



# CALLSIGN

## Ohio Appreciates Professional Communications Operations

February 2020

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### President's Message By OHIO APCO President Lydia Frey

Happy New Year to all of you!

We are very excited for 2020. 2019 was a very successful year for the organization and we hope to continue this into the New Year.

A lot is going on around the State of Ohio. The 9-1-1 Communications Center Management Committee is doing an outstanding job and working hard for our members. Training continues to be a top priority and we are hoping to have a different topic at each of our quarterly meetings.

This year the 2019 Gold Star Luncheon will be held in Columbus, Ohio on April 22<sup>nd</sup> with training occurring on April 21. Several new categories have been added and we are eager to recognize all public safety communications professionals.

Thank you for your dedication to public safety and I hope to see you at the meeting on February 19<sup>th</sup>.

Lydia

### February Chapter Events

#### Ohio APCO/Ohio NENA Combined Membership Meeting

Wednesday, February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020

The Ohio Department of Administrative Services

4200 Surface Rd.- Columbus

Individual Committee and Board Meetings 8:00

Training Session "Overcoming Obstacles: Building A Better You" 9:00

Instructor – Brian MacMurdo

Joint Business Meeting 10:00-11:00

Lunch 11:30

**APCO – INTERNATIONAL**

**President**

Tracey M. Hilburn, RPL ENP  
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**Board of Directors- North Central Region**

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**Executive Council Representative**

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**Ohio APCO Executive Committee**

**President**

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**Immediate Past President**

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**Secretary/Treasurer**

Mike Banks  
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**Chapter Executive Council Delegate**

Jay Somerville  
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**Chapter Commercial Advisor**

Norberto Colon  
[norberto.colon@motorolasolutions.com](mailto:norberto.colon@motorolasolutions.com)

**Appointed Executive Committee Positions**

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[pbrandt@co.delaware.oh.us](mailto:pbrandt@co.delaware.oh.us)

Adrienne Sheffer  
[ajsheffer@dps.ohio.gov](mailto:ajsheffer@dps.ohio.gov)

**Ohio APCO  
Standing Committees/Chairs**

**Constitution and By Laws Committee**

2nd V.P. Cheryl Pratt, Chair  
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**Training**

Cheryl Pratt, Co-Chair  
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Adrienne Sheffer, Co-Chair

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**Nominating**

Mike Banks, Chair  
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Holly Wayt

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Kelley Davidson

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**Awards & Scholarship**

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**Legislative**

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Andrew Knapp, Co-Chair

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**Additional Designations**

**Joint Conference Committee**

Rose Chambers

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**Secretary/Treasurer Report  
November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

**Welcome & Pledge of Allegiance**

The meeting was called to order at 10:07 am by President Lydia Frey, Steve Shaner led the Pledge of Allegiance with all attendees.

**Chapter Secretary & Treasurer Reports**

Mike Banks advised that the minutes from the previous meeting were posted online and available at the front table. Matt Radigan made the motion to waive the meeting minutes, seconded by Paul Hicks, motion passed with all in favor.

Mike Banks recapped the treasurer’s report, which was posted online and available at the front table. Current APCO Checking Balance: \$13,226.37. APCO Money Market: \$57,127.32; APCO Gold Star & Conference: \$40,618.89. Patrick Brandt made the motion to accept the treasurers report, seconded by Peg Winter, motion passed with all in favor vote.

**Joint Conference Committee Report**

- Rose chambers will be working with NENA to get volunteers for the 2021 NENA National Conference
- Ohio conference will be in 2022, preparations will begin soon.

**Gold Star Committee Report**

- Brian MacMurdo - Gold Star is now a yearly ceremony; nominations are now open, and a mass email has already been sent out. Flyers will available at the front table.

- There are new categories for 2019 Director, trainer of the year, it/rf technologist of the year **(Continued Next Pg.)**



**THANKS!**

Both Ohio APCO and NENA Chapters want to express our gratitude to the following exhibitors for sponsoring the November meeting:

Lunch:

**Motorola Solutions, Inc.**

Exhibitors:

**Applied Digital Solutions, Inc.  
Hexagon Safety and Infrastructure  
Intellitech Corporation  
Michael Baker International  
Sound Communications, Inc.  
Steven Campbell & Associates**

For the February meeting we thank the following:

**Applied Digital Solutions  
BodyBilt  
Intellitech Corporation  
Motorola Solutions, Inc.  
RapidSOS  
Solacom Technologies  
Steven Campbell & Associates**

Lunch:

**Datamark**

Exhibitors:

**The chapters wish to thank our sponsors for their support**

For sponsorship opportunities at future meetings, please contact Norberto Colon.

[Norberto.colon@motorolasolutions.com](mailto:Norberto.colon@motorolasolutions.com)

- Will be held at the Renaissance in Westerville which will be a new venue for the event.
- There will be a full day of training on April 21st with evening social with vendor partners the day/night before the Gold Star program.

### **Ohio 9-1-1 Program Office Update**

- Rob Jackson thanked NENA and APCO for assisting with the September symposium. They are planning on a survey for input for the next September training symposium.
- Rob introduced the entire 911 program office who was in attendance, Sharon, Nick, and Melissa.
- ESInet steering committee is today as part of the meeting. Legislators may not be here as the legislature is in session and they may send staffers instead of them. Commissioner Humphrey from Clermont County is out of town so there may not be a quorum. This meeting will be an information session assuming the quorum is not present.
- Rob will be passing around a sign-up sheet to talk to the committee so that they can logically handle all the speakers. Issues can't be discussed as a committee if a quorum is not present, but comments are welcome.
- RFP process ongoing, hope to have highest ranked vendor identified at the end of the month, negotiation will begin
- Anticipate after the 1st of the year there will be a rewrite of ORC 128, discussions will start after the first of the year to revisit outlying issues and suggested changes.

### **Ohio MARCS**

- Richard Schmahl: Legislators are starting to go out and assist with funding with local efforts to increase coverage of the MARCS network. If anyone is interested

in touring infrastructure, Mr. Schmahl can assist with this.

- Rick is the SPOC for Firstnet issues, towers are being stood up around the state, at least 10 new sites have been put up.
- Ohio MARCS has repurposed radios available from agencies that have purchased new ones. The agreement is that over a 2-3-year period that you'll have enough capital to get rid of those radios in favor of newer radios. Call the MARCS Helpdesk and ask for Jason Kirby to get on the list to receive repurposed radios.
- Greg Brown from Motorola was introduced to provide details about an upgrade scheduled the week of Feb. 10th. They are working in the background doing preliminary work to prep for the upgrade. There may be a period of site-trunking during the event. Information will be disseminated to Rick and Lydia to make the announcement.
- Working with Firstnet to get PTT integration with MARCS, same rates as radio fee. Ohio is one of four states that were selected to test this. Firstnet is picking up a hefty amount of the tab for us. This is not the same as mission critical PTT so it will not be a suitable replacement for front line radios.
- Regarding the Stark County incident, after 13 months of forensics 6 arrests were made. These were the first arrests made for P25 radio unauthorized users in the country. Link layer authentication will be required on all MARCS radios, to eliminate unauthorized activations by July 1, 2025. Any new radios purchased by radio shops will have to have the link layer radio license in them as well.

**(Continued Next Pg.)**

## Ohio TERT Update

- Monte Diegel - We do have a working MOU; the Ohio Fire Chiefs are still looking at it. They may be tweaking it slightly and the TERT committee will review it when it comes back to him.

## Frequency Advisory Committee

- Bob Bill: Annual 700/800mhz RPC was held before the meeting. Talked about activities over the past year, adding sites, adding frequencies (mostly vehicular repeater) Updates to the 700/800 plan are needed, it's still serving us well but there are action items to work on for. One item was mutual aid repeaters that the state and certain counties have on tower sites. Doing a little research on that and getting a good process so when they put an emergency repeater up there is no interference, a process is established, and Bob will spend time researching this.
- Lots of requests from counties/cities looking for vehicular repeater frequencies. Continues to work with counties/cities around the state to coordinate this.

## Executive Council and Legislative

- Jay Somerville recapped the August board meeting in Baltimore. Regarding joint chapters in the APCO family. The Board of Directors brought the question to the Executive Council a proposal to change the bylaws to eliminate joint chapters. They discussed extensively but preliminarily denied that motion. The Executive Council members decided to put workgroup together to work between membership meetings to define the rules for joint chapters and joint ventures between affiliated organizations. Jay Somerville is chairing this workgroup; they have had two meetings so far that have been very productive. The entire discussion centers around what is best around our individual

members with APCO operating as a member driven organization. Jay clarified that even though we meet together Ohio APCO and NENA is not a joint chapter as we maintain separate executive boards. He states that we serve as a good example as how both organizations can work together.

- Jason Kern from Illinois Chapter won the election for 2nd Vice-President of the Ohio Chapter, he was endorsed by Ohio APCO. Mr. Kern's election created a vacancy in the Board of Directors for the North Central Region, Mr. Kern's seat was filled by Mike O'Connor from the Illinois Chapter who will serve with Matt Franke on the Board of Directors representing the North Central Region.
- FCC press release Monday related to improvements proposed for location accuracy requiring 3 meter +/- Z axis reading, APCO believes it's an excellent step forward to get a better location on callers in high-density high-rise bldgs.
  - APCO believes that standard fall short of a detailed actual, dispatchable address.
  - APCO backs Chairman Pai's recommendations, but looking for floor, suite level data that allow us to find a dispatchable location for an emergency caller.
- Call for papers for 2020 APCO conference in Orlando in August 2020. If you have a specialized topic, or something to share with the industry, Mr. Somerville encouraged the membership to submit a paper. The deadline is December 19th, 2019.
- There will be another flash sale in the end of March, or early April, for the 2020 conference with reduced registration rates.
- Significant discussion in board of directors meeting related to safety and security at the Baltimore site. There were security incidents, an assault, a robbery, and other crime issues in/around the Baltimore convention facility. There was a distinct lack of police presence around those areas. There was a problem with the host hotel, about two dozen conference attendees

were removed their hotel rooms to different locations to accommodate the Green Bay Packers staying on the same floor. The conference and the convention center were excellent but there were numerous external problems. APCO has signed a package with Baltimore that includes one more date in 2025. The Board of directors had discussion about getting out of contract, but it is an ironclad contract and the costs to get out of this contract would be tremendous. The Association will work with the convention bureau and Baltimore officials to improve security for the next conference. IT would be cheaper to pay for heightened security and expectations in a supplemental contract than to break the contract. The association will ensure our members are treated right and have the safety and security attendees deserve.

- FCC has new website to submit complaints about interference. A simple form is available online, the link will be posted on the Ohio APCO website.
- The City of Cincinnati will be getting ASAP to PSAP they will be 62nd PSAP in the nation 4th in Ohio to utilize ASAP to PSAP. Jay highly recommends writing in ASAP to PSAP for your CAD project, they will save you a boatload of phone calls and improve the response times to alarms.
- Financial support, looked good, very successful Baltimore Conference, vendor displays were down some, mostly due to the number of mergers in the industry, especially in CAD technology. October 1st membership report, 34947 members currently in APCO, 11% increase in membership from October 2018.

## Legislative

- Thanks to members that gave info to our legislators, it's evident that more of us are engaging our local lawmakers and educating them about the importance of public safety communications.

## Nominating Committee

- Lydia Frey announced the nominating committee for the next election period, Mike Banks, Committee Chair, Holly Wayt, Kelly Davidson, and Sartoru Persons. The committee will accept nominations until 1st chapter meeting in 2020. Mike Banks, committee chair, addressed the quorum regarding the traditional process and a potential bylaw change that would lengthen the terms of chapter officers that have traditionally served two consecutive terms in each seat.

## Constitution and Bylaws Committee

- Cheryl Pratt had nothing to report other than a potential bylaw change in the future regarding chapter officer elections which will be discussed in the future.

## 9-1-1 Operations and Management Committee

- Patrick Brandt developing a welcome package for county coordinators working with the 9-1-1 program office on preparing this. Also working on a retention strategy for 9-1-1 centers, the applicant pool is not as deep as it has been traditionally due to low unemployment.
  - Applications down
  - Hiring pool is shallower
- There was a roundtable discussion to discuss continuing education for 2020 and provided several suggestions to the 911 program office for next year. In 2021 ORC 5507 will be reviewed, the committee will investigate this to give input to the 911 Operations Subcommittee with suggestions for changes.

## Awards and Scholarship

- Paul Hicks, a proposal for criteria to submit for scholarships, awards, and coordination with training committee was submitted to the Executive Committee for review.

## Corporate Advisory Committee

- Norberto Colon, recognized lunch sponsors and exhibitors from today's meeting: Motorola Solutions for sponsoring lunch, and exhibitors: Applied Digital Solutions, Herzing University, Hexagon Safety and Infrastructure, Intellitech Corporation, Michael Baker International, Sound Communications, and Stephen Campbell & Associates.
- Met with the vendors and compiled notes on how best to support Ohio APCO and Ohio NENA to bring forward to our next board meeting with recommendations of how they can best support our chapters.

## Training Committee

- Cheryl Pratt - February meeting will have training see Cheryl or Adrienne with ideas and suggestions for training at this meeting.
- Lydia Frey / OSHP - is offering free Ohio Alerts training on Amber Alert and Blue Alert. Brent Currence is also offering training for Missing Adult and Endangered Children. Any interested agencies can call her, they will bring the training to you. They ask that any agencies interested invite surrounding agencies to attend as well.

## Good of the Order

- Joint meeting dates for 2020 are listed on the website. We will have training at each of the meetings, let the Training Committee know if you have any suggestions for the meeting.
- Lydia Frey attended a LEADS Steering Committee meeting, the committee has voted because of the NICS rules and task force, Ohio will make it mandatory that all warrants will be entered with a PUR of 1 and the agency will dictate their extradition limitation. The ability to choose other PUR's will no longer be available. OSHP is working with LEADS to create a PowerPoint to train on how this will work. LEADS worked with Franklin County, who has thousands of warrants, to move all their warrants to the 1

PUR. There will be some changes required to MNU and SID since some agencies are putting information in those fields that is not compliant with NCIC rules.

- A special presentation was held by Rob Harrington from the Ohio 9-1-1 Association regarding the state of 9-1-1 funding in Ohio. This was followed by a presentation by On-Star on some of their telematics technology branching out to smartphone applications.
- Rose Chambers made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Patrick Brandt, motion carried with all in favor, meeting adjourned at 11:39am.

