



CALLSIGN

Ohio Appreciates Professional Communications Operations

November 2020

Lydia Frey, President (614) 799-4656

lfrey@dps.ohio.gov

Johnna Gonzalez Sells, 1st Vice President

johnnasells@franklincountyohio.gov

Cheryl Pratt, 2nd Vice President

clpratt@dps.ohio.gov

Mike Banks, RPL Secretary/Treasurer (330) 331-5203

mpbanks@gmail.com

Callsign Editor: Dan Lutz (513) 476-6199 dlutz@westchesteroh.org

President's Message By OHIO APCO 1st Vice President Johnna Gonzalez Sells

As long as 2020 has felt, it has also seemed to move along quickly as well. This year has challenged us personally and professionally, and you all have proved to be rock stars. While I am nervous to be taking over as President soon, I am also very excited to be representing such an amazing group of professionals. As we move into the next year there are going to be many lessons that we can take and use to better ourselves and to benefit each other.

APCO Ohio will continue to focus on training as a priority, and further our efforts to provide crisis response for Telecommunicators who are being burdened with the mental and emotional stressors this line of work can sometimes bring. As always, we will look to our membership to guide us for training topics and areas of concern.

I want to thank Lydia for her leadership through this past 2 years, she never fails to return a call or text. A special thanks to the executive board for the continued guidance I will be seeking from them during my term. I am lucky to have such a knowledgeable group of leaders to help me serve to my best ability.

While it may not be ideal to only see and hear each other through technology, we know now just how resilient we all can be. Hopefully soon we will all be together again. I look forward to our next virtual meeting, and all the potential the next two years may bring.

November Chapter Events

Ohio APCO/Ohio NENA Virtual Combined Membership Meeting

Wednesday, November 18th, 2020 10:00 AM

VIA WEBEX

Join by Phone Only: 415-655-0003 Meeting Number 1724087362

<https://cityofdublin.webex.com/webappng/sites/cityofdublin/meeting/download/631cf9efa15f47f0adde43a5eb8ac61b?siteurl=cityofdublin&MTID=mc1db7b009a46f5511d9bb4eb1aab0de9>

APCO – INTERNATIONAL

President

Margie Moulin, RPL, CPE
Director
Emergency Communications of Southern Oregon
Central Point, OR
Margie.Moulin@ecso911.com

Board of Directors- North Central Region

Matthew D. Franke Michael R. O'Connor
Ohio Chapter Executive Director
Butler Co. Communications Lyons Township Area Comm.
Hamilton, OH. La Grange, IL.
mfranke@butlersheriff.org moconnor@itacc.org

Executive Council Representative

Jay Somerville
Northwest Regional Emergency Communications Center
6565 Commerce Pkwy. Dublin, OH. 43017
jsomerville@dublin.oh.us

Ohio APCO Executive Committee

President

Lydia Frey
lfrey@dps.ohio.gov

Immediate Past President

Satoru Persons
Persons.4@dps.ohio-state.edu

Past President

Kelley Davidson
kdavidson@grovecityohio.gov

1st Vice President

Johnna Gonzalez Sells
johnnasells@franklincountyohio.gov

2nd Vice President

Cheryl Pratt
clpratt@dps.ohio.gov

Secretary/Treasurer

Mike Banks
mpbanks@gmail.com

Chapter Executive Council Delegate

Jay Somerville
jsomerville@dublin.oh.us

Chapter Commercial Advisor

Norberto Colon
norberto.colon@motorolasolutions.com

Appointed Executive Committee Positions

Patrick Brandt
pbrandt@co.delaware.oh.us

Adrienne Sheffer

ajsheffer@dps.ohio.gov

**Ohio APCO
Standing Committees/Chairs**

Constitution and By Laws Committee

2nd V.P. Cheryl Pratt, Chair
clpratt@dps.ohio.gov

Training

Cheryl Pratt, Co-Chair
clpratt@dps.ohio.gov

Adrienne Sheffer, Co-Chair

ajsheffer@dps.ohio.gov

Nominating

Mike Banks, Chair
mpbanks@gmail.com

Holly Wayt

Holly.wayt@westerville.org

Kelley Davidson

kdavidson@grovecityohio.gov

Satoru Persons

Persons.4@dps.ohio-state.edu

Awards & Scholarship

Paul Hicks
phicks@springfieldohio.gov

Legislative

Chapter Legislative Liaison, Jay Somerville
jsomerville@dublin.oh.us

Frequency Advisory

Bob Bill, Chair
Bob.bill@das.ohio.gov

911 & Communications Center Mgt. Committee

Patrick Brandt, Co-Chair
pbrandt@co.delaware.oh.us

Andrew Knapp, Co-Chair

andrew.knapp@hamilton-co.org

Additional Designations

Joint Conference Committee

Rose Chambers
Roseanna.chambers@gmail.com

Ohio APCO "Callsign" Editor

Dan Lutz
dlutz@westchesteroh.org

Ohio ESINet PSAP Subcommittee Representative

Jay Somerville
jsomerville@dublin.oh.us

Ohio ESINet Technical Subcommittee Representative

Matt Franke
mfranke@butlersheriff.org

SIEC Representative

Matt Franke
mfranke@butlersheriff.org



**Secretary/Treasurer Report
August 19th, 2020**

Welcome Remarks – Chapter President Lydia Frey

The meeting began at 10:02 a.m. with President Lydia Frey welcoming attendees, the meeting was conducted via Webex.

Chapter Secretary & Treasurer Reports

President Frey asked for a motion to waive reading of minutes, motion by Brian MacMurdo, seconded by Norberto Colon.

Treasurer’s Report posted online, no significant activity since the last meeting other than website hosting fees. As of August 19, the balances for APCO’s accounts are: APCO Checking, \$16,653.65; APCO Money Market, \$62,149.99; Gold Star Conference Checking, \$39,756.73. Jay Somerville motioned to accept the report, seconded by Kelly Davidson.

Joint Conference Committee Report - Rose Chambers

Nothing to report as of yet, Ms. Chambers should be getting sign-up sheets to volunteer for the NENA national conference soon. There will be plenty of help needed for that. No updates for the 2022 state conference at this time.

Gold Star Committee Report – Brian MacMurdo

Due to the uncertainty with COVID and the travel restrictions for agencies and industry partners, after meeting with APCO and NENA boards the Gold Star Committee decided to postpone the event for 2020 and hold a joint event in 2021. The online nomination form for 2020 nominees will be coming in September. The nominating period will be open until the end of January 2021.

Ohio 9-1-1 Program Office Update – Rob Jackson

The grant program is ongoing, those that received the grant should be proceeding with their projects. RFP for NG 911, there has been movement on that. The August ESINet Steering Committee will outline the timeline for the RFP. The discussion for the ORC and legislation surrounding the RFP will start in the September meeting. Hopefully the end result of that discussion will be able to move this to legislation. WGAF reconciliation forms are in except for two counties, will attempt to make contact personally today before bringing this to the ESINet steering committee. Everything is good for PSAP rules compliance, reviews are being completed on time and virtually.

Location testing being completed, just completed testing in Darke County and are going to Clermont and Clinton County tomorrow. Planning on Crawford and Ashtabula Counties also scheduled this year. Actual test calls are made to 9-1-1 using different carriers and NSI phones and the 9-1-1 centers send a responder out to find them. The testing provides a report a map and printout of results to these counties.

Andrew Knapp asked if an adjacent county receives the test call, what should be done? Rob advised the bordering counties should receive notice about the testing. You can identify your PSAP and leave it at that or transfer to the county that’s conducting the testing. Mr. Jackson does conduct testing on the county lines, so they’re interested to see how those calls route.

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Ohio MARCS – Richard Schmahl

SIEC held on July 22 nd through Microsoft Teams, there were at least 100 participants. Next meeting is October 28 th via Microsoft Teams as well.

Northeast Ohio has been inundated with public records requests from an individual asking for MARCS radio IDs for their agency, and also IDs for Cleveland radio IDs. Mr. Schmahl has been in contact with those administrators as well. Mr. Schmahl has discussed with MARCS attorneys and they believe that these requests should be denied as a matter of security. The IDs are associated with licenses for MARCS, the agencies are only receiving those IDs through those subscriptions. They're preparing a letter for this individual stating that MARCS is the agency responsible for fulfilling the request and they will not do that as it will make it too easy to hack into the system or utilize radio IDs to clone radios to impersonate responder radios. If anyone has issues or questions regarding this, reach out to Mr. Schmahl.

Ohio TERT

The TERT committee is still working their way through MOU, it has been approved by the Ohio Fire Chiefs Association and there is some work to do on the TERT committee's end. Once completed the committee will be reaching out to those interested in participating with further information on getting training started. There is still some paperwork needed to complete and further discussion with APCO and NENA needed before moving to the next step.

APCO Executive Council & Committee reports

Frequency Advisory Committee – Bob Bill

Mr. Bill is awaiting the FCC's release of 800Mhz interstitial changes. This will create over 300 channels that public safety agencies would have access to throughout our area. Mr. Bill has been working with Radio Hospital with an interference complaint on UHF frequencies around the city of Fremont after the request was sent to APCO through the state.



THANKS!

With meetings being virtual, there are no sponsors for this quarter. However, we would like to thank all of our sponsors, past, present and future, for the support provided to both Ohio APCO and Ohio NENA over the past several years. As we figure out what the new normal is for all of us, we know that our vendor community will continue to be there to support our efforts.

The chapters wish to thank our sponsors for their support

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

Norberto.colon@motorolasolutions.com

Executive Council Update – Jay Somerville

Mr. Somerville provided updates from the annual meeting held at what would have been the annual conference. Angie Bowen, GA Chapter was elected to 2nd vice-president, Jason Kern, IL Chapter, was affirmed as 1st-vice president. Mr. Somerville believes we have a very strong executive committee and that we'll have a very productive year under president Margie moulin. The Board of Directors had changes in each region, Mike O'Connor, IL Chapter, for the North Central region was elected to his first full term on the board of directors in a contested race against Kim Ostin from the Michigan Chapter. In other regions the following members were elected to the board, East Coast region; Charlene Fisk, Atlantic Chapter, Gulf Coast region; Steve Martini, Tennessee Chapter; West Coast Region; Jennifer Reese, Oregon Chapter.

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The one item of business that was dominant in the discussions during the Executive Council meeting was the Joint Chapter Workgroup Report. Mr. Somerville was selected to chair the workgroup by APCO International President Hilburn, after the workgroup was announced at last year's Executive Council meeting. The workgroup's goal was to discuss whether or not APCO International will allow joint chapters with other associations or permit new joint chapters with other associations. There are several chapters that are joint with their NENA associations. The workgroup consisted of two executive council representatives with each region. The workgroup was asked to take on research, discussion, and make recommendations to the entire executive committee. After several meetings it was decided that joint chapters will be permitted to continue to exist in the association and new joint chapters will be permitted in the association. A couple of states have a desire to move forward and create new joint chapters and will be allowed to do so.

Anyone who wishes to become a new joint chapter or wishes to unbundle a joint chapter must go back through the chapter chartering process that is outlined in the APCO International bylaws and policy manual. That means drafting a revised set of constitution and bylaws for the chapter and addressing the chapter as a new or revised chapter to the Executive Committee. The workgroup also recommended that membership requirements should be redefined for any member in APCO International at the serving as an officer at the chapter level. Especially the key positions such as president, first vice-president, secretary or treasurer. The recommendation is to require these positions to be full members of APCO International. There were a couple of situations where treasurers or other officers of joint chapters were not APCO members at all or were APCO members that didn't have voting rights. Other chapter executive committee members such as member at large or second-vice president can be members at another APCO membership level such as a group, associate, or commercial member. The workgroup recommendation also stipulated that Executive Council members must also be full members of APCO International.

The workgroup also recommended financial best-practice recommendations. Ultimately, they are recommending separate treasurers, separate books for funds that come through membership dues from different organizations. These are recommendations

and not requirements. More info is available at: <http://ohioapco.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/ECJCWFinal.pdf>

A new Health and Wellness Committee has been created under the direction of APCO International President Moullin. The executive committee is looking for as many interested members as possible to consider volunteering for the committee. The mission of the committee is to research, document, and provide tools for ECC personnel to support, improve, maintain and care for the physical, mental and emotional well-being of all personnel working in public safety communications. Volunteers are being accepted through September 3rd.

Government Relations Office Update

The GRO is happy to announce that HR 5918, Network Outage Reporting, is out of the house energy committee and heading to house for full vote. HR 5918 outlines requirements for actionable outage information when there are interruptions to 911 service within a given area or region and makes that actionable outage info available to communications centers in real time. There have been some improvements with direction from the FCC after the east coast outage a few years ago. This bill makes outage information required not just from traditional 9-1-1 providers but from anyone who transports a 9-1-1 call to a PSAP to provide actionable information to share with ECCs and the public if there is a degradation to service in a given area.

2816

APCO is challenging the FCC 6Ghz order. The FCC is proposing to release the 6GHz band to unlicensed spectrum for devices to use. Its APCOs position that the 6GHz band is extremely important to public safety and to open it up to unlicensed users would cause interference that would be detrimental to the ability for public safety entities to operate effectively. Interference is the core issue here and APCO is still working to challenge the 6Ghz order to preserve this spectrum for public safety. More info is on GRO's website, also follow @GRO_APCO on Twitter for the latest update from the Government Relations Office.

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APCO Institute Online Classroom

The APCO Institute is offering online training done in real time. The classes will be standard regular classes handled as a virtual online class with adjunct instructors teaching the classes as if they were there in person. This is not a replacement for the online courses that can be taken in a self-paced format. The first set of classes, PST 1 classes, were rolled out this week. More classes are being added every week. They're planning on adding CTO, Supervisor, and other classes as well. More information is available at: <https://www.apcointl.org/training-and-certification/course-options/virtual-classroom/>

APCO Standards Development

3 standards are under public review and comment period; Key Performance Indicators for ECC Personnel, Best Practices for Social Media, PST Critical Incident Stress Debriefing Programs. Comments are being accepted through September 14th.

Membership Update

Total Membership – 33,552, up 5.8% over 2019

Legislative Update – Jay Somerville

Mr. Somerville is planning on going back to legislature coming up in their fall session. There is a new Speaker of the House, Bob Cupp, which Mr. Somerville is looking forward to working with. He anticipates that there will be calls to action being put out as they begin working on behalf of the membership as they start to make progress down at the state house.

APCO International is putting the final touches on their long-range strategic plan. There have been great discussions on what the priority should be for APCO International as a membership driven organization. There is, without a doubt, a sense of number 1 priority when it comes to the reclassification of public safety communicators into the protective services class nationally. Stay tuned for any calls for action that will come from that.

The ESI Net PSAP operations subcommittee will meet again today at 1pm for further input and public comment for revision to OAC 5701, the PSAP Operating

Rules. The meeting is open to the public and held online. Another meeting is scheduled in September and will ultimately send recommendations to ESI Net steering committee no later than the November ESI Net meeting. Input can be submitted into writing to Mr. Somerville as well.

ESI Net Update – Jay Somerville

Mr. Somerville asked Rob Jackson if any movement has been made on naming a vendor for the RFP. Mr. Jackson stated that Comtech has been awarded the RFP contingent on legislation and funding. No public announcement until the legislation is completed.

Constitution and Bylaws – Cheryl Pratt

No updates at this time.

9-1-1 Operations & Mgt Committee – Patrick Brandt, Andrew Knapp

Mr. Brandt advised no update at this time.

Commercial Advisory – Norberto Colon

This is a challenging time for all of us. He is monitoring the vendor committee to see how the weather this crisis. Update emails are getting bounced as his contacts no longer work for those companies. He's confident the vendors will come back as the vendors recover.

Training Committee - Adrienne Sheffer

No updates.

Good of the Order and Announcements

President Frey informed attendees that the 2021 meeting dates have been selected, she is waiting for confirmation from the DAS to make sure the rooms are available. They will be posted on the website once confirmed.

Motion to adjourn from Patrick Brandt, seconded by Matt Hannenkrath. The meeting adjourned at 10:44am.

