

# **VATSIM BOARD OF GOVERNORS QUARTELY MEETING OF 22 NOVEMBER 2003.**

## **AGENDA**

- 1) Call meeting to order
- 2) Old Business
- 3) Supervisors (Upgrades and Downgrades)
- 4) Brian Hoyle Statement
- 5) Official VATSIM Newsgroup vs. Forum
- 6) Hijacks and Use of Transponder Code 7600
- 7) VATSIM Rating Restrictions
- 8) Elections
- 9) New Business
- 10) Adjourn

Meeting called to order at 2015Z by Harvey Stein.  
Harvey Stein chair of meeting – Ed Hemsley appointed secretary.

## **Roll Call**

### **Governors Present:**

Richard Critz  
Harvey Stein  
Ed Hemsley  
George Marinakis  
Michael Bevington  
Neal Truitt  
Roland Collins  
Roberto Bazzano

### **Founders Present:**

None

Mr. Stein holds full proxy vote for Mr. Phillips.  
Mr. Collins holds full proxy vote for Mr. Doyle.

Mr. Marinakis suggested that ‘Old business’ is moved to item 8 on the agenda. No objections are raised.

## **Supervisors**

Mr. Stein opened the floor for discussion.

Mr. Truitt introduced three upgrades for the Board to consider. They are; Mr. Shmulik Lin, Mr. Anatoly Kras and Mr. Ilan Jonas, as per his email of Friday 21 November 2003.

Mr. Marinakis voiced his opinion that VATSIM as a whole does not require more supervisors. However, since the three individuals to be considered by the board are from a developing region, he will not oppose a motion to upgrade them.

Mr. Truitt voiced his agreement, and forwarded his belief that VATSIM requires more active supervisors, as opposed to a numerical increase. He also advised the board that he was in the process of reviewing inactive supervisors for a possible downgrade and based upon the results of that process he may be coming forward at a later date with a request for upgrades.

**20:24Z - Mr. Hayden and Mr. Schroeder enter the meeting**

Mr. Critz moved that Mr. Shmulik Lin, Mr. Anatoly Kras and Mr. Ilan Jonas be upgraded to supervisor status. Seconded by Mr. Collins.

Discussion: None

Mr. Critz	Y
Mr. Stein	Y
Mr. Hemsley	Y
Mr. Marinakis	Y
Mr. Bevington	Y
Mr. Truitt	Y
Mr. Collins	Y
Mr. Doyle	Y(proxy by Mr. Collins)
Mr. Bazzano	Y
Mr. Phillips	Y(proxy by Mr. Stein)
Mr. Schroeder	Y
Mr. Hayden	Y

The motion carried: 12 YES – 0 NO – 0 ABSTENTIONS.

**Brian Hoyle Statement**

Mr. Stein opened the floor for discussion.

Mr. Truitt moved to enter executive session. Seconded by Mr. Schroeder.

Mr. Collins voiced his concern that entering executive session would be inappropriate given the circumstances surrounding this issue.

Mr. Hayden voiced agreement.

Mr. Truitt indicated he had made the motion based upon the privacy concerns for Mr. Hoyle. Then, Mr. Truitt withdrew his motion.

Mr. Critz suggested this item be tabled for now.

Mr. Collins stated that the board still needed to deal with this item in order to clarify the facts of the situation to the membership.

Mr. Truitt voiced his agreement. Mr. Hayden voiced his agreement.

Mr. Schroeder voiced his agreement and asked whether the board should construct a suitable statement now or via email at a later time.

Mr. Marinakis suggested this should be done via email at a later time.

**2040Z Mr. Jenkins enters the meeting.**

Mr. Schroeder moved to record that the board will construct a statement via email and present it to the membership via the simflight newsgroup. Mr Collins seconds.

Discussion:

Mr. Critz suggested the motion should be amended to include a deadline for completion.

Mr. Schroeder amended his motion to read; “to record that the Board will construct a statement via email, to be released via the simflight newsgroup with a deadline for producing this statement of Wednesday 26 November 2003.”

Mr. Collins suggested that the time allowed by this motion is too long.

Mr. Schroeder mentioned that the additional time was included in case of problems getting the statement online.

Mr. Collins reaffirmed his belief that the deadline should be moved forward.

Mr. Bevington suggested the statement should be a webpage or notam announcement rather than a simflight newsgroup post.

Mr. Collins voiced his agreement and stated he had expected it to be released via the homepage, as to release it via the newsgroup would be to invite further argument which is not in VATSIM’s best interests.

Mr. Schroeder amended his motion to read; “to record that the Board will construct a statement via email to be released via the VATSIM home page with a deadline for

producing this statement of Monday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2003 at 1800Z". Seconded by Mr. Hayden.

Mr. Jenkins requested that the motion be re-read.

Mr. Hemsley repeated the motion.

No further discussion.

Mr. Critz	ABSTAIN
Mr. Stein	Y
Mr. Phillips	Y (proxy by Mr. Stein)
Mr. Hemsley	Y
Mr. Marinakis	ABSTAIN
Mr. Bevington	Y
Mr. Truitt	Y
Mr. Jenkins	N
Mr. Collins	Y
Mr. Doyle	Y (proxy by Mr. Collins)
Mr. Schroeder	Y
Mr. Bazzano	Y
Mr. Hayden	Y

The motion carried: 10 YES - 1 NO - 2 ABSTENTIONS.

## **Official VATSIM Newsgroup Vs Forum**

Mr. Stein opened the floor for discussion.

Mr. Bevington stated that his initial thoughts are that he hopes to have one centralized forum for pilot training matters.

Mr. Schroeder voiced his opinion that he believes there should be one official channel of communication where members can go to ask questions and receive help. He continued to state that the current level of abuse of the simflight newsgroup is unacceptable and questioned whether a vote should be put to the membership to allow them to decide which type of VATSIM provided system they would prefer (newsgroup or forum).

Mr. Critz voiced agreement and suggested that the benefits of both systems should be presented to the membership allowing them to make an informed choice.

Mr. Bevington voiced agreement.

Mr. Critz stated that it would be inappropriate to put this matter before the membership in the immediate future, until the situation regarding Mr. Hoyle has been resolved.

Mr. Schroeder voiced his agreement.

Mr. Critz suggested we should take action on this item in the first week of the New Year.

No Objections. Item tabled until early 2004.

## **Hijacks and use of transponder code 7600**

Mr. Stein opened the floor for discussion.

Mr. Critz suggested that those members using 7500 and 7600 squawk codes could be killed from the network automatically.

Mr. Bevington voiced agreement.

Mr. Hayden asked if a time delay could be implemented before removal.

Mr. Critz confirmed that there would be a 10 second time delay between selecting the code and being disconnected.

Mr. Marinakis asked if the pilot will be notified why he/she was removed from the server.

Mr. Critz confirmed that this would happen automatically.

Mr. Bazzano voiced his opinion that while he agrees that squawking 7500 and 7600 should be banned; offenders should be removed manually by supervisors, rather than automatically by the server.

Mr. Schroeder suggested a modification to the code of conduct regarding the use of these transponder codes is required to clarify this issue to new members.

Mr. Bevington moved that the code of conduct be amended to include "simulated hijackings are not allowed on VATSIM under any circumstances. Simulating a hijacking will result in disconnection from the network and possible disciplinary action. Use of transponder codes 7500 and 7600 are also not allowed on VATSIM." Seconded by Mr. Bazzano.

Discussion:

Mr. Collins pointed out that in flight emergencies are allowed on VATSIM, but must be terminated if required by ATC.

Mr. Bevington amended his motion to read; "That Code of Conduct article B8 is reworded as follows, "Pilots are permitted to declare in flight emergencies, but are not

permitted to declare a hijack or a radio failure or simulate any other unlawful act online. If for any reason ATC asks the pilot to terminate the emergency, then the pilot must do so or log off VATSIM.” Seconded by Mr. Bazzano.

Mr. Truitt asked that the banning of use of 7500 and 7600 transponder codes are added to this statement.

Mr. Collins suggested these codes could be added in a bracket after “hijack” and “radio failure”.

Mr. Marinakis voiced confusion over the exact wording and amendment of Code of Conduct article B8 and asked that Mr. Bevington repeat his motion.

Mr. Bevington repeated his motion.

Mr. Marinakis suggested that since the Board is talking about amending the Code of Conduct a request be made to him self to change the necessary article (B8) and a vote taken via the ad-hoc voting system at a later date.

Mr. Bevington withdrew his motion.

Mr. Marinakis stated that uniformity will be maintained if he manages the phrasing of amendments to the Code of Conduct and Code of Regulations, but made clear that this is in no way an attack on Mr. Bevington’s choice of phrasing.

Mr. Truitt moved that Mr. Marinakis will make appropriate changes to the code of conduct article B8 to disallow hijackings or radio failures on the VATSIM network. Seconded by Mr. Schroeder.

No further discussion

Mr. Critz	Y
Mr. Stein	Y
Mr. Phillips	Y (proxy by Mr. Stein)
Mr. Hemsley	Y
Mr. Marinakis	Y
Mr. Bevington	Y
Mr. Truitt	Y
Mr. Jenkins	Y
Mr. Collins	Y
Mr. Doyle	Y (proxy by Mr. Collins)
Mr. Schroeder	Y
Mr. Bazzano	Y
Mr. Hayden	Y

The motion carries: 13 YES – 0 NO – 0 ABSTENTIONS.

Mr. Collins moved that Mr. Marinakis redraft the Code of Conduct article A1 to include additional wording to reflect the desire to ensure members are courteous, respectful, and considerate to other users at all times and avoid causing offence. Mr Schroeder seconds.

Discussion:

Mr. Marinakis voiced his opinion that he believes article A1 is already worded sufficiently well.

Mr. Collins suggested the change of wording is required to effectively get across the desired intent.

Mr. Collins stated that the users who are most likely to cause offence are those who ask for specific items from the Codes to be quoted. He suggests the additional wording is required to ensure the good behaviour of such individuals.

No further discussion.

Mr. Critz	ABSTAIN
Mr. Stein	N
Mr. Phillips	N
Mr. Hemsley	ABSTAIN
Mr. Marinakis	N
Mr. Bevington	Y
Mr. Truitt	N
Mr. Jenkins	ABSTAIN
Mr. Collins	Y
Mr. Doyle	Y
Mr. Schroeder	Y
Mr. Bazzano	ABSTAIN
Mr. Hayden	N

The motion is denied: 4 YES – 5 NO – 4 ABSTENTIONS

**2155Z The Board of Governors dissolve for a 5 minute break.**

**2200Z The Board of Governors reconvene.**

**2203Z Mr. Critz exits the meeting leaving his full proxy vote to Mr. Marinakis.**

## **VATSIM RATING RESTRICTIONS**

Mr. Stein opened the floor for discussion.

Mr. Collins reminded the Board of the discussion undertaken at the last Governors meeting and the executive committee meeting of 8th August 2003, including the practicing of certain policies which were contrary to the Code of Conduct/Regulations.

Mr. Collins asked that the board, individually, look at ARTCC' s and divisions to evaluate compliance with the previous Board of Governors directive on this subject.

Mr. Hayden voiced his opinion that the initial concept of VATSIM was to make things as real as it gets. He suggested it is necessary to restrict people from going around different regions and ' logging in' without proper knowledge of the region in which they are controlling.

Mr. Collins stated that ATC should be familiar with the airspace they are controlling. Divisions cannot prevent people from controlling in their airspace, or demote them during transfer, but can request a check of competency.

Mr. Stein voiced his opinion that as long as competency is demonstrated and the relevant tests passed, members should be able to control any position within VATSIM.

Mr. Hayden mentioned the phrasing of rules regarding controlling outside home regions. He stated that it currently says "Regions" but not "ARTCC".

Mr. Collins stated that Divisions and ARTCC' s work under the authority of a Region, as the Region is the body which has been vested with the authority by the Code of Regulations.

Mr. Marinakis agreed and stated that authority is vested to regions who may delegate to divisions. (Code of Regulations, section §3.05 B6).

Mr. Collins wished that the minutes reflect that the VP regions will continue to liaise with the Executive Committee and keep the Board of Governors informed on this matter.

## **ELECTIONS**

Mr. Stein stated that regions could be given the authority to hold elections as they see fit and delegate down to Divisions and ARTCC/FIR' s as the region sees fit.

Mr. Truitt asked Mr. Marinakis if we would have to amend Code of Regulations article 5 in order to do this.

Mr. Marinakis indicated the Founders have determined how they wish to proceed with elections and he is currently, with input from the Founders, in the process of amending the code of regulations appropriately.



Mr. Truitt suggested it would be best to table this item until the Board receives final input from the Founders on this matter.

Mr. Marinakis agreed.

Mr. Truitt moved to table this item. Mr Hayden seconds.

Discussion:

Mr. Collins suggested positive action is taken to contact the Founders group and ask them for the relevant information to allow the Board to make progress on this matter.

Mr. Schroeder voiced his agreement.

Mr. Truitt' s motion remained on the floor.

No further discussion.

Mr. Stein	Y
Mr. Phillips	Y (proxy by Mr. Stein)
Mr. Hemsley	Y
Mr. Marinakis	Y
Mr. Critz	Y (proxy by Mr. Marinakis)
Mr. Bevington	Y
Mr. Truitt	Y
Mr. Jenkins	Y
Mr. Collins	N
Mr. Doyle	N (Proxy by Mr. Collins)
Mr. Schroeder	Y
Mr. Bazzano	Y
Mr. Hayden	Y

The motion carries: 11 YES – 2 NO – 0 ABSTENTIONS.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Stein opened the floor for discussion.

Mr. Bevington stated he has approximately 95% of phase 1 for the Pilot Training Program complete. Final pieces of work are in the evaluation stage. He estimated the first phase will be online and operational before the 25<sup>th</sup> December 2003. Within the next 7 days, a status document will be circulated to allow the chance for feedback from the Board. He expects that on or around 10 December 2003 a vote will be opened to accept Phase 1 of the program.

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Mr. Schroeder requested an update on the Africa/ Middle East Regional Director position.

Mr. Collins stated that earlier this year he assumed control of this region after Mr. Robert Grant' s departure. He informed the board that the previous South African Divisional Director disappeared some time ago. Mr. Robert Jubb took over in this respect, but seems to have lost interest. He informed the board he is about to re-launch this region and attempt to revitalise the divisions. He informed the board that VATIL is flourishing. He continues to look out for potential interest and sends out NOTAMS. He mentioned he has a potential candidate for the Regional Director position in the pipeline.

No further discussion.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Stein opened the floor for discussion.

Mr. Truitt moved that the Board include as a part of the minutes all ad-hoc votes which have taken place since the last meeting. Seconded by Mr. Schroeder.

Discussion:

Mr. Collins questioned whether this is necessary.

Mr. Marinakis clarified that this should be happening automatically.

Mr. Truitt withdrew his motion.

No further discussion.

Mr. Bevington moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Truitt seconds.

No Objections.

**2254Z Meeting Adjourned.**

## Department of Documents & Archives

### RECORD OF AD-HOC VOTES

PERIOD: 15<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2003 – 22<sup>ND</sup> NOVEMBER 2003

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**Motion:** To approve the minutes of the 14 June 2003 BoG meeting as presented in a document linked on an email dated 25 June 2003.

**Closed:** 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2003

**Proposed by:** Mr Michael Bevington

**Seconded by:** Mr Chris Doyle

**Vote Distribution:**

Mr Michael Bevington	-	FOR
Mr Chris Doyle	-	FOR
Mr Neal Truitt	-	ABSTAIN
Mr Mike Hayden	-	FOR
Mr Richard Critz	-	FOR
Mr Richard Jenkins	-	FOR
Mr George Marinakis	-	FOR
Mr Tom Schroeder	-	FOR
Mr Roberto Bazzano	-	FOR

**Votes For:** Eight (8)

**Votes Against:** Zero (0)

**Abstentions:** One (1)

**Motion Carries.**

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**Motion:** To re-elect Harvey Stein to a second term as president.

**Closed:** 25<sup>th</sup> July 2003

**Proposed by:** Mr George Marinakis

**Seconded by:** Mr Richard Critz

**Vote Distribution:**

Mr George Marinakis	-	FOR
Mr Richard Critz	-	FOR
Mr Tom Schroeder	-	FOR
Mr Roberto Bazzano	-	FOR
Mr Chris Doyle	-	FOR
Mr Michael Bevington	-	FOR
Mr Roland Collins	-	FOR
Mr Robert Phillips	-	FOR

Mr Neal Truitt - FOR  
Mr Mike Hayden - FOR  
Mr Richard Jenkins - FOR

**Votes For:** Eleven (11)  
**Votes Against:** Zero (0)  
**Abstentions:** Zero (0)  
**Motion Carries.**

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**Motion:** To adopt the Special Operations Guidelines document as posted on the egroup on 08-01-03.

**Closed:** 8<sup>th</sup> August 2003

**Proposed by:** Mr Robert Phillips

**Seconded by:** Mr Michael Bevington

**Vote Distribution:**

Mr Robert Phillips - FOR  
Mr Michael Bevington - FOR  
Mr Mike Hayden - FOR  
Mr Harv Stein - FOR  
Mr Neal Truitt - FOR  
Mr Ed Hemsley - FOR  
Mr Richard Jenkins - FOR  
Mr George Marinakis - FOR

**Votes For:** Eight (8)  
**Votes Against:** Zero (0)  
**Abstentions:** Zero (0)  
**Motion Carries.**

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**Motion:** To instruct the EC to contact regions other than North America and Europe to solicit proposals for the 2004 VATSIM Convention. Proposals must be submitted by December 1, 2003. The BoG will select final candidates for vote by the general membership.

**Closed:** 18<sup>th</sup> August 2003

**Proposed by:** Mr Richard Jenkins

**Seconded by:** Mr George Marinakis

**Vote Distribution:**

Mr Richard Jenkins - FOR  
Mr George Marinakis - FOR  
Mr Ed Hemsley - FOR  
Mr Harv Stein - FOR  
Mr Michael Bevington - FOR

**Votes For:** Five (5)  
**Votes Against:** Zero (0)  
**Abstentions:** Zero (0)

**Motion declared void.**

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**Motion:** To license the VATSIM logo to SAG-vACC to produce 200 shirts. Shirts will be sold to members of the vACC at cost. No additional charges may be added for handling. Accounting of activity to supervised by VP Comms and Operations.

**Closed:** 26<sup>th</sup> August 2003

**Proposed by:** Mr Richard Jenkins

**Seconded by:** Mr Harv Stein

**Vote Distribution:**

Mr Richard Jenkins	-	FOR
Mr Harv Stein	-	FOR
Mr Tom Schroeder	-	FOR
Mr Michael Bevington	-	FOR
Mr Richard Critz	-	ABSTAIN
Mr Roberto Bazzano	-	ABSTAIN
Mr Mike Hayden	-	FOR
Mr Robert Phillips	-	FOR
Mr Neal Truitt	-	FOR
Mr Ed Hemsley	-	FOR

**Votes For:** Eight (8)

**Votes Against:** Zero (0)

**Abstentions:** Two (2)

**Motion Carries.**

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**Motion:** To remove Brian Hoyle, CID 812898, as a VATSIM Supervisor, effective immediately pursuant to the provisions of the Supervisor Guidelines, Section 6.1.2.

**Closed:** 15<sup>th</sup> November 2003

**Proposed by:** Mr Neal Truitt

**Seconded by:** Mr Roland Collins

**Vote Distribution:**

Mr Neal Truitt	-	FOR
Mr Roland Collins	-	FOR
Mr Mike Hayden	-	FOR
Mr Harv Stein	-	FOR
Mr Chris Doyle	-	FOR
Mr Roberto Bazzano	-	FOR

Mr Ed Hemsley	-	FOR
Mr Tom Schroeder	-	FOR
Mr Robert Phillips	-	FOR
Mr George Marinakis	-	FOR
Mr Richard Jenkins	-	FOR

**Votes For:** Eleven (11)  
**Votes Against:** Zero (0)  
**Abstentions:** Zero (0)  
**Motion Carries.**

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**Motion:** Instruct the EC to contact regions other than North America and Europe to solicit proposals for the 2004 VATSIM Convention. Proposals must be submitted by December 15, 2003. The BoG will select final candidates for vote by the general membership.

**Closed:** 18<sup>th</sup> November 2003

**Proposed by:** Mr Richard Jenkins

**Seconded by:** Mr Harv Stein

**Vote Distribution:**

Mr Richard Jenkins	-	FOR
Mr Harv Stein	-	FOR
Mr Ed Hemsley	-	FOR
Mr Richard Critz	-	FOR
Mr Roberto Bazzano	-	FOR
Mr Tom Schroeder	-	FOR
Mr Neal Truitt	-	FOR
Mr Michael Bevington	-	FOR
Mr Mike Hayden	-	FOR
Mr George Marinakis	-	FOR

**Votes For:** Ten (10)  
**Votes Against:** Zero (0)  
**Abstentions:** Zero (0)  
**Motion Carries.**

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**Motion:** Due to the passage of time and changing circumstances it is now in the best interest of VATSIM that the previous BOG meeting motion to issue a public statement in regard to the suspension Mr Brian Hoyle should be REPEALED and no VATSIM public statement made.

**Closed:** 26<sup>th</sup> November 2003

**Proposed by:** Mr Richard Critz  
**Seconded by:** Mr Richard Jenkins  
**Vote Distribution:**

Mr Richard Critz	-	FOR
Mr Richard Jenkins	-	FOR
Mr Ed Hemsley	-	FOR
Mr Michael Bevington	-	FOR
Mr George Marinakis	-	FOR
Mr Tom Schroeder	-	FOR
Mr Roberto Bazzano	-	FOR
Mr Mike Hayden	-	AGAINST
Mr Harv Stein	-	FOR
Mr Neal Truitt	-	AGAINST

**Votes For:** Eight (8)  
**Votes Against:** Two (2)  
**Abstentions:** Zero (0)  
**Motion Carries.**