

4 pages to L. Bond

Lilley

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 Date: Fri, 29 Jan 1999 22:00:14 EST
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 Subject: Minutes
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Minutes of the last meeting

Walt

INTERNATIONAL LORAN ASSOCIATION

131ST MEETING OF THE ILA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The 131st meeting of the Board of Directors of the International Loran Association was held by teleconference at 1330 EST on 19 January, 1999.

1. Directors Present

Directors attending the meeting were:

- Linn Roth, President
- Dale Johnson, Vice President
- Marty Poppe, Treasurer
- Walter Dean, Secretary
- Bill Brogdon, Past President
- John Beukers
- Margo Brown
- Harold Chadsey
- Terje Jorgensen
- Bob Lilley
- Nick Ward

Also Attending:

- Al Frost
- David Last

2. Agenda and Quorum

An agenda had been e-mailed or faxed to all directors by Linn Roth. The Secretary determined that a quorum was present.

3. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the 130th meeting were approved with the change deleting Roland from the attendance list.

4. Treasurer's Report

Marty Poppe made his first report as Treasurer. He had just received the last of information from Carl Andren. There are a number of bank accounts, but there are few authorized signers. This needs to be cleared up. The accounts and balances as of 12/31/98 are:

ILA Operations Acct.	\$3595.90
ILA Conference Account	16632.74
ILA Mastercard/Visa Acct	5552.72
ILA Money Market Acct.	1024..83
ILA Checking Account	11791.83

Total \$38598.02

Marty noted that the small Money Market account earns \$2.50 per month and has a \$7.50 monthly service charge. The Conference account still has to pay for printing and distributing the Proceedings from last year. Bob Lilley reported that he expects those Proceedings to be lower in cost than previous years - less than \$10 per copy. John Beukers reported that there is still a small account open in Europe, being used for petty cash

5. 1999 Annual Meeting Plans

Beukers sent a lengthy outline of things needed to be done to those directly involved. The Royal Institute of Navigation has agreed to host the convention, which will probably be called ILA28/NAV99, a joint operation., making sure of the continuity of the RIN's NAV series of conferences. The RIN part will be handled by David Roth (?)

They are trying to arrange attendance by a member of the Royal Family, noting that Prince Philip is a patron of the RIN. There was discussion about broadening the agenda beyond loran, to attract greater attendance. The consensus was that a theme title with appeal to other than ILA members would be desirable. It appears that attendance of 100 is the break-even point, with a target of 250.

John Beukers and Terje Jorgensen will be co-chairmen, and Nick Ward and Durk Kugler? will be co-technical chairmen. Peter Kent, the FERNs representative, will also participate. It may be possible to arrange for a NELS steering committee meeting to be held during the conference. It appears that IALA is also eager to participate, perhaps as a joint sponsor.

Trinity House will also lend their name to the conference, and it was suggested that a reception might be held at Trinity House, an interesting old building., as an added attraction for attendees.

6. Possibility of Washington DC Meeting in Summer 1999

Roth had sent email downgrading the idea. It was suggested ILA could approach the Air Traffic Control Association for a brief loran forum, perhaps a half day, promoting loran as a backup to GPS. Larry Barnett and Linn had lunch with the president of ATCA, and he seemed receptive to the idea, in that they have periodic forums on various subjects. Linn will follow up with them to see if something could be arranged without much cost to ILA. Lilley pointed out that ATCA was where Langhorne Bond first presented his thoughts on backup for GPS and ATCA plans to give Bond their highest award, the Gilbert Award, this year.

7. Status of Radionavigation Issues and Related ILA Activities

Linn Roth and Larry Barnett spent three days making 18 meetings with congressional staffers, Congressman Obeyesekere's office (ranking minority member of house appropriations committee) and Sen. Kerry with result that Margo will be able to have input to Obey. Our relations with Congress are getting better and better. They also met with Admiral Hall and others in the CG, as well as some administrators in the FAA. It appears that relationships between FAA and CG are better; they are discussing how to divide up the loran money for optimum results. Roth noted that he has had numerous contacts with Sen. Kerry's office, and has excellent rapport with his staff, so that this is one strong pro-loran voice in Congress.

Linn also met with other groups, NBAA and regional aviation groups, who are not as enthusiastic about loran, but support the need for a backup to GPS. Linn and Bob Lilley plan going back to DC the second week of February where they have appointments at DOT and FAA

Bob Lilley and John Beukers went to DC to give a briefing on antennas to the FAA, and also to RTCA, which brought the general comment that, "it looks like we can put the p-static thing to bed". The reports were well received even by some who had no previous use for loran. The remaining issue with the FAA for using loran as a backup is one of absolute accuracy. What they want is a .25nm absolute accuracy system, without updates or special loran surveys, and that is the challenge Bob is working on for Bill McPartland. Bob is trying to get the FAA to use congressional money for implementation and testing, not just for additional studies.

They went to a meeting where FAA is mandated to study alternatives to WAAS program office. MITRE had already introduced loran as an alternative, so their task was simplified. They got a surprisingly good reception. Both went away from all the meetings with a good feeling. Apparently there will be a series of three public meetings at which the radionavigation alternatives for the NAS will be discussed.

There is talk of getting the FRP out in March, but some feel it will be considerably later. There is considerable baggage involved, with WAAS and other considerations. Apparently none of our comments are being taken seriously for this edition.

ICAO Council is looking for a liability treaty relating to GPS sole means. There is a political mess involving the White House Weekly and a conference they had planned on

implementation of GPS, canceled by the State Dep't

Jorgensen reported that NELS is operating normally, but without Ireland. Tests with Brest have met slight obstacles. They have funded some preliminary testing but have not yet funded testing of Eurofix. There have been negotiations with Italy to join NELS. Several companies have made cost-benefit studies showing the clear advantage of loran and Eurofix. Terje will follow up on several ongoing activities and send a report to interested parties.

Nick Ward reports that the UK is still an observer on the NELS Steering Committee. He says there is a study going on within the IALA Steering Committee regarding loran, but no decisions are expected until later this year.

8. National Boating Federation

Margo Brown says she is apparently off everyone's mailing lists, as she is receiving no information. At present, she doesn't have e-mail, but expects to have it by February. She suggests that all communication with NBF go through her. As Executive Director, she has a direct line to all important persons there. She has met with Adm. Hall, and has contact with Rep. Obey's office.

9. PTTI

Harold Chadsey stated that there will be a paper on loran at the next PTTI meeting, and the CG is going ahead with their Time of Transmission modifications to the loran transmitters, which should work well with new designs of receivers. Work is being done on Seneca timing at present.

10. Finances

There was a general discussion on how to improve the ILA financial situation, especially via the annual convention, which is the major source of income.. Beukers observed that corporate sponsorship of various aspects of the convention, such as coffee breaks and luncheons can greatly improve the income to the ILA. The subject of mailing lists for getting out the word on the convention with a number of sources mentioned but no action specified. Bob Lilley raised the thought that there must be in DC, a foundation whose goals include preservation of public order, public safety or such, which might be willing to support our goals. Lilley emphasized the need for salesmanship to bring people into the conferences, and sponsorship of student papers. Bob noted that there is a hard core of support for the ILA, but one that should be built upon. There are, for example, telecom companies using loran, who could provide some support.

11. Eurofix

There are some Eurofix tests being conducted by Russia which hopefully will be completed by May, using the Chayka system to transmit Glonass corrections. There is pressure for an article on Eurofix, to be authored by Durk van Willigen for publication in GPS World, but Durk is very busy and needs help. Terje has had contact with GPS World, but is uncertain how to proceed. Beukers suggested that the article should be ghost written.

Jorgensen, reporting for NELS, said that four stations will be operating with Eurofix later this spring, and that the European Commission has money and needs advice on how it should be spent.

12. Loran Lines

The latest issue was mailed on 29 December. Those who had received copies commended Al Frost on the works. He credited Otis Philbrick for the good appearance. He is looking for a good article and photo on Jim Culbertson. Jim Alexander was suggested as a source. Lilley volunteered a photo. The slow delivery to the west coast was not considered a problem.

13. Monitoring

Beukers' setup in the UK is complete, and he will have results to report when he returns in April. Lilley is getting things ready in Santa Barbara. Roth plans to send a receiver to Frost to set up at UNH where students can operate it. There is a monitor at MIT Lincoln Labs, and they have information on their web site. Roth reports that there are 20 Ns timing jumps seen, the result of LPAs. Nick Ward reported that there are several other monitor sites operating or planned in the UK and Ireland. They can have a receiver operating at the London convention.

14. Web Site

Beukers and Lilley suggested upgrading the IIA web site to feature the Convention and perhaps provide for on-line registration. It was suggested that a professional site constructor might help.

15. Awards

Poppe reported that he is out of medals, and needs instruction as to replace medals given after the name change from WGA to IIA. A motion was made and passed for him to do so. All awards will be given as flat plaques, eliminating the goose formerly used for the student paper award.

16. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1527 EST.