



CALLSIGN

Ohio Appreciates Professional Communications Operations

February 2023

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

Cody Post, 2nd Vice President
cpost@akronohio.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 Cheryl Pratt

Happy 2023! I can't believe it's already February and our first Ohio APCO/NENA meeting of 2023 is right around the corner on February 15th! The meeting will be held at 4200 Surface Road, Columbus, Ohio 43228. The joint meeting is from 10A-11A and lunch from City Barbeque will be provided from 11A-12P. In the afternoon, the training committee has two trainings scheduled. The first from 12P-1P is 911/988 training and the second from 1P-2P is OHLEG training.

This May, I am looking forward to serving you as the President of your Ohio APCO chapter. My hope is that we can work together to grow this Chapter and provide resources to the public safety telecommunicators of Ohio. I have a true passion for taking care of my fellow dispatchers, both within my agency (OSP) and the many partner agencies. You never know when a kind word can change someone's day.

I want to thank Johnna for her leadership these past two years. With the many ups and downs of the pandemic, she led us through all the challenges that were presented with grace and style.

I look forward to seeing each of you at the meeting!

Vice-President Cheryl Pratt

February Chapter Events Ohio APCO/Ohio NENA Combined Membership Meeting

Wednesday February 15th, 2023
4200 Surface Rd., Columbus, OH. 43228
1000-1100 Ohio APCO/NENA Joint Meeting
1100-1200 Lunch/Networking
1200-1300 Training: 911/988
1300 OHLEG Training
Register at www.ohioapco.org

APCO – INTERNATIONAL

President

Angela R Batey, RPL, CPE
Director, Office of Professional Standards
Georgia Public Safety Training Center
Forsyth, GA
abatey@gpstc.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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Executive Council Representative

Matthew Franke
Butler County Communications
Hamilton, Ohio
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
kdavidson@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, Co-Chair
cpost@akronoh.gov

Mory Fuhrmann, Co-Chair
fuhrmannm@mifflin-oh.gov

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, 2022**

Welcome Remarks – Steve Shaner & Johnna Gonzalez Sells

President Sells and Ohio NENA President Shaner welcomed attendees to the meeting. Mike Banks led the attendees in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. President Sells introduced Capt. Raines from the Ohio State Highway Patrol representing the Ohio Amber Alert Steering Committee and wanted to promote Ohio Alerts training. This training covers latest statistics and trends from NCMEC, a review of recent alerts, and a review of the criteria for an Amber alert activation and other alerts such as blue alerts, missing/endangered children and adults. The difference in the alert types and how to enter and activate these alerts. He encouraged all attendees to attend the training, it’s not just for communications specialists, it’s also great training for law enforcement officers as they are the ones that may possess the details required to validate an activation meets the criteria. If you’re never sure if an incident meets the alert criteria the OSHP Hub can help make that determination and provide guidance on receiving the appropriate information required for an alert.

The Ohio Amber alert steering committee has discussed adding new committee members from the Department of Disabilities and a representative from Ohio APCO. Capt. Raines will be discussing these changes with the Ohio Director of Public Safety soon.

Joint Conference Committee Report - Rose Chambers

Following survey feedback and discussion, there will be a mini-conference with Gold Star luncheon in 2023 and a full conference in 2024. The 2023 mini-conference will be held in the Columbus area and will be a 2-day event; 1 full day of classes followed by a vendor show and Gold Star luncheon on the next day. Looking at the Doubletree Hotel

on Hutchinson, one of our original conference hotels to hold this event. They've provided a potential quote which NENA/APCO boards are happy with. An agreement was just signed for the 2024 conference at Kalahari in September 2024. We want to get away from telecommunicator week so our members can be with their staff during telecommunicator week. The conference will be held 9/8/24-9/12/24 at Kalahari. 9/5/23 - 9/7/23 are the tentative dates for the 2023 event. Please make sure that your attendees visit the vendors, they help support the conference. The committee is working on ideas to provide incentives to interact with vendors such as lunch with the vendors, cocktail hours, etc. Several members have indicated interest in serving on the conference committee, their emails have been gathered and will hear from Rose in January.




THANKS!

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

WSI Technologies
<https://wsi-tech.com/>

The lunch sponsor for the February meeting will be:

No Sponsor At This Time

The chapters wish to thank our sponsors for their support

For sponsorship opportunities at future meetings, please contact Norberto Colon.
Norberto.colon@motorolasolutions.com

Gold Star Committee Report – Brian MacMurdo

Nominations are now open and remain open until January 31st. Links for the nominations are on the APCO and NENA website and the Gold Star Facebook page. The luncheon will be in September. Reach out to Brian if you have any questions.

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

Sharon McMurray provided a support and compliance update, 82 counties have had reviews requested, received 80, reviewed 79, 76 has received their letters. 3 are working on documentation.

Rob Jackson, 988/9-1-1 interoperability workshops were held around the state where all 9-1-1/988 coordinators for the region were able to meet and greet and discuss goals towards interoperability between the centers. Those that could not attend were given contact information and were encouraged to reach out to start coordinating with these centers to produce a plan to work together and establish interoperability to seamlessly handle 988 calls that have to escalate to 9-1-1 responses and 9-1-1 calls that would be better served with referrals to 988.

HB 445 - it's looking less likely that HB 445 will pass in lame duck. It may pass in the house but not likely in the senate. There is activity in the house to provide early funding to get the process started. There is a coalition put together by the CCAO that sent a letter to all the legislators, Rob thanked Ohio APCO for also signing on to the letter along with OFCA, Red Cross, and other stakeholders in support of moving legislation forward to support NG911.

National APCO Update – Jay Somerville

All is well at APCO HQ post both hurricanes the building intact and no damage. Board of directors meeting held in late October. Director Poarch provided financial update and the state of association is very strong. The board last June authorized the APCO director to enter negotiations to buy property on Williamson Blvd next to existing HQ with the intent to expand headquarters which the staff has completely outgrown. The board of directors broke ground for a 15k sq. ft. expansion of the

building which is being paid for with existing cash and no debt. Also, it has been a record year with the Anaheim conference, record number of attendees, vendors, turned a profit on the conference despite it being one of the most expensive cities to hold a conference. Membership is at 136,000 members, the board of directors is focused in the coming year on 3 critical areas: First, the ongoing fight to get Department of Labor to reclassify telecommunicators as part of the protected services. The latest effort is to attach it to the defense spending authorization bill which is currently pending in the House of Representatives. If we can get it attached to that bill, we no longer have to worry about passing a standalone bill through both chambers. Second, NG911 funding at the federal level. A bill has been passed through House authorizing \$10 billion in funding for NG 911, simply waiting on a companion bill to be introduced in the House. Money is being raised from spectrum sales from the FCC.

Mr. Somerville encouraged attendees to go to the APCO website to view the NG911 Definitive Guide document. It's a downloadable document that has sections to it that caters the content to an understandable format for local politicians and other community stakeholders. Mr. Somerville is pleased to announce Matt Franke's candidacy for APCO International's 2nd vice-president, the Ohio APCO Executive Committee voted to endorse his candidacy and has offered up to \$1500 to support his candidacy. He will be in a three-way race against Maureen Will from the Atlantic Chapter, and Mark Spross from the Oregon chapter. Matt has been a stalwart at APCO International at the national level, after spending years on the board of directors, he is currently a conference committee chair and doing a lot of work. He has been an integral part of the development of the NG911 Definitive Guide Document. Mr. Somerville is looking for continued support for Mr. Franke's campaign coming up to the election at the national conference in Nashville this coming August.

Ohio MARCS – Tom Brethauer

CISA grant application was submitted, the state will manage this grant like several other FEMA grants. The committee put together the state cyber plan and application that will be reviewed by

CISA. MARCS wants to remind everyone that you have 2 ½ years to get radio authentication on your end user devices. They're already seeing big changes as a result of this work, lots of duplicate IDs are being found, this is super important to ensure the security of the MARCS system.

- Secretary/Treasurer – Mike Banks

Meeting minutes from the September 2022 meeting were posted online, published in the newsletter and copies are available at the front of the room. Mr. Banks asked for a waiver of the reading of minutes. Bob Bill made the motion to waive the reading of minutes, seconded by Kelley Davidson. Motion passed with all in favor.

Treasurer's report, copies are available in the room and posted online. APCO Checking account balance is \$10,571.50. APCO Money Market balance is \$76,233.30. The Gold Star/Conference checking account balance is \$20,911.32. This has been an active year due to the conference and some spending to support the TERT deployment. Cody Post made the motion to accept the treasurer's report, seconded by Adrienne Scheffer.

- Frequency Advisory Committee – Bob Bill

The FCC continues to be very active on clamping down on robocalls/robotexts filing cease and desist letters and pursuing offenders with huge fines. Mr. Bill reminded attendees to keep up with their FCC licenses and make sure they do not expire, make sure the contact information for your licenses are up to date. Reach out to Mr. Bill if you need any help in finding out the status of your licenses.

- Nominating Committee – Kelley Davidson

On behalf of Jay Somerville and Satoru Parsons we are still accepting nominations for 2nd vice-president. Mr. Somerville has received and confirmed two nominations so far: Lauren Yankanin and Erica Walsh.

They will continue accepting nominations until the first meeting of 2023 and at that time will present the slate of candidates and any nominations from the floor for an election at the 2nd chapter meeting of 2023.

- Executive Council and Legislative – Matt Franke

The legislative committee has been working with a group of other interested parties trying to get HB 445 through the lame duck, one of the concerns is that it hasn't even be introduced in the senate. And there's no way the senate would vote on it without a hearing. There's a possibility the house may act on it, but they're not sure.

The committee is working with partner agencies with responses to concerns expressed by legislatures through the hearing process. The Ohio legislature is reticent to raise taxes for any reason, the concern is that if we're going to collect more money, that the money is used as designed and appropriately. We're working between the legislators and steering committee on methods to guarantee money is used to achieve the goal of NG911 in Ohio within five years. Mr. Franke trusts that this will move quicker after the beginning of the year after the General Assembly gets moving.

- Constitution & Bylaws – Cody Post

Two bylaw amendments will be introduced today and will be posted online until the next chapter meeting, and we will take an official vote at the next meeting.

Amendment 1:

Article 9 Section 1, paragraphs 1.1.1, 1.2, 1.2.2, 1.3

There's a line at the end of each paragraph describing that expenses will be reimbursed as directed by the Ohio Chapter

Handbook. The proposed amendment will be reworded to say reimbursement for meals will be made at federal per diem rate, other expenses will be reimbursed on a receipt basis.

Amendment 2:

Article 4, Section 6, adding a paragraph to the Commercial Advisor. Adding paragraph 6.7, "the commercial advisor should be two persons appointed by the president with a single vote on the chapter executive committee". Our commercial members are very busy so an additional person will aid in representation for and support from our commercial members. This is very commonly done by other chapters and ensures no one person is overwhelmed by the responsibilities of this position.

- Commercial Advisory – Norberto Colon

Thanked our sponsor WSI Technologies for their support of this meeting. Looking to rework how our vendors support our association in the new year. Our vendors are really excited for the changes at the upcoming conferences and he believes there are more ways to support the chapter than lunch sponsorships, more info will be coming. We have really good vendors in Ohio and core vendors that support everything we do as a chapter, and it won't be a problem in getting additional help and support for the functions our chapter is looking to hold in the coming year.

- Training Committee – Lydia Frey

Ms. Frey thought the training was great today and is looking for ideas for February's meeting. Someone had suggested OHLEG and is looking to add a segment on 988 training. Considering inviting LEADS every November for updates.

- Compassionate Care – Tom Donahue

Mr. Donahue couldn't attend but provided a written update:

I'm sorry I was not able to attend the meeting this afternoon, our agency had a new group of technicians start on Monday. The goal of this program continues to be "To show support, and compassion to those individuals or communication centers who have experienced a critical incident or crisis." An incident could include, but not limited to: Loss of a co-worker, serious or life-threatening illness, line of duty death, and traumatic injury to a first responder. Those are just examples. I am asking for permission to add information to the Health & Wellness tab for the Compassionate Care Committee on APCO Ohio's website. There I would like to have a link for members to submit a request to be considered by the committee. In the meantime, should someone be aware of an incident please contact me at tdonahue@akronohio.gov it's difficult to show support and be supportive if you don't know about it.

- TERT Update- Mory Fuhrmann

The TERT team was activated to respond to Florida with 16 personnel from October 3rd to October 18th responding to an EMAC request for TERT personnel to assist in the aftermath of Hurricane Ian's landfall. The response was to Lee County in the western part of Florida. Upon Ian's landfall Florida began making requests for TERT teams, the local TERT committee discussed potentially responding. The committee put out feelers to see if they could fill the team and received a great amount of interest across the state. There is TERT typing in NIMS/ICS, they were able to fill a type 4 team with personnel from Chagrin Valley Dispatch, Champaign County, Southwest Emergency Dispatch (Cuyahoga County), Mifflin Emergency Communications Center (Franklin County), North Lawrence Fire, two personnel from Ohio MARCS and one from Motorola Solutions. The reports from FL were stark regarding living conditions in the aftermath of the storm so the team was well equipped with a pallet of water, 300 MREs, 4 generators, a FEMA sized tent, and HAVOC-1 from Chagrin Valley. They were sent with the ability to be self-sustained as recommended by Ohio TF-1

which was also stationed in Lee County and were using buckets for toilets. The team met up with the Lee County Sheriff's Office and set up camp just outside the communications center. The team worked 3 shifts, 0400-1600, 1200-2200, 1600-0400. They first handled administrative calls, and as the call loads increased with people returning to the area, they began taking 9-1-1 calls. The idea was for the TERT team to provide relief to the LCSO dispatchers so they could get to their own homes as many had not been home yet, and bolster staffing due to the higher volume of calls due to the storm and damage. Cody Post completed a Mission Readiness Package which was accepted on the first attempt. The team worked with colleagues from Texas TERT and Louisiana TERT. Ohio TERT was the last out of state TERT team to leave. Mr. Fuhrman, Cody Post, and Scott Brown worked from Ohio acting as PIO and local information contacts.

The deployment was largely a positive event, our first intrastate deployment, and Mr. Fuhrman was appreciative of the support from Ohio EMA, Franklin County EMA, Ohio MARCS, and Motorola.

A debriefing was held in Ashland earlier this month, and the committee is going through the process of receiving feedback and conducting personnel evaluations. They are awaiting reimbursements from the State of Florida as well. Mr. Fuhrmann thanked the membership and everyone for their support. President Sells thanked Mr. Fuhrmann and the other TERT committee members for all their help and his steadfast leadership of the Ohio TERT initiative during its first major deployment.

- Good of the Order and Announcements

Matt Franke originally agreed to complete the executive council term after finishing his 5 years on the Board of Directors. Two things influenced Mr. Franke's decision to run for this office. He was asked by President Batey to take over as chair of the Spectrum and Technology Committee which taught him a lot, then he went to the Anaheim Executive Council meeting in Anaheim and

Director Poarch called him out for his work on the NG911 Definitive Guide. Both initiatives had Mr. Franke's fellow members encouraging him to step into a leadership role with the association. Mr. Franke appreciates everyone's support and kind words and looks forward to our continued support as he campaigns for this office.

Motion to adjourn by Cody Post, seconded by Mike Banks. Meeting adjourned at 12:15pm.



The deadline for 2022 Gold Star Award nominations has been extended to March 31, 2023. Those wishing to nominate can follow the link below.

<https://airtable.com/shrH5M3dLFn-claeWo?fbclid=IwAR1aq0Cv9LHQnW-TEwejToRzj9BrZ6kBD1LTk7QLhwJg1MbZt4-Hqg6upuP0>

Stay up to date with Ohio Gold Star at : <https://www.ohionena.org/ohio-gold-star-award-program>

Chairman Brian Macmurdo
brian.macmurdo@gmail.com