



Ohio Chapter Meeting Minutes

August 25, 2021

Welcome Remarks – Chapter President Johnna Sells

The chapter meeting began at 10:00am, the meeting was hosted online via Zoom, with limited in person attendance by the Executive Committee at the Ohio DAS Building due to the ongoing pandemic. President Johnna Sells welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Attending in person: Johnna Sells, Erica Walsh, Bob Bill, Thomas Page, Michael Banks, Cody Post, Cheryl Pratt, Adrienne Scheffer.

Ohio Senate Bill 4 Update and Walkthrough

President Sells introduced Hannah Detwiler and Eric Sells from Franklin County Recorder's office to discuss Senate Bill 4 and its impact on public safety telecommunicators:

- Ohio Revised Code allows for certain public sector workers to have their address redacted from certain public records for added security.
- Starting 9/7/21, public safety telecommunicators can have their addresses redacted from online records. This only applies to online records.
- In order to have your address redacted you will have to go to the AG's website under Legal->Sunshine Laws Heading a PDF form is available. Link: <https://www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/Legal/Sunshine-Laws/Redaction-Request-Forms>
- The form will have to be completed every time you move to a new address or any time a new document is filed with the county recorder's office. Fill out the same form when you have a new residence. There is a separate form for the auditor, contact your county auditor for that form.
- Fraud alert system - can file a separate alert if someone files a deed or document in your name.
- How long will this take once the document is filed? Franklin County is 3-5 business days, the website may not be updated until the next weekend. Each county will handle a little differently. Encouraged reaching out to your county recorder's office for specifics.

Chapter Secretary & Treasurer Reports – Michael Banks

Mr. Banks advised the membership that meeting minutes were posted to the Ohio APCO website and circulated to the membership via the newsletter last week. Cody Post made the motion to waive the reading of the minutes, seconded by Bob Bill. Motion passed with all in favor vote.

Mr. Banks read the treasurers report, current balances \$14,046.29 Ohio APCO Checking, \$72,183.79 APCO Money Market, \$39,698.03 Gold Star/Checking. Bob Bill made the motion to accept the report, seconded by Erica Walsh, motion passed with all in favor vote.

Conference Committee – Brian MacMurdo

Reminder the conference is April 10th-13th at the Kalahari in Sandusky. Rooms are \$119/night (locked in a few years ago). Mr. MacMurdo applauded all the members from both chapters that did such a great job representing Ohio by organizing and volunteering the NENA national conference in Columbus.



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President Sells: we need presenters, ideas, training topics for the April joint conference. Make sure to get these over to the joint conference committee. We have technical, supervisory, and a frontline learning tracks at the conference if you know of anyone or any topics that could be presented.

Gold Star Committee Report – Brian MacMurdo

Mr. MacMurdo thanked everyone for their understanding for last year's cancelation due to the pandemic. He appreciated the 911 Program Office in partnering with the symposium to be held the day before the Gold Star banquet on 9/23/21.

- This event will recognize 2019 nominees and winners. The 2020/2021 nominees and winners will be recognized in April 2022.
- The evening of the 23rd, after the symposium, will be a Gold Star evening social with some industry partners present.
- A continental breakfast will be provided the morning of the 24th and an opportunity to visit/network with the industry partners in the hall.
- 2020 winners will be announced in October. 2021 nominations will begin in September 2021.
- Links for registration, hotels, etc. will be coming out soon.
- Tracy Eldridge will be the Gold Star keynote speaker.

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

Mr. Jackson states they are moving forward to getting remainder of the WGAF forms in, we're way past the deadline, several counties are still outstanding.

Federal E911 Grant: calls are ongoing to make sure everyone meets the deadline by the end of the year.

Legislation: LSC version of ORC 128 changes are being reviewed internally - expect it to be reintroduced when the legislature returns from summer break

The next ESINet Steering Committee Meeting will be 8/31/21 at 11am in person at the Riffe Center 19th floor, there will be a call-in option as well.

Ohio MARCS – Richard Schmahl

Mr. Schmahl advised there has been another case of unauthorized radio on MARCS. It started several months ago in Brunswick Hills in Medina County. The case was adjudicated, the defendants were found not guilty. The expert witness for the defense convinced the jury that, "if it was in the airwaves, it was free to use". The fact that this usage interfered with public safety operations did not make an impact with the jury. This has made national news and has set a dangerous precedent and has made a stronger case for device authentication in Ohio. If anyone has issues with strange transmissions or needs to restart the radio to get it to work, the radio could be compromised. The radio ID may be tied up by a criminal actor. Contact MARCS office if you have concerns.

The Ohio Prosecutors association has drafted language to make it easier to prosecute these cases after the successful prosecution in Stark County. The main point is to let MARCS know ASAP if you identified unusual radio traffic or behaviors.

Ohio TERT Update – Mory Fuhrmann



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Mr. Fuhrman, Cody Post, Andy Collins, Nick DiCicco, and Adam Moledor met at the NENA conference last month. The group laid out drafts for training requirements for a telecommunicator to have when they deploy intrastate/interstate. Minimum training as an agency trained telecommunicator in addition to IS-144 and basic CJIS clearances. They believe intrastate activations a team of 4 personnel would be ideal. Interstate would be more like 14 depending on size of event.

With the groundwork laid, trying to be methodical with standards establishment and ensuring legal indemnification is addressed for involved agencies. Discussed what to include in requesting agency documentation, including lists and cheat sheets specific to local operations.

Next meeting was supposed to be today but postponed due to the pandemic. MOU with OFCA is still under discussion and has not been ratified yet. Priority will be set on establishing minimum training standards before TERT is utilized in the fire response plan. Work is continuing to establish an online presence with the aid of Mr. DiCicco and Mr. Post.

President Sells asked what type of situations do you see as potential TERT activations? Mr. Fuhrman responded that it depends on agency requesting activation, events like derechos, superstorms, large scale/tragic public safety event. He feels like this will be a good fit for smaller centers that have less available staff to fill the gaps when they encounter an event that effects their ability to staff their center. It's all up to the requesting agency to determine that an event/challenge they're facing requires assistance from TERT.

APCO & NENA Executive Council & Committee Reports

Frequency Advisory Committee – Bob Bill

Mr. Bill would like to remind members from various municipalities with FCC licenses to check their licenses for expiration dates and that the licenses have current/accurate contact information for the license holder. He has a lot of occurrences where a person retires, or changes positions and the license renewal notifications don't make it to the agency. There could be costs involved for frequency coordination or licensing prep if the license expires without knowledge of the agency. If you need help navigating the FCC ULS, contact Bob - 614-995-0063 and he can help walk you through things over the phone and get you pointed in the right direction.

Continuing to monitor FCC developments with 4.9/6ghz spectrum. Most recently NPSTIC sent a letter to FCC with comments about 4.9 spectrum. NPSTIC had reached out on previous orders and gave ideas on what they'd like to see, and they felt like those comments were ignored. When the FCC issued the recent stay of the 4.9 order IPSTIC thought it would be good to refresh the FCC with those comments on August 13th. There were good suggestions about increasing use spectrum and better frequency coordination.

Recently, through the SIEC asked Mr. Bill to get the committee together to work on BDA policy and a form for notifying and registering BDAs and getting permission. This was drafted at the state level, and he wanted to make that available to anyone that would like that. Rick has sent it to the SIEC committee contacts, but it has not been voted on yet. They realized a lot of BDAs were being installed and sometimes vendors weren't aware of or following the rules. There are two very important rules, for anyone to install BDA; they must have permission of the system owner or licensee of those frequencies. Any class B (wide-band BDA) must be registered with the FCC. By working on this policy and the re-transmission auth form helped get the word out to folk Anyone interested in getting this form reach out to Mr. Bill and he will get it to you.



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Executive Council – Jay Somerville

Mr. Somerville provided an overview of the APCO International Conference in San Antonio and activities of the Executive Council and annual business meeting:

- Only about 250 attendees off of the 2019 conference registrations.
- % of pickup of registrations was down to 88%, they believe some people were recalled after registering for the conference.
- Exhibit hall extremely well attended, only a couple of exhibitor no-shows.
- On August 13th, the Executive Council held their annual in-person meeting. It was a productive day, one of the issues asked to attack by Pres. Moulin was Compassionate Care, where it should reside in the Association, and come up with a framework for HQ and chapters to follow to undertake this initiative.
- Compassionate care encompasses reaching out and acknowledging communications centers that endured a crisis, are in crisis, or had a large culture changing event within their communications center. Maureen Will and a few volunteers started this effort and quickly became overwhelming as centers handled an increasing number of critical events.
- It was motioned and approved to seat compassionate care at the chapter level. Nobody knows their state or area better than their chapter officers. Executive Council has recommended every chapter convene a compassionate care committee and that committee handles incidents within their chapter boundaries until such time that the event becomes overwhelming that they need to reach out to APCO HQ or other chapters for assistance. The Executive Council member will be the official point of contact between the chapter compassionate care committee and APCO HQ. The Ohio Chapter executive committee is now considering formation of this committee.

- Discussions were held on the future of the executive council, what they oversee, direct, and handle as a group. The EC member and council itself is the conduit between APCO HQ and the chapter/membership on matters involving the business operations of APCO international. There is a Member and Chapter Services Committee at the International level that interacts with the chapters to keep them informed on APCO priorities, APCO committee work, and APCO business. The actual conducting of business and giving the chapter's input and say on how business is conducted is done through the Executive Council member and the Executive Council itself.

- There were no major recommendations for changing on how the Executive Committee will convene and interact with APCO HQ. They will keep it on the front burner for discussion at the next Executive Council meeting in Anaheim. There will be discussion on policy manual changes and how the executive council interacts with the Board of Directors and Executive Committee. President Sells will be looking for an Executive Council member to replace Mr. Somerville. The requirement for Mr. Somerville's appointment on the APCO board of directors is that the members serve no role with the local chapter.

- Quorum resolution was put before the membership. This was a housekeeping item from a couple of years ago. It is the final step of implementing recommendations from the Joint Chapter Task Force that reviewed how joint chapters exist within the association. This resolution requires all Secretary/Treasurers must be full voting APCO members. This was a bylaws change that was voted by at least of 2/3 majority of the APCO membership present at the business meeting and took effect at the closing of the conference in San Antonio.

- Business financial report, APCO had a potentially devastating \$2 million deficit when we started the year after not having a conference in Orlando. Through cost saving members, not filling certain positions, curtailing travel/training for staff, having staff working from home for 118 days, Director Poarch stated we ended the FY with \$500k in the black. Initial revenue from San Antonio looks good. Director Poarch was able to say the Association is not just strong, is extremely strong, financially and membership wise, we broke 36k members at the start of the conference.



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Training Committee – Lydia Frey

Ms. Frey is looking forward to scheduling for 2022 in conjunction with the quarterly meetings and the joint chapter conference. The committee is looking for submissions for classes at the conference, she has already received a couple of submissions. Please contact Adrienne Sheffer, Lydia, or the executive committee members with any ideas or submissions for training at the conference/quarterly meetings.

Good of the Order

President Sells discussed her plan regarding state level reclassification of telecommunicators. As of right now, no official definition of first responder in the State of Ohio in legislation. However, in the last 6 months have seen reference to first responders by the Governor and state legislators. Nationally, our job classification has not changed yet, our job title did change to public safety telecommunicator, but the classification is still clerical.

President Sells feels it's important to do things in the right order and at the right time - looking forward to outcome of legislative re-districting prior to reaching out to our lawmakers. In the meantime, preparation is needed in researching who your representatives are, there will be templates for members to use petitioners to reach out to local and state lawmakers when the time is right to advocate for the legislative priorities of the membership.

President Sells plans on reaching out to our affiliated organizations representing police and fire officers and leadership to develop a unified front on issues that are important to us and them.

President Sells second item is how get more involvement from the whole chapter membership. A by-laws change will be initiated for the compassionate care committee. Anyone interested in chairing or participating should reach out to the Executive Committee.

President Sells would like to host future quarterly meetings regionally around the state. A poll was sent to the membership in the meeting, 54% respond yes to move around, 46% responded they wished to keep it in Central Ohio.

President Sells reviewed the current standing committees with the membership, discussing their roles and membership. She encouraged all members that are interested in serving on these committees to reach out to her or the committee chairs. Are there workgroups or committees that are missing? Is there a need, problem, or issue that the membership could address as a small workgroup or committee? President Sells introduced all the Executive Committee members to the attendees and encouraged the membership to reach out to them if you'd like information or direction on matters important to the membership.

Adjournment

Bob Bill made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Erica Walsh. The meeting adjourned at 11:16am.