

# VATSIM Board of Governors Meeting

## January 12, 2002

### **Members of Board of Governors Present:**

Harvey Stein  
Neil Truitt  
Mike Hayden  
Max Mejias  
Broder Illing  
James Willan  
Roland Collins  
Richard Critz  
George Marinakis  
Richard Jenkins

### **VATSIM Founders Present:**

Jim Davis  
Joel Lesser  
Jonathan Reid

### **Meeting called to order at 2008 UTC.**

#### **\*\*Motion\*\***

Motion put forward by Harvey Stein, and seconded by Neil Truitt, to approve the minutes of the October 13, 2001 meeting as written with no amendments. Approved without dissent.

### **Supervisors**

Pursuant to the agenda, Mr. Truitt put forth nominations for VATSIM Supervisors to be considered. Also under consideration was the downgrade of individuals from Supervisor.

#### **\*\*Motion\*\***

Motion put forward by Mr. Truitt, and seconded by Dr. Mejias, to downgrade Brandon Griffith from Supervisor to Senior Controller in response to his resignation from his position as Chief of Jacksonville Center, VATUSA. The Board of Governors wishes to thank Mr. Griffith for his service and excellent leadership. Approved without dissent.

#### **\*\*Motion\*\***

Motion put forward by Mr. Truitt, and seconded by Mr. Collins, to upgrade the following members to Supervisor:

Wagner Beskow  
Dane Pennington  
Brian Hoyle  
Kevin Pollack  
Daniel Hill  
Chris Smith

After discussion, Chris Smith was removed from the candidate list until such time as it could be verified which Chris Smith was being considered.

Mr. Truitt amended his original motion and removed Chris Smith from the list. Amended motion seconded by Mr. Collins. Motion passed. (7 Yes, 2 No)

### **Policy on Non-ATC Time**

Discussion involved ideas and suggestions for developing a policy concerning non-ATC time using the OBS callsign and the misuse of bandwidth associated with it.

#### **\*\*Motion\*\***

A determination was made and a motion put forth by Mr. Stein that involved Mr. Collins drafting a statement to the membership explaining the need to conserve bandwidth while using the VATSIM system. Mr. Hayden seconded the motion. Approved without dissent..

### **Update to Code of Conduct**

Discussion ensued concerning changes to the Code of Conduct. The discussion centered on making improvements and better defining expectations of online behavior from members of VATSIM.

#### **\*\*Motion\*\***

After much discussion by the Governors, Dr. Mejias put a motion forth. The motion asked for the approval of the following changes to the Code of Conduct.

Approved a new paragraph two language that requires potential members to have registered with and be members in good standing of VATSIM.

Approved new paragraph three language that prohibits the sharing or trading of VATSIM ID numbers or passwords.

Approved a new paragraph four that requires the new member during registration to provide a complete and accurate name.

Approved a new paragraph five that requires new members to provide an ISP based email address during the registration process.

Approved a new paragraph six language that allows only one VATSIM ID and password per member.

Approved a new paragraph eight language that prohibits multiple connections to the VATSIM network.

Mr. Critz seconded the motion. Motion passed (11 Yes, 0 No, 1 Abstention)

### **Update to User Agreement**

The BoG discussed the editing of the User Agreement to include certain amendments that would better serve the users of VATSIM. After much discussion Dr. Mejias made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Truitt, to add the following amendments to the User Agreement.

Amend section 1.2 of the User Agreement to read the same as paragraph two of the Code of Conduct.

Add new section 1.3 to the User Agreement to read the same as paragraph three of the Code of Conduct.

Add new section 2.2. to the User Agreement with language that prohibits users from modifying software approved for use on the VATSIM network.

Motion passed (9 Yes, 0 No, 1 Abstention)

Mr. Jenkins left the meeting and granted his proxy to Mr. Marinakis.

A motion was made by Mr. Marinakis and seconded by Mr. Critz to enter into executive session.

Mr. Collins – Y  
Mr. Critz – Y  
Mr. Hayden – Y  
Mr. Illing – Y  
Mr. Jenkins – Y (proxy by Mr. Marinakis)  
Mr. Marinakis – Y  
Dr. Mejias – Y (proxy by Dr. Mejias)  
Mr. Stein – Y  
Mr. Truitt – Y  
Mr. Willan – Y

#### **BoG Entered Executive Session 2059 UTC**

#### **BoG Adjourned from Executive Session 2113 UTC**

#### **Elections**

The Board of Governors was addressed by Harvey Stein regarding the progress of Mr. Stein's committee on Elections for the Board of Governors. Mr. Stein presented an initial plan for how elections were to be conducted but stated that the plan was in its early stages and that the Elections Committee would need more time and input from the Board to present a more substantive plan for consideration and implementation.

The Board then discussed the preliminary plan outlined by Mr. Stein. Several Board members expressed concern that the plan would result in too great a number of candidates for members to consider. In addition, other Board members expressed the desire that uniform rules for conducting preliminary elections at the regional level and that it might be a good idea that such elections be conducted and the results certified by the Board of Governors or another entity created for the express purpose of conducting elections.

The matter was continued for report at a later date by Mr. Stein and his committee.

#### **Old Business**

There were two items of old business carried over from the Board of Governor's meeting from October 13, 2001.

- a. First was the continuance of a motion to be presented by Dr. Mejias with respect to the issue of illegal/inappropriate simulated situations which were not allowed on VATSIM. Dr. Mejias asked that this matter be continued to the next meeting of the Board.
- b. Second was a report to the Board of Governors by Mr. Collins regarding an email he had previously received concerning changes in the Mexico division. Mr. Collins stated that he was still working on this issue and asked that the matter be continued to the next meeting of the Board.

### **New Business**

- a. Mr. Marinakis stated that he has read and received numerous questions from membership regarding the length of time it takes for minutes of Board meetings to be made public. He pointed out that the minutes from the October 13, 2001 meeting were only approved today, nearly three months after the last meeting. He suggested that minutes be voted on by an email vote of the Board within 7 days of a meeting. This would allow membership to view minutes much quicker. A motion was made by Mr. Marinakis and seconded by Mr. Stein to have a standing rule of the Board of Governors that minutes would be prepared and submitted for approval to the Board by email vote within seven days of a meeting. During discussion, Mr. Stein noted that seven days might be too short a time frame and suggested twenty-one days. Mr. Marinakis then withdrew his first motion and made a new motion to have a standing rule of the Board of Governors that minutes would be prepared and submitted for approval to the Board by email vote within twenty-one days of a meeting. This was seconded by Mr. Stein. A vote was then taken on Mr. Marinakis' motion: Motion Passed (10 Yes, 0 No)

Mr. Collins – Y  
Mr. Critz – Y  
Mr. Hayden – Y  
Mr. Illing – Y  
Mr. Jenkins – Y (proxy by Mr. Marinakis)  
Mr. Marinakis – Y  
Dr. Mejias – Y  
Mr. Stein – Y  
Mr. Truitt – Y  
Mr. Willan – Y (proxy by Mr. Critz)

- b. Mr. Illing stated that he has been quite busy with work and in his personal life and he apologized for not updating the website and responding to emails on a more timely basis. To prevent this from happening in the future, Mr. Illing announced that he and Joel Lesser would be working together from this point forward to implement more timely updates to the website.
- c. Mr. Marinakis publicly congratulated Robert Bazzano, Richard Critz and the other members of the team that had found programming bugs in the FSD server software that had greatly reduced the incidence of lag on the network. Mr. Marinakis then made a motion to publicly announce the team's work on the VATSIM website, newsgroup and forum. This was seconded by Mr. Illing. Other Governors then extended their congratulations to Mr. Bazzano, et al., noting that on weekends, it was not uncommon for more than 400 members to be simultaneously logged onto the network and that lag has been virtually non-existent since Mr. Bazzano and his team patched the FSD software. A vote was then taken on Mr. Marinakis motion directing Mr. Illing to make a public announcement, the text of which to be approved by Mr. Bazzano and his team: Motion Passed (10 Yes, 0 No)

Mr. Collins – Y

Mr. Critz – Y  
Mr. Hayden – Y  
Mr. Illing – Y  
Mr. Jenkins – Y (proxy by Mr. Marinakis)  
Mr. Marinakis – Y  
Dr. Mejias – Y  
Mr. Stein – Y  
Mr. Truitt – Y  
Mr. Willan – Y (proxy by Mr. Critz)

### **Year End Report to Members**

The Board of Governors was addressed by George S. Marinakis regarding the current balance in the VATSIM bank account.

A motion was made by Mr. Marinakis and seconded by Mr. Critz to enter into executive session.  
Motion Passed (10 Yes, 0 No)

Mr. Collins – Y  
Mr. Critz – Y  
Mr. Hayden – Y  
Mr. Illing – Y  
Mr. Jenkins – Y (proxy by Mr. Marinakis)  
Mr. Marinakis – Y  
Dr. Mejias – Y  
Mr. Stein – Y  
Mr. Truitt – Y  
Mr. Willan – Y (proxy by Mr. Critz)

A motion was made by Mr. Marinakis to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Hayden. Motion Passed (10 Yes, 0 No)

Mr. Collins – Y  
Mr. Critz – Y  
Mr. Hayden – Y  
Mr. Illing – Y  
Mr. Jenkins – Y (proxy by Mr. Marinakis)  
Mr. Marinakis – Y  
Dr. Mejias – Y  
Mr. Stein – Y  
Mr. Truitt – Y  
Mr. Willan – Y (proxy by Mr. Critz)

Meeting adjourned at 0020Z on Sunday, January 13, 2002.