

**Minutes of the 153<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Board of Directors  
International Loran Association  
June 10, 2010**

On June 10, 2010, members of the ILA Board received an electronic mail message from Vice-President Zachariah Conover, acting for President Sally Basker who was unavailable, calling for a Board meeting by e-mail, and presenting an agenda.

“We will hold a Virtual Board Meeting via email correspondence. As we have discussion and vote on the items please be sure to “Respond to All” in order to make sure that everybody is aware as the meeting progresses. The intention of this process is to have timely meeting and to conclude the meeting by 6/18/2010, so please try and respond as quickly as possible.”

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**1. This meeting of the ILA Board was called to order on June 10, 2010.**

E-mail messages were exchanged among Paul Williams, Erik Johannessen, Robert Lilley, Chris Bartone, Gerard Offermans, Sherman Lo, Charles Schue, David Last, Tamotsu Ikeda and Zachariah Conover during the course of the meeting. Those participating constituted a quorum.

**2. Overview of the ILA’s current financial position.**

Treasurer Erik Johannessen reported:

The expected cash balance of the ILA at 1 October 2010 is approximately \$36,500.

The ILA primarily generates revenue from three sources: Membership, Convention, and Sponsorship. The majority of this revenue is convention related.

In a typical year, the cost of operating the ILA (Ops Center related) is about \$14,000 per year. We also have Conference related expenses (e.g. Awards, CD’s Bank charges, etc.). The last two years at London and Portland have resulted in net revenue of about \$7K per year, resulting in a loss to the organization of \$7K per year.

I would note that convention revenues and expenses are highly variable based on location. In my opinion, the bigger problem we have been facing is declining numbers. For Portland, ME last year there were 67 attendees including guests. Of that, 49 were from the international region of N. America and the other 18 were from Europe and Asia.

Your acting President and I had a preliminary telephone conversation with the Ops Center (Bob and Ellen) to discuss workload in the face of declining membership and outsourced conventions (e.g. RIN two years ago). No recommendations or decisions were made but I can report that the Ops Center responded positively to our concerns.

The ILA (as we currently know it) cannot function effectively without the activities that are performed by the Ops Center. And we are dependent upon conventions to pay the costs of the organization. The recent actions and indecision by the US government has hurt what had typically been the strongest source of revenue for this organization. Perhaps this is a temporary situation. In any event, action is needed to avoid further deterioration of the financial position of the ILA.

### **3. 2010 Convention**

Mr. Conover outlined three options which had previously been suggested:

- A) Join the Royal Institute of Navigation (RIN) – Initial inquiries were made and we would be able to join the RIN – NAV10, take advantage of their eLoran session and hold an ILA meeting. However, given the late date there would be no profit sharing so this would result in zero revenue for the ILA.
  - 1. Advantage – Very little planning necessary.
  - 2. Disadvantage – No revenue.
  
- B) Washington, D.C. Area – Hold a 1-2 day conference in the Washington, D.C. area. Given the current state of Loran in the U.S. it is very likely that this year's conference attendance will be down significantly and will make holding a conference that is at worst revenue neutral challenging. Having the conference in the D.C. area would allow the ILA to make another run at the decision makers in D.C.
  - 1. Advantage – Potential to influence U.S. decision makers. Most likely to achieve highest attendance given the possibility that U.S. government could attend that would not be allowed to travel overseas.
  - 2. Disadvantage – Risky from a revenue standpoint.
  
- C) Try and join the IALA meeting, in a similar manner as ILA has joined the RIN conferences in the past.
  - 1. Advantage - ??
  - 2. Disadvantage - ??

#### **a. Decide on format/style given short time frame and U.S. action.**

The discussion included support for joining RIN in their November/December NAV-10 meeting. Reasoning included statements that this is a low revenue, low risk option, and is an opportunity to hold a Loran Forum in Europe [modeled after the well-attended Tokyo Loran Forum]. A one-day meeting in Washington at an appropriate time, to interact with US decision-makers, but not to hold a traditional Loran convention.

There was support for the continuation of the ILA: "...while the U.S. decision is troubling, our organization is an international organization, and the rest of the world is continuing down the right path."

#### **b. Decide on location.**

Results of the e-mail poll clearly favored joining the RIN in London, U.K. at NAV-10 for the ILA technical symposium, board meetings, annual membership meeting and awards events as appropriate. There was also clear interest in holding a one-day event in Washington, DC for interaction with US officials relative to the future of eLoran in that country.

#### **c. Decide on technical chair.**

No decision on a technical chair was taken.

At the conclusion of the vote, acting President Conover proposed a format for moving ahead with the RIN/London meeting:

- Joining with the RIN is the preferred choice.
- I have had email correspondence with Professor Last and he has indicated that while he would be the best person to organize with the RIN he would like some specific direction. I am proposing the following as a general outline for joining with the RIN.
  - Organize a membership meeting as either a side meeting or a separate dinner.
  - The BOD must meet early in the week with a possible second BOD meeting at the end.
  - Technical Symposium – We leverage the RIN eLoran section and we offer support in vetting submissions.
- Goal: Given that people will be paying for the RIN conference I think that any additional fee should be minimal if not zero.
- Is there anything else we want/need organized for the fall meeting with the RIN?
- In addition to this meeting I propose to form a sub-committee to review options and propose actions to influence decision makers in the U.S. Any volunteers?

Chuck Schue commented that he preferred a side meeting rather than a separate dinner meeting.

#### **4. Other business**

None was brought forward.

#### **5. Adjourn**

The agenda having been completed, the meeting is adjourned effective July 12, 2010