Rules for the
IEEE P802.11 Standing Committee on Regulatory Matters
(Regulatory Committee)

Vic Hayes, Chair, Lucent Technologies

The Standing Committee on Regulatory Matters of IEEE P802.11 (further called Regulatory Committee) was established at the meeting of November 1992. The related motions are given below. This paper is prepared by Vic Hayes, the Chair of IEEE P802.11 and of the Regulatory Committee to further define the procedures.

Charter

The charter of the Regulatory Committee is to prepare and approve, on behalf of Standards Working Group IEEE P802.11, Positions on Regulatory Matters to be filed at Government agencies throughout the world for submission to the Sponsor Executive Committee of LMSC (IEEE P802).

The reason for establishing a Standing Committee and giving it this charter is the high importance to file those positions and the related short reaction time given by the agencies. The 802.11 PAR[1] allows those filings.

Membership.

Only voting members of IEEE P802.11 can become members of the Regulatory Committee The minimum number of members is 4.

Voting Members of IEEE P802.11 may join at any time and may terminate membership at any time, except when the membership has been revoked. Joining and termination shall be made official by sending an e-mail to the Chair.

The Chair of the Regulatory Committee is taken by the Chair of IEEE P802.11.

Membership of the Regulatory Committee shall be revoked by failure to participate in 2 out of 3 consecutive Regulatory Committee events. Regulatory Committee events are properly announced meetings and ballots. Once a member has lost his membership, he can not join again until the Regulatory Committee has completed the items on hand at the time of revocation.

Method of work.

All submissions, minutes and proposals of the Regulatory Committee are disseminated via the 802.11 reflector.

Discussions are held on the reflector (it is required to have a dependable e-mail account to participate in the Regulatory Committee).

Meetings are held via teleconferencing provided a host is found to fund the teleconference bridge.

The quorum for a meeting is 50 % of the members of the Regulatory Committee.

A meeting is properly announced if the announcement is made on the reflector, at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

Ballots are held via e-mail. A ballot is valid if 50 % of the members have returned their ballot. The ballot closes at the time specified but should be at least 48 hours after the ballot has been issued on the reflector.

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[1] To make this purpose feasible, this PAR also authorizes IEEE P802 to petition or provide comments to regulatory bodies worldwide (e.g. the FCC in the USA, the Department of Communications in Canada, the RF agency of the Department of Trade and Industry in the UK and the Radio Frequency Commission of the CEPT of Europe)

However, these ISM bands are already heavily used, and it is felt that service degradation from other users will happen, increasing with time. Therefore, in order to further development of the standard, the 802.11 committee should participate in the development of changed or new regulations for short distance radio services in which all authorized users of any new frequency allocation shall be permitted to radiate only a defined maximum power density. The goal is to provide regulations which allow for an easy approval process for the end-user.

A subject is placed on the agenda of the Regulatory Committee by the submission of a motion[2], accompanied by a well prepared proposal by a member of the Regulatory Committee, and a member has seconded the motion. The Chair decides whether the motion is in order based on the completeness of the proposal.

The Regulatory Committee then considers the question informally (variation of Committee of the Whole) until a motion is passed to consider the question formally.

The agenda item is completed as soon as the Regulatory Committee has disposed the motion.

If more then one subject is relevant, the Regulatory Committee will have multiple agenda items.

The motions on the contents of the proposals and the action on the main motions require a 75 % vote of those voting yes and no.

Decisions by the Regulatory Committee are binding for IEEE P802.11

Current Membership

The current membership (April 1, 1996) is: Vic Hayes (chair), Don Johnson, Wayne Moyers, Chandos Rypinski and Jim McDonald.

Coordination within IEEE

As soon as the Chair of the Regulatory Committee has ruled a (main) motion in order, he makes the motion and the Proposed text available to the Sponsor Executive Committee of LMSC. The Chair (or the Recording Secretary) of LMSC SEC is responsible to forward the motion and proposal to USAB (The United States Activities Board) CCIP (Committee on Communications and Information Policy) to provide early awareness of the planned filing as well as of the deadline.

To be approved the SEC needs to pass the motion themselves by a 2/3rd vote. Approved text shall be executed and filed at the destination body by the Chair of the SEC of LMSC. He will also file the approved document at the IEEE General Manager and post the file at the LMSC FTP site.

Motions past:

Meeting of November 1992

Motion #16:   **To establish a standing regulatory committee that is empowered to submit comments to regulatory bodies with a 75% vote of the committee.**

Motion #18:   **to amend previous motion "the committee is required to send (fax, e-mail) the comments to the entire 802.11 membership for comment. Anyone wishing to amend and/or reply must do so within one week. Any 802.11 member may join the committee at any time. A standing committee shall consist of 4 or more members."**

Moved by: Jim Schuessler
Seconded by: Dave Bagby

Approved: 13   Opposed: 1   Abstain: 3   *Motion #18 passes*

Approved: 13   Opposed: 2   Abstain: 3   *Motion #16 passes*

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[2] Moves that the Standing Committee on Regulatory Matters of Standards Working Group IEEE P802.11 forwards the proposal for IEEE P802 comments on <subject> to the Sponsor Executive Committee of LMSC for sign-off and filing at <destination body> on or before <date>.