



CALLSIGN

Ohio Appreciates Professional Communications Operations

February 2022

Johnna Gonzalez Sells, President
johnnasells@franklincountyohio.gov
Cheryl Pratt, 1st Vice President
clpratt@dps.ohio.gov

Cody Post, 2nd Vice President
cpost@redcenter.us
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 President Johnna Gonzalez Sells

I cannot believe how fast this year is already moving! While we are not able to be together just yet, we will all be together at State Conference in just a few short months. The Conference Committee has worked so hard to prepare some amazing training tracks for Front Line Telecommunicators, Managers and Technology Staff. As a reminder, we will also have the Gold Star Awards at the end of the Conference. We would love to have everyone join us April 10th -13th at Kalahari. I am also excited to say we have gotten our Compassionate Care Committee up and running. I am proud of the work they have been putting in and I am looking forward to seeing the ideas they have come to life.

Additionally I want to mention that I will be pairing up with incoming Ohio NENA President Steve Shaner to attend the 911 Goes to Washington Event to advocate for the reclassification of 911 Telecommunicators and discuss the importance of funding NG911. I am looking forward to sharing all of the good things Telecommunicators do each and every shift with our Government Officials.

I look forward to seeing you all soon! If you cannot attend the entire Conference, if you can make a single day, the 5k or the Gold Star Awards we would be happy to have you all.

-President Johnna Sells

February Chapter Events

Ohio APCO/Ohio NENA Virtual Combined Membership Meeting

Wednesday, February 23rd 10:00 AM

VIA WEBEX

Go to ohioapco.org for further information

APCO – INTERNATIONAL

President

Jason E. Kern, CPE
Executive Director
Southeast Emergency Communications
Crystal Lake, IL.
jkern@seecom911.org

Board of Directors- North Central Region

Jay Somerville Ohio Chapter Northwest Regional Comm. Dublin, OH. jsomerville@dublin.oh.us	Michael R. O'Connor Executive Director Lyons Township Area Comm. La Grange, IL. moconnor@itacc.org
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Past President
Matt Franke
Butler County Communications
Hamilton, OH.
mfranke@butlersheriff.org

Executive Council Representative

Matthew Franke
mfranke@butlersheriff.org

Ohio APCO Executive Committee

President

Johnna Gonzalez Sells
johnnasells@franklincountyohio.gov

Immediate Past President

Lydia Frey
lfrey@co.marion.oh.us

Past President

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

1st Vice President

Cheryl Pratt
clpratt@dps.ohio.gov

2nd Vice President

Cody Post
cpost@redcenter.us

Secretary/Treasurer

Mike Banks
mpbanks@gmail.com

Chapter Executive Council Delegate

Matthew Franke
mfranke@butlersheriff.org

Chapter Commercial Advisor

Norberto Colon
norberto.colon@motorolasolutions.com

Appointed Executive Committee Positions

Erica Walsh
ewalsh@columbusairports.com

Thomas Page
Page.245@osu.edu

Ohio APCO Standing Committees/Chairs

Constitution and By Laws Committee

2nd V.P. Cody Post, Chair
cpost@redcenter.us

Training

Lydia Frey, Chair
lfrey@co.marion.oh.us

Nominating

Kelley Davidson, Chair
kdauidson@grovecityohio.gov

Mike Banks
mpbanks@gmail.com

Holly Wayt
Holly.wayt@westerville.org

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

Awards & Scholarship

Adrienne Sheffer
ajsheffer@dps.ohio.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

TERT

Cody Post
cpost@redcenter.us

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
November 16th, 2021**

Welcome Remarks – Chapter President Johnna Sells

The meeting started at 10:00am with President Johnna Sells and Ohio NENA President Nancy Kolcan. Today’s meeting was held with the executive committee in person with the membership attending virtually via Zoom due to the ongoing pandemic. The plan is to continue a virtual platform but resuming in-person meetings regionally next year.

Chapter Secretary & Treasurer Reports – Mike Banks

Mike Banks advised attendees that the meeting minutes from August 2021 were published online and published with the chapter newsletter. Bob Bill made a motion to waive reading the minutes, seconded by Erica Walsh, motion passed with all in favor vote.

Mike Banks read the chapter secretary's report which is also available online. APCO Checking balance \$14,125.67, APCO Money Market \$72,192.89, Gold Star/Conference \$22,250.52. Erica Walsh made the motion to accept to the Treasurers' Report, seconded by Kelley Davidson, motion passed with all in favor vote.

Joint Conference Committee Report - Rose Chambers

April 10th - 13th at Kalahari, the rooming information is on the NENA website, rooms are open and available. Lydia has all class slots filled except for 6 technical, 1 managerial, 1 dispatcher slot. Adam Timm will be the Sunday Supersession speaker. Conference call in the next two weeks for the conference committee.

Gold Star Committee Report – Brian MacMurdo

Brian MacMurdo thanked everyone, from APCO, NENA, and the 9-1-1 Program Office for their help for this year's banquet which recognized the 2019 Gold Star winners. Brian also wished to thank the industry partners that provided support and were present both days and appreciated the chance to



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. Needless to say, it's been a crazy 12 months for us all. The good news is that we are seeing a light at the end of the tunnel soon, and 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

meet with them. Thanks to Steve Shaner for program book, Mike Banks for financial support, Mory Fuhrman for the awards presentation. 2020/2021 Gold Star winners will be recognized in April. Also, BIG THANK YOU TO MATT FRANKE FOR FILLING IN AS MC.

The 2020 award winners are:

- Supervisor of the Year: Lisa Davet, CVD
- Solid Gold: Stephanie Snyder, Eastlake PD
- Double Gold Team: Chagrin Valley Dispatch - Brecksville
- Trainer of the Year; Jordan Feltoon, CVD
- Tech Leadership of the Year; CVD

2021 nominations will be going out via social media, email, etc. by next week. (Continued Next Pg.)

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

WGAF Reconciliation forms are almost done, there are two counties still outstanding. Support/compliance down to the last couple of counties. For the next PSAP rules compliance cycle, Sharon McMurray will be back out in the field, more info to follow.

HB 445 2nd hearing at Transportation Committee, Katrina Flory State CIO, and Rob Jackson were there to testify and answer questions. Supporting testimony from Ohio Farm Bureau, AHA, OML. 3rd hearing will be two weeks after Thanksgiving. There will be opponent testimony at the next meeting, likely due to concerns about the fees not being high enough. Overall, there is nobody against the transition to NG-911.

The ESINet Steering Committee meeting is scheduled 12/13/21 at noon, in person, at the Riffe Center. They will try to use MS teams, but it may be a call-in, all are welcome to attend.

The federal PSAP Grant ongoing, there have been some delays due to vendors and personnel getting things down by the deadline of 12/31, that's the only way to guarantee their reimbursement. The program office is doing the best they can to use all the money, other project cancellations have led to extra funds being available. There have been a few applications for the 3rd round of grant funding that Mr. Jackson thinks can get done quickly and won't be a problem to push through.

Ohio MARCS – Richard Schmahl

Spring 2021 there was an SIECP plan update which created a couple of the subcommittees, grants, and cyber-security. Richard is looking for volunteers for both committees.

Radio authentication, 3500 radios are on MARCS with it installed and running, no issues so far. Motorola and Kenwood offered statewide pricing with a significant discount.

Futurecomm in vehicle repeaters (DBR-LX), if they utilize p25 data features, it will require authentication as well. There's only a small number of repeaters on the system with this feature. Further details can be found in SIEC minutes which is

posted on the SIEC website, or you can reach out to Tom Brethauer at MARCS>

Next SIEC meeting January 26, hopefully in person, but it may be hybrid.

There will be a Region 3 meeting in Preble County Thursday December 2nd at the EMA.

Ohio TERT Update – Mory Fuhrmann

The website has been officially established, with thanks to Nick DiCicco, <https://ohiotert.org>, active and ready to receive applications. The remainder of the site is under construction. Applications will ask for name, agency, when/where NIMS, IS-430, and other relevant certifications were obtained. A letter of recommendation from your agency is required. One application has been received thus far but the site hasn't been well publicized just yet.

A paper version of the application will also be on the website if anyone wants to download and complete it the old-fashioned way. The rest of the website will be stood up with links and other info for people interested in being part of the TERT team.

Mr. Fuhrman wished to thank Cody Post, Amy Collins, Nick DiCicco, and Adam Moledor for their help putting things together.

Before the end of the year, plans are to re-approach OFCA to get information entered into the SIMS system with information about deployable dispatchers and use it to deploy personnel.

The committee has decided to divide the state into four different regions, the map is up on the website, the committee is seeking coordinators for each of those regions to put boots on the ground in those areas of the state. Anyone interested please reach out to Mr. Fuhrman or Cody Post.

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APCO Executive Council & Committee Reports

- Frequency Advisory Committee – Bob Bill

APCO hosting webinar this afternoon regarding the FCC NPRM for 4.9Ghz licensing requirements when the freeze is released on the applications. Mr. Bill will be sitting in on that call for sure.

Bob Bill's contact for any FCC questions or frequency questions - bob.bill@das.ohio.gov 614-995-0063

Last meeting, Mr. Bill mentioned the BDA registration forms, those have been approved at the SIEC meeting and are posted on the SIEC website to be downloaded and used. They've been doing well at registering previously installed BDAs and reaching out to vendors to register new. This will help in case there are interference problems down the road.

- Executive Council and Legislative – Matt Franke

Executive Council - Mr. Franke was recently officially put back into the group, no updates yet. This is a slow time of the year post-conference; things start getting moving in January.

Legislative - Mr. Franke has questions about HB 445, APCO will submit written testimony, they were waiting for DAS comments and did not want to contradict their testimony. There were questions that came up regarding the impact on local governments, which APCO will address in their written testimony, including questions on the cost and time of things like EMD training, and the impact the legislation will have on local governments. If you have thoughts or have been watching testimony and think there are things that should be addressed, please reach out to Mr. Franke.

President Sells: please review this legislation, info is available at:

<https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-summary?id=GA134-HB-445>

- Constitution & Bylaws – Cody Post

Mr. Post is working on compassionate care committee, assembling that and how to incorporate that into the constitution and bylaws.

President Sells: establishing the Compassionate Care committee as a special committee and has set some goals and objectives as recommended by APCO International. This committee will pair with the health and wellness initiative that is already established, the goal of the Compassionate Care committee is to research, document and provide tools for ECC personnel to support, improve, maintain, and care for the physical, mental, and emotional wellbeing of all personnel working in public safety communications. Objectives, monitoring statewide incidents or events that may require additional outreach or assistance, natural disasters, traumatic incidents, line of duty deaths, multiagency involved events and relaying this information to the Ohio APCO Executive Committee.

Upon request of the chair and concurrence of the Chapter Executive Committee the Executive Council representative can reach out to APCO Board of Directors for assistance from other chapters or APCO International for additional support. The committee will create and disseminate care packages letters and outreach items to distribute to ECCs that experience critical incidents, working with health and wellness partners and professionals to help telecommunicators manage trauma and stress that has been endured on the job. This will help aid the healing and return to whole duty after experiencing a traumatic event. The framework is already there for a peer support team, we want to make sure the information is widely available and easy to find for the members by reaching out to Ohio Assist and Bridge to make sure our committee members are easy to reach and regionally located. Two people have come forward interested in being co-chairs, but we need more people to participate in the committee.

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President Sells will work with Mr. Post on getting information for the by-laws change to create this as a standing committee.

- Commercial Advisory – Norberto Colon

On behalf of the vendor committee hoping everyone has a happy and safe holiday. Vendors are excited to meet in person again next year. Focus will be on supporting the conference committee for the upcoming conference and filling the vendor space in for the 1st quarter chapter meeting. Norberto will reach out to the vendors to fill the technical education tracks at the conference.

- Training Committee – Adrienne Shaffer

Still looking for some classes for the conference in the technical track, if there are any ideas or suggestions, please let them know. Also looking for topics for training before/after the chapter meetings next year.

- Stark County Amber Alert- Cody Post

On November 12th, 2021, the RED Center in Stark County issued an Amber alert on behalf of Jackson Township Police after a 5-year-old was reported missing and Amber alert criteria was determined to be met.

Once the AMBER broadcast went out their center was inundated with calls, 2 officers and 2 secretaries were answering initial calls and then they rolled to their dispatch center with constant calls for 6.5 hours.

The missing child safely recovered outside of Bloomington, IL, where the van the suspect/victim were in, was phoned in as a suspicious vehicle.

The center had a paper form that they quickly transitioned into a Google Spreadsheet that the detectives had access to for updates to be instantly viewed by everyone involved. Using a collaborative document platform such as Gsuite, Airtable, OneDrive proved highly useful. Mr. Post gave a shoutout to the staff for a marvelous job, working with this issue for 27

hours. The dispatcher who took the call from the parents was working the same jurisdiction when the child was recovered.

- 911 Crisis Line TV Show- Lisa Davet, Nick DiCicco, Chagrin Valley Dispatch

This all started as a phone call that she got transferred to her in late 2019. They didn't think this was a real thing, that someone would be calling them about this idea. Nick DiCicco talked to the woman who works with executive producers, who also works with Dick Wolfe. They came out and filmed for 24 hours to get teaser/promo film to generate interest. That's when Oxygen picked the show up. Once the show was picked up, they filmed from March to the end of May. They had Tuesdays off from filming. There were dispatchers that didn't want to participate, nobody was forced to do anything they didn't want to. About 80% of the staff signed releases. They never expected it to take off like it did, they are getting lots of calls about the "bedazzled" headsets. Ms. Davet thanked everyone for their support and interest, and for the APCO and NENA board members that came to the Premiere Party. The CVD staff had built a great rapport with the crew, they were easy to work with and responsive to requests of the center managers.

9-1-1 Crisis Line airs every Saturday at 9:00pm, with plenty of re-runs throughout the week on the Oxygen Network.

Good of the Order and Announcements

The 2022 meeting dates pending, an update will be sent ASAP.

Motion to adjourn Bob Bill, seconded by Mindy Lane the meeting adjourned at 11:00am.





Winners for the 2020 Gold Star Award categories are below:

Supervisor of the Year

Lisa Davet – CVD

Solid Gold Telecommunicator of the Year

Stephanie Snyder – East Lake PD

Double Gold – Team of the year –

Chagrin Valley Dispatch – Brecksville

Trainer of the Year

Jordan Feltoon – Chagrin Valley Dispatch

Tech Leadership Award –

Chagrin Valley Dispatch – Daniel Grein

Winners and all nominees will be recognized at the Gold Star Awards luncheon on April 13, the last day of the Ohio APCO/NENA Conference.

The 2021 Gold Star Awards Nominations deadline has been extended to February 27, 2022. You can nominate by following the link below.

<https://airtable.com/shrpEkEJ4Fs886eVI?fbclid=IwAR2j98ChNTSnHo843do2YZ3pMWXimNsHGFmRhIzzJVubhsOF2FTlgIWpMgE>

If you have any questions, contact Brian MacMurdo at brian.macmurdo@gmail.com.