shirbroun, K0KYL, has contributed to the amateur radio community by establishing a youth and newcomer lounge at the ARRL Minnesota State Convention and the ARRL Dakota Division Convention engaging several youths in amateur radio fun and educational activities,

WHEREAS, Kylee serves as the Minnesota Section Youth Coordinator and the Minnesota Wireless Association Youth Advisor,

WHEREAS, Kylee is active in amateur radio through several POTA and SOTA activations, participating in contests and making numerous satellite QSO's,

WHEREAS, Kylee has participated as a youth member of the J62K contest WPX SSB contest operation, helping the team finish fourth overall, and

WHEREAS, Kylee has promoted amateur radio at her schools and educated her classmates on the value and importance of amateur radio.

THEREFORE, the ARRL Board of Directors, with the recommendation of the Programs and Services Committee does hereby bestow the 2026 ARRL Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Award to Kylee Shirbroun, K0KYL.

The motion was **APPROVED** unanimously (with applause).

20. The Programs and Services Committee moved that:

> WHEREAS, The Philip J. McGan Silver Antenna Award is given to a licensed radio amateur for their volunteer public relations efforts on behalf of amateur radio who best exemplifies the public relations efforts of Philip J. McGan, WA2MBQ (SK),
>
> WHEREAS, Amateur radio serves as a powerful means of connecting communities, providing emergency communications, and inspiring technical learning,
>
> WHEREAS, ARRL the National Association for Amateur Radio® recognizes and values the efforts of local volunteers who promote amateur radio and increase public awareness of the service,
>
> WHEREAS, ARRL member Douglas "Doug" Grover, N7POV, an Assistant Section Manager for the ARRL Western Washington Section, has demonstrated exceptional leadership in promoting amateur radio through strategic public outreach and communications initiatives,
>
> WHEREAS, Doug Grover, in his role as the Director of Marketing and Communications for the Olympia Amateur Radio Society, an ARRL Special Service Club serving Olympia and the Thurston County area, led an effort to partner with Washington Governor Bob Ferguson to produce a public service video highlighting the important role of radio amateurs who support communities through emergency communications and disaster preparedness,
>
> WHEREAS, through Doug Grover's efforts, the Governor of Washington issued a message recognizing the value of amateur radio operators and encouraging public awareness of amateur radio in advance of 2026 ARRL Field Day, providing important statewide recognition of amateur radio's public service mission, and
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> WHEREAS, Doug Grover worked to amplify the reach of this message by coordinating distribution to amateur radio clubs throughout Washington State and sharing the resource with the broader amateur radio community, including ARRL, helping create greater awareness of amateur radio's contributions.
>
> THEREFORE, the ARRL Board of Directors, with the recommendation of the Public Relations Committee and the concurrence of the Programs and Services Committee, does hereby bestow the 2026 ARRL Philip J. McGan Memorial Silver Antenna Award to Douglas Grover, N7POV.

The motion was **APPROVED** unanimously (with applause).

21. The Emergency Communications and Field Services Committee moved that:

WHEREAS, ARES – from 1913 to today – has been a Legacy of Emergency Communications. Since 1913, Amateur Radio has played a crucial role in providing reliable communication during emergencies. The formation of the Amateur Radio Emergency Corps (AREC) in 1935, which later morphed into the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES), has had a huge impact in being able to provide emergency communications for public and private agencies for nearly one hundred years. These dedicated amateur radio operators have responded swiftly to disasters, ensuring that vital information reaches first responders, government and non-government agencies, and humanitarian organizations,

WHEREAS, the first real test of Amateur Radio in emergencies came in 1913 with the flood of Columbus, Ohio. This was the birth of emergency radio. This was no coincidence; it sprang to life during the flood from swift, spontaneous, heroic action of high school and college ham radio operators in Ohio and Michigan providing emergency communications,

WHEREAS, amid the chaos of the flood in Columbus, 15-year-old Herbert V. Akerberg demonstrated remarkable composure as he operated his ham radio. Despite the overwhelming noise of floodwaters just outside his bedroom window, Herbert began transmitting the urgent “S.O.S. S.O.S.” messages across the airwaves. Relying on his quickly assembled amateur radio equipment, he used his telegraph key to send critical pleas for help: “Send boats”; He also communicated, “Supplies will last until about tomorrow. Men are hanging on trees. Send supplies”; His efforts were vital as the Scioto River destroyed the Broad Street bridge, cutting off the west side of Columbus from the rest of the city. From that moment -- Wednesday afternoon, March 26, 1913, to today -- Amateur Radio has played a pivotal role in emergency communications. The ongoing commitment of ARES volunteers continues to make a significant difference during emergencies, from the early days of amateur radio to today’s catastrophic hurricanes, floods and forest fires, and

WHEREAS, this award is intended to honor those ARES Groups or individuals who have volunteered their time and demonstrated exceptional dedication in providing emergency communication services. Through their extraordinary efforts, these ARES Groups or individuals have made a significant impact in helping their fellow citizens during times of crisis.

THEREFORE, the Emergency Communications & Field Services Committee formally recommends to the ARRL Board of Directors the creation of the Herbert V. Akerberg Award for Outstanding Service to Emergency Communications and requests the CEO to direct staff to publish the names of the recipients of this award in the ARES Newsletter, Social Media sites, QST, and On The Air. Sharing the recipients’ names in these publications will highlight their achievements and recognize their exceptional contributions to emergency communications.

The motion was **APPROVED** unanimously.

The Board was on break for lunch from 11:50 AM to 1:05 PM with all members previously noted present.

22. The Emergency Communications and Field Services Committee moved that:

> WHEREAS, the ARRL has always thrived because of the passion, curiosity, and dedication of its members, every new ham who signs up adds a fresh frequency to the chorus that keeps amateur radio vibrant, innovative, and resilient,
>
> WHEREAS, our newest members, those whose voices now join the longstanding conversation, do more than expand the League's roster; they reinforce the spirit of collaboration that makes the hobby and the organization so much more powerful,
>
> WHEREAS, each addition to the ARRL family is more than a name on a list; it is a new perspective that fuels innovation, whether it is a veteran operator bringing decades of field experience, a student eager to explore digital modes, or an international enthusiast sharing global insights. The collective strength of these voices drives the League forward, keeping it vibrant, strong, and ready for every challenge and adventure that lies ahead and
>
> WHEREAS, celebrating every newcomer but also providing Amateur Radio enthusiasts around the world with a vivid reminder that the future of amateur radio is being written today, one fresh call sign at a time. Recognizing new members will underscore the ongoing commitment to growth and inclusivity within our organization, fostering a welcoming environment for all who join our ranks.
>
> THEREFORE, be it resolved that the ARRL Board of Directors requests the CEO to direct staff to include wording in all of the ARRL membership forms whereby members agree to the use of their name and call sign in a listing of New Members that will be featured monthly in ARRL media as determined by the ARRL Staff. Completion of this modification including a planned obsolescence of old forms should be no later than January 01, 2027.

The motion was **APPROVED** unanimously.

23. The Emergency Communications and Field Services Committee moved that:

> WHEREAS, the year 2026 has been officially recognized as "The Year of the Club." Clubs are consistently acknowledged as the backbone of Amateur Radio. Given their vital role, it is essential for affiliated clubs to actively demonstrate their leadership and partnership with the National Association for Amateur Radio, ARRL. Their ongoing involvement and commitment are crucial to the growth and vibrancy of the amateur radio community,

WHEREAS, the ARRL is committed to fostering increased engagement and activity within clubs for all radio amateurs. In particular, the organization places a strong emphasis on supporting newly licensed amateurs as they begin their journey into amateur radio. Many of these new licensees enter the hobby through the Volunteer Examiner program, which is frequently associated with ARRL-affiliated clubs. By encouraging active participation and involvement in club activities, the ARRL aims to create a welcoming environment that helps new amateurs integrate into the community and benefit from the mentorship and resources that clubs can provide and

WHEREAS, the Club Commission Program, as presently designed, lacks an accessible electronic method for new members to submit their completed membership forms and pay their ARRL dues. Additionally, there is no convenient way for renewing members to pay electronically from home while ensuring that credit is given to a participating club. The financial structure of the program creates unnecessary complications for clubs, making the process burdensome. As a result, many clubs have chosen not to participate in the program due to these obstacles, leading to persistently low rates of new member enrollments, limited participation from renewing members, and even lower engagement among clubs that are unwilling to devote extra time to handling the current paper-based process and remittance submission.

THEREFORE, to address the operational challenges faced by clubs and members, and to encourage greater participation in the ARRL Club Commission Program, the following resolution is set forth:

- The Board of Directors formally requests that the CEO direct staff to develop an electronic membership form. This form must enable both new and returning members to select their preferred club from a list of participating clubs, ensuring that the selected club receives the appropriate Club Commission for membership.

- The new membership form will provide convenient payment options, including credit and debit card payments and other recognized electronic banking methods. This enhancement will streamline the process for members, making it easier and more accessible to pay dues.

- This resolution also incorporates an increase in the renewal commission, raising the amount from $5 to $10. This adjustment acknowledges the efforts of clubs in recruitment and retention and provides a more substantial financial incentive for clubs to participate in the program.

The motion was **APPROVED** unanimously.

24. The Emergency Communications and Field Services Committee moved that:

WHEREAS, one of the primary duties of each Section Manager (SM) and each Section Emergency Coordinator (SEC) is to provide consistent monthly reports on public service activity, ARES activations, and training. Typically, these reports are delivered to HQ on Forms 2 and 4.

These reports are important because the information provided can be used to:

- Demonstrate the impact of the volunteer activities of thousands of amateur radio operators around the country.
- Share the successes of a section with other sections to increase the impact of our activities.

THEREFORE, because of the importance of these reports, the ECFSC recommends that a fiscal incentive be provided to the sections that successfully encourage and deliver timely and accurate reporting to HQ.

The committee recommends that a positive budget adjustment be made to the section budget as follows: In any calendar year quarter, sections that timely submit 100% of their monthly reports will receive a one-time increase in their budget of 2.5% per quarter.

The motion was **APPROVED** by a vote of 14-1.

25. The Amateur Radio Legal Defense & Assistance Committee moved that:

WHEREAS, since 2000, the Amateur Radio Legal Defense & Assistance Committee (ARLDAC) has provided legal assistance to multiple Amateurs in the nature of research and legal briefs/opinions written by counsel, up to and including direct financial support to fund legal costs in select situations,

WHEREAS, the ARLDAC Guidelines have not been updated in over a decade,

WHEREAS, the nature and costs of the legal assistance required by Members have changed since the creation of the Committee and the original Guidelines,

WHEREAS, the ability for Members to continue to obtain legal assistance from the ARRL is an important member benefit and

WHEREAS, the Amateur Radio Legal Defense & Assistance Committee believes its operational guidelines need to be revised to reflect the changed nature and costs of legal assistance potentially required by the ARRL's Members.

THEREFORE, be it resolved:

(1) The Amateur Radio Legal Defense & Assistance Committee Guidelines are amended and updated as set forth in Exhibit 1 to this Motion;

(2) The Guidelines, as amended, become effective immediately upon the conclusion of the July ARRL Board of Directors Second Meeting.

The motion was **APPROVED** unanimously.

Exhibit 1 to Legal Defense Motion:

ARRL Amateur Radio Legal Defense and Assistance Committee Guidelines

Since 2000, the ARRL has assisted a variety of different amateurs with their antenna and other amateur-related legal issues. The lion's share of these expenditures has been in support of over thirty different situations, mostly relating to antenna ordinance issues in a variety of communities across the country from Maryland to Southern California. The support has been in the nature of research and legal briefs/opinions written by the ARRL's Regulatory Counsel up to and including direct financial support to fund legal costs in select situations. This has all come from the ARRL's Legal Research and Resource Fund which is funded through individual contributions from members.

The following criteria, rules, and procedures are used by the ARLDAC for determining whether to fund litigation, legal, legislative, or regulatory activities relating to Amateur Radio.

(1) To be funded, a matter must pertain to, have the potential to benefit or protect Amateur Radio and Amateur Radio licensees.

(2) These may include, but are not limited to:

- situations involving Amateur Radio antenna height, location, type and number;
- interference allegedly caused by Amateur Radio operations to non-Amateur Radio uses and services;
- interference received by Amateur Radio operations from non-Amateur Radio sources;
- interference received by Amateur Radio operations from improper or illegal Amateur Radio operations;
- matters about RF safety;
- matters that involve claims based on claims of aesthetic impact
- structural safety;
- environmental issues;
- unreasonable, illegal, or discriminatory ordinances or regulations, including those adopted by non-governmental entities;
- matters that involve the violation by non-Amateur radio licensees of civil or criminal laws designed to protect the rights of an Amateur Radio licensee; and,
- any other matters found by the Committee to involve and potentially impact Amateur Radio operation.

(3) Litigation or administrative actions for which funding may be provided may be either offensive or defensive in nature.

(4) Funding shall be limited to activities that may, or are predicted to, provide precedent for example that will be significantly useful to other Amateurs in the situations above. In general, preference shall be given, in descending order, as follows:

a) to appellate level cases of national scope;

b) to appellate level cases of statewide scope;

c) to trial or administrative level cases;

d) to initiatives involving laws, bylaws, or regulations, which do or may impact the ability of Amateur Radio operators to deploy effective antennas.

(5) Administrative and local land use authority activities are not normally eligible for funding unless and until they reach the judicial or administrative level, due to the absence of precedent value of such cases. In rare and exceptional circumstances, the Committee will fund such activity of this sort, upon a clear and convincing showing that the activity addresses a unique issue of law or may have wide ranging impact.

(6) Funding shall be limited to not more than $25,000 per matter. Funding is limited to the amount of the Legal Research and Resource Fund. In special situations in which the Committee feels that additional funding is warranted, the $25,000 limitation may be waived by the ARRL Executive Committee or the Board of Directors.

(7) For a case involving a particular antenna installation, the case must have substantial merit on the facts, and must present a significant issue of law, or be likely to provide a persuasive example that other courts or administrative boards are likely to follow.

(8) For initiatives involving laws, bylaws, or regulations, the matter must have the potential to impact a large number of Amateurs either directly or as a persuasive example to other regulatory or legislative entities.

(9) Activities must present a question or situation that maximizes the leverage of ARRL funds. This includes situations which present, or are predicted to present, some or all of the following characteristics:

a) activities with a high likelihood of success;

b) activities in which a favorable result would have a particularly high value to Amateur Radio;

c) activities in which an unfavorable result would have particularly severe negative impact upon Amateur Radio or individual Amateur Radio licensees.

(10) There must be some financial participation by the Amateurs involved, and/or by the local Amateur community.

(11) In addition to funding legal or rulemaking activities, the Committee may also fund the following activities, not to exceed $20,000 per calendar year in total:

a) Provision of research and background materials, such as books, law review articles, amicus briefs, and the like, to attorneys representing Amateur Radio clients in cases involving Amateur Radio issues;

b) Support of training for attorneys and other professionals involved in Amateur Radio related issues, specifically including things such as Continuing Legal Education, classes, and seminars, which may be provided in person, online, or at hamfests or conventions.

(12) All decisions on funding made by the Amateur Radio Legal Defense and Assistance Committee must be by 2/3 majority.

(13) The Committee may consist of two ARRL Directors and one or more ARRL Vice Directors. The Committee must also include at least two licensed attorneys who possess litigation experience and the ARRL's FCC Counsel. The attorneys appointed to the Committee are permitted to be, but are not required to be, Members of the ARRL Board. At least one of the appointed attorneys must be a currently licensed Amateur Radio operator who is a Member of the ARRL, and who holds at a minimum a General Class license.

(14) Requests and inquiries should be forwarded to the Chairman, ARRL Amateur Radio Legal Defense and Assistance Committee with copies to ARRL Headquarters. The Chairman of the Committee must forward all requests and inquires, including supporting materials to the Members of ARLDAC within ten calendar days after receipt.

(15) Any Member of ARLDAC may request a meeting to consider any request for assistance. A meeting to consider any request must occur within 21 days after the request is submitted in writing to the Chairman. Meetings may be in person or by electronic means that permit each Committee Member to be seen and heard. All meetings considering requests for funding are to be recorded.

26. Director Tharp moved, seconded by Treasurer Sager that:

WHEREAS, existing discounts for membership are allowed in By-Law 6 for students and By-Law 7 for blind members, and in By-Law 4 as an incentive for multi-year memberships and

WHEREAS, opportunities exist for increasing regular long-term memberships by offering special, one-time dues rates as an incentive.

THEREFORE, existing By-Law 6 is amended to add sub-section (c) as follows:

(c) The CEO is authorized to offer a discounted rate of those dues specified in By-Law 4 for special promotions upon approval of the ARRL Administration & Finance Committee.

A roll call vote was taken, requiring a two-thirds vote:

Director Boehner: Aye
Director Ryan: Aye
Acting Director Milluzzi: Aye

Director Norton: Aye
Director Stratton: Aye
Director Newingham: Aye
Director Long: Aye
Director Lippert: Aye
Director Norris: Aye
Director Yonally: Aye
Director Wilson: Aye
Director Zygielbaum: Aye
Director Frenaye: Aye
Director Tharp: Aye
Director Litz: Aye

The motion was **APPROVED** unanimously.

The Board was on break from 1:58 PM to 2:20 PM, with all members previously noted present.

27. Acting Director Milluzzi moved, seconded by Director Norris, that:

WHEREAS, the Southeastern Division is the largest ARRL Division, and the Alabama Section is presently assigned to the ARRL Southeastern Division,

WHEREAS, the ARRL Board of Directors wishes to have equitable representation among all ARRL Divisions, updating division-section alignment as member population changes geographically; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors desires to obtain direct feedback and facilitate discussion among ARRL members in the Southeastern and Delta Divisions before considering a change in the Alabama Section's divisional alignment, with particular emphasis on obtaining input from members of the Alabama Section.

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the ARRL CEO is requested to conduct a survey of and facilitate discussion with ARRL members in the Southeastern and Delta Divisions regarding the proposed reassignment of the Alabama Section from the Southeastern Division to the Delta Division, with a special effort to solicit and gather input from members of the Alabama Section through a postcard mailing and other appropriate outreach methods; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the ARRL CEO is requested to compile the survey results and feedback received through division discussions and the Alabama Section postcard mailing, including the level and nature of member support, opposition, and comments, and shall report those results to the Board of Directors at its January 2027 meeting; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the ARRL CEO is requested to compile the impact on operations, including radio sport and field operations, and shall report those results to the Board of Directors at its January 2027 meeting; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that following the Board's review of the membership feedback at the January 2027 meeting and provided the survey does not demonstrate substantial objection among the responding membership, with particular consideration given to the views of members of the Alabama Section, the Alabama Section shall be reassigned from the Southeastern Division to the Delta Division effective February 1, 2027.

Updated By-law 30 shall read as follows:

30. In accordance with the provisions of Article 4 of the Articles of Association and for the purpose of By-laws 14, 17, 18, 19, 20, 22 and 23, the following territorial divisions are established:

ATLANTIC DIVISION, those portions of the states of New York and New Jersey not included in the Hudson Division, the states of Pennsylvania, Maryland and Delaware, and the District of Columbia;

CENTRAL DIVISION, the states of Illinois, Indiana, and Wisconsin;

DAKOTA DIVISION, the states of Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota;

DELTA DIVISION, the states of Louisiana, Mississippi, Arkansas, Alabama, and Tennessee;

GREAT LAKES DIVISION, the states of Kentucky, Michigan, and Ohio;

HUDSON DIVISION, the counties of New York, Bronx, Richmond, Kings, Queens, Nassau, Suffolk, Sullivan, Westchester, Rockland, Putnam, Orange, Ulster, Dutchess, Columbia, Greene, Albany, Rensselaer, Schenectady, Saratoga, Warren, and Washington of the state of New York, and the counties of Bergen, Passaic, Morris, Essex, Hunterdon, Somerset, Sussex, Warren, Union, Middlesex, Monmouth, and Hudson of the state of New Jersey;

MIDWEST DIVISION, the states of Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas, and Missouri;

NEW ENGLAND DIVISION, the states of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut;

NORTHWESTERN DIVISION, the states of Washington, Oregon, Montana, Idaho, and Alaska;

PACIFIC DIVISION, that portion of the state of California not included in the Southwestern Division, the states of Nevada and Hawaii, and the United States possessions in the Pacific;

ROANOKE DIVISION, the states of Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, and South Carolina;

ROCKY MOUNTAIN DIVISION, the states of Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, and New Mexico;

SOUTHEASTERN DIVISION, the states of Georgia and Florida, the United States possessions in the Caribbean, and the commonwealth of Puerto Rico;

SOUTHWESTERN DIVISION, the counties of Imperial, Inyo, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara and Ventura of the state of California, and the state of Arizona;

WEST GULF DIVISION, the states of Texas and Oklahoma.

A roll call vote was taken, requiring a two-thirds vote:

Director Ryan: Aye
Acting Director Milluzzi: Aye
Director Norton: Aye
Director Stratton: Aye
Director Newingham: Aye
Director Long: Aye
Director Lippert: Aye
Director Norris: Aye
Director Yonally: Aye
Director Wilson: Aye
Director Zygielbaum: Aye
Director Frenaye: Aye
Director Tharp: Aye
Director Litz: Aye
Director Boehner: Aye

The motion was **APPROVED** unanimously.

28. Director Yonally moved, seconded by First Vice President McIntyre, that:

WHEREAS, periodic changes in leadership personnel encourage the introduction of new ideas, perspectives, and experiences while preserving the institutional knowledge necessary for organizational continuity,

WHEREAS, term limits are widely recognized as a governance best practice among non-profit organizations and membership associations, promoting accountability, leadership development, and broader member participation, and

WHEREAS, the establishment of reasonable term limits does not diminish the value of experienced leaders but instead encourages the cultivation and mentoring of future leaders within the organization.

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the ARRL Board of Directors hereby amends the ARRL Articles of Association – Article 12 and ARRL By-Law 18 to establish term limits for elected Directors and Vice Directors as follows:

Article 12:

No person shall be eligible for the office of Director, Vice Director, President, Vice President, or Treasurer who has not been a Full member of the League for at least four continuous years immediately preceding nomination and throughout the subsequent term of office, nor shall any person be eligible who has not held continuously during that period a valid authorization as a radio amateur in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations of the United States. No person shall simultaneously hold the office of President or Vice President and Director. No person shall be eligible to serve, or continue to serve as Director or Vice Director, subject to the term limits provisions specified in the Bylaws. No person shall be eligible to serve, or to continue to serve as Director, Vice Director, President, Vice President or Treasurer unless they are at all times in full compliance with these Articles, the Bylaws and the Rules and Regulations of the League relating to ethics, elections and conflicts of interest, as determined in accordance with the Bylaws.

By-Law 18, d), insert ii):

ii)

1) Directors

No individual shall serve more than three (3) consecutive elected terms as a Director. Upon completion of three consecutive terms, the individual shall be ineligible to serve again as Director or run again as Vice Director until the expiration of at least one full elected three (3) year term.

2) Vice Directors

No individual shall serve more than three (3) consecutive elected terms as a Vice Director. Upon completion of three consecutive terms, the individual shall be ineligible to serve again as Vice Director until the expiration of at least one full elected term. A Vice Director can, however, serve as Director directly after three consecutive terms as Vice Director. The time served as Vice Director does not apply to the three (3) consecutive elected terms, for this case, and shall be subject to the term limits for Directors starting from the first term.

3) Partial Terms

Any partial term exceeding one-half of the normal term length shall be considered a full term for the purpose of calculating term limits.

End of insertion.

Transition Provision - Notwithstanding any other provision of these By-Laws, the term limits established herein shall become effective upon adoption of this amendment and shall apply prospectively. Any Director or Vice Director serving on the effective date of this amendment who has already served two (2) or more consecutive elected terms shall be eligible to seek election to and serve one (1) additional consecutive term following the effective date of this amendment. Upon completion of that additional term, such individual shall be subject to the term-limit provisions of these By-Laws and shall not be eligible for immediate reelection until the required break in service has been satisfied.

A roll call vote was taken, requiring three-fourths vote.

Acting Director Milluzzi: Aye
Director Norton: Nay
Director Stratton: Nay
Director Newingham: Aye
Director Long: Aye
Director Lippert: Aye
Director Norris: Nay
Director Yonally: Aye
Director Wilson: Aye
Director Zygielbaum: Aye
Director Frenaye: Nay
Director Tharp: Nay
Director Litz: Nay
Director Boehner: Aye
Director Ryan: Aye

The motion **FAILED** - 9 Aye and 6 Nay.

The Board was on break from 2:50 PM to 3:10 PM, with all members previously noted present.

Consider Additional Recommendations as Contained in Reports

None presented.

Directors' Motions

29. Acting Director Milluzzi moved, seconded by Director Litz that:

WHEREAS, the Okeechobee Amateur Radio Club, Inc., FCC call sign K4OKE, was founded on July 12, 1976, in Okeechobee, Florida, and is celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2026,

WHEREAS, the Club has provided fifty years of continuous service to the Amateur Radio community in Okeechobee County and the surrounding region,

WHEREAS, the Okeechobee region lies in a hurricane-prone area of Florida where Amateur Radio emergency communications have consistently proven essential when conventional systems fail, and

WHEREAS, the Club has maintained a long-standing commitment to public service and emergency communications in Okeechobee County.

THEREFORE, that the ARRL Board of Directors recognizes and congratulates The Okeechobee Amateur Radio Club, Inc. (K4OKE) on the occasion of its 50th anniversary and commends its members, past and present, for fifty years of dedication to Amateur Radio and to public service; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be entered in its entirety into the minutes of the Board of Directors and that a copy be transmitted to The Okeechobee Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

The motion was **APPROVED** unanimously (with applause).

30. Director Litz moved, seconded by Director Norton, that:

WHEREAS, the ARRL Board of Directors approved the formation of the Technical Standards Committee to oversee the successful Clean Signal Initiative (CSI) and to develop future initiatives including amateur radio transmitter standards in January 2025, and

WHEREAS, the Clean Signal Initiative (CSI) has proven to be a successful part of the ARRL Lab ecosystem, integrated into regular operational processes at ARRL HQ, and amateur radio transmitter designs continue to evolve and reach new standards.

THEREFORE, effective 30 days after the passage of this motion, the ARRL Board of Directors moves to sunset the Technical Standards Committee, expressing its gratitude to the committee members for their dedication and service.

The motion was **APPROVED** unanimously.

31. Director Wilson moved, seconded by First Vice President McIntyre, that:

WHEREAS, the core mission of the ARRL is to promote and advance the art, science, and enjoyment of amateur radio, WHEREAS, Hiram Percy Maxim (1AW) was himself a consummate pioneer in homebrewing, inventing, and physical “making” establishing a legacy of hands-on technical exploration and self-training upon which our organization was fundamentally built,

WHEREAS, modern amateur radio continues this legacy by increasingly relying on innovative, community-driven technologies, software-defined radio (SDR) platforms, and homebrew hardware solutions,

WHEREAS, the modern maker and hacker communities, along with young technologists, are highly drawn to open-source software and hardware collaboration as the contemporary equivalent of traditional homebrewing,

WHEREAS, fostering open-source development in amateur radio directly supports STEM educational outreach, technical self-training, and the next generation of radio amateurs, and

WHEREAS, providing substantial, tangible incentives will stimulate high-quality submissions and attract top-tier technical talent to the amateur radio ecosystem.

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the ARRL Board of Directors hereby establishes the ARRL Open
Source Innovation Contest (provisional name), to be held as determined by a pool of technically competent individuals.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this competition shall feature two distinct, separate entry classes:

1. Software Class: Focused on open-source software applications, utility scripts, digital mode decoders, software-defined radio (SDR) blocks, and firmware, et cetera.

2. Hardware Class: Focused on open-source physical designs, including RF circuits, test equipment, antenna components, custom PCB designs, and hardware integrations, et cetera.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all submissions to this contest must be licensed under widely recognized, permissive, open-source licenses (such as GPL, MIT, or Creative Commons) to ensure the amateur radio community at large can freely use, modify, and build upon the entries.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a committee will be stood up composed of board members, staff members, and members of the community to work details, establish guidelines and pick a judging group. Tentatively the contest would be announced during calendar year 2027.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board hereby authorizes and allocates a pool of funds not to exceed $50,000 total to be awarded as prize money as determined by a pool of judges.

The motion was **APPROVED** unanimously.

32. Director Litz moved, seconded by Director Norton, that:

WHEREAS, ARRL The National Association for Amateur Radio® endeavors to hold a National Convention every two years; and WHEREAS, the Official ARRL Convention Guidelines include that,

- ARRL Board of Directors may authorize or direct upon such terms as it may prescribe, the holding, as a National Convention, of a meeting of persons interested in amateur radio from throughout the operating territory of the League.
- The ARRL President will assign a member of the Board to work with the staff to evaluate National Convention applications and negotiate ARRL participation.
- The program of every such convention shall be subject to the approval of the Executive Committee, and

WHEREAS, PACIFICON, sponsored by the Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club in California, an ARRL Affiliated Club, supports and promotes opportunities to advance and grow amateur radio and the ARRL; and has demonstrated a strong desire to help promote and protect the art, science, and enjoyment of amateur radio, and to develop the next generation of radio amateurs.

THEREFORE, the ARRL Board of Directors authorizes the headquarters staff to enter negotiations with the Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club to host the ARRL National Convention in conjunction with PACIFICON in October 2028.

The motion was **APPROVED** unanimously.

Other Business

33. Director Stratton discussed the value of Director engagement with Congressional offices in Washington, D.C. but stressed the importance of those efforts being coordinated with the appropriate parties to ensure consistency with ARRL's carefully developed advocacy strategy to communicate specific issues and clearly demonstrate the benefits that amateur radio provides to the public and policymakers.

34. Director Norton requested and received operational updates on the status of the Operating Book, the Gordon West publications, and the publicly available educational curriculum.

35. Director Zygielbaum took a moment of personal privilege to note that Vice Director Propper has decided not to seek re-election this fall and thanked him for all the work he has done for ARRL over the past six years as a member of the Board.

Closing Courtesies

36. President Roderick thanked everyone for a good meeting and their hard work, including the administration, Diane Middleton, Danielle LaFleur, and Cathleen Curry. He also thanked friends of the Board, Joel Harrison and Allan Boyd.

37. Mr. Harrison and Mr. Boyd expressed their appreciation to Mr. Roderick and the ARRL Board for their hospitality and the opportunity to join the ARRL Board. They look forward to continuing the positive and strong relationship the organizations share.

38. There being no additional business, on the motion of Director Ryan, seconded by Director Stratton, the meeting **ADJOURNED** at 5:30 PM.