

WI-NENA CHAPTER MEETING MINUTES
February 14, 2007 – 10:00 a.m. Regular Meeting
Stevens Point, WI

Call to order: Chapter President, Jay Maritz at 10:05 a.m.

Roll call: Board members present were Jay Maritz, Melissa Gilgenbach, Leann Krieg, Julie Cipra and past President Al Blencoe. Absent, Lynn Wallace.

Approve Minutes of the last Regular Meeting:

Motion to approve by Rich Tuma and second by Nancy Heimke.

Public Comment: Jay informed members that we have a number of leftover items from past conferences available for anyone who is interested and they can pick up after the meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Lynn Wallace was absent but sent information along indicating that the current bank balance is \$45,997.28.

Wireless 911 update by Dennis Klaila, WI PSC:

Dennis stated that all pending applications and appeals were acted upon and awards are final. A total of \$84 million was awarded in grants. The surcharge rate increased to .92 this month. The fund is solvent and there should be enough money to pay out awards throughout 2007. So far, \$2.7 million has been paid out to counties. A fourth check will be delivered the first part of March. There were a few issues with checks being delivered to the correct address but that has been resolved.

By statute the program must be audited and a test audit was recently completed. One challenge the PSC faced was PSAP's providing actual proof of payment versus just a billing invoice. For this reason, the PSC may have to come back to some counties and request proof of payment.

What changes in the grant award can/cannot be made? A change of vendor is permitted since the grant awards were based on equipment, not a specific vendor, even if one was listed. If funds are unused there is no provision in the grant to shift them for another use so the funds will simply go unused. It is expected that some counties and wireless vendors will not use all of the money. In this case, those funds will be returned to the wireless carriers who will in turn give back to their customers. The PSC will be issuing a clean up order next year to help determine what dollars will NOT be used.

Of the 72 counties in Wisconsin, 40 are now Wireless Phase II and six counties are in the process right now. The PSC is not aware of any county who chose to back out once the awards were approved.

Legislative Update by Rich Tuma:

Rich provided an eight page hand out detailing the WI NENA/APCO Chapter Legislative Initiatives for 2007. He indicated that a fair amount of time has been spent speaking with different groups throughout the state. Rich indicated that it is important as members to reach out to local lawmakers who could be a positive influence in future 911 legislation.

County resolutions could also be helpful. It will take a year to complete administrative rules so we need to act this year.

Key goals are to remove the sunset provision and to create technology neutral legislation. Changes are happening rapidly and we need to find a way to approach and fund that technology more cohesively. VoIP is becoming more and more of an issue and other changes such as the ability for a PSAP to accept video along with a 911 call is not far away.

Project Locate Accuracy Testing:

Jay Maritz informed the group that APCO has completed their wireless 911 accuracy testing and he has read the draft report. The determination is that accuracy is fairly dismal across the country. Some pockets of service may be good but the overall findings showed a need for real improvement. It was noted that the major carriers were willing to work with them and discovered issues they were unaware of as a result of the tests.

A major finding was that when a call comes immediately as a Wireless Phase II call that you STILL need to rebid once or twice as the accuracy improves significantly. This is in direct contrast to original information that indicated no rebid was necessary on that call type. The report will also include information on how a PSAP can conduct their own accuracy testing.

Telecommunicator Training:

A reminder to members that dispatcher training will be held in McFarland on March 21st and Stevens Point on March 27th. Training will be held from 8-4 and includes topics such as MABAS, NextGen 911 and Training tips for dispatchers. NENA and APCO members attend free and non-members cost just \$10.00. Visit the website for details and registration.

Expert panel on dispatch:

Jay attended a meeting with the State of WI Dept of Health and Family Services. Several topics were discussed including Mass Casualty events. They are working on a mass casualty flow chart including protocols and recommendations. There will be no mandates. Some discussion on ways for NENA/APCO to assist in training/rolling the information out to PSAP's. The feeling is that it needs to go directly to agencies versus a single meeting held in one location.

A lot of discussion about PSAP's providing EMD. NENA/APCO will be creating an EMD survey for all Wisconsin PSAP's (possibly on our website) to find out how many centers currently use EMD. The survey will include a variety of questions such as what program they use, staffing, QC/QA, training, call processing times, etc.

Joint NENA/APCO meeting and Telecommunicator of the Year Awards:

The meeting will be held in LaCrosse on Tuesday, April 17th. Meeting and awards are from 9:00 to 10:00 and a training session will be held from 10:00 to 12:00. So far only one nomination has been received. Reminder that nominees can be someone who consistently does a good job day in and day out, not just one major call. Proclamations are available and you can contact the Governor's office directly if interested.

TERT:

Final draft is ready and will be signed in March by several groups including NENA and APCO. Still several issues to work out such as who pays expenses when TERT members are called out. Language should be set up to include dispatchers in mutual aid type agreements. At this point, TERT will be activated through WEM and be divided into groups based upon current WEM divisions with a regional team leader. Connie Catterall attended a pilot program in Illinois recently and will be attending an all states TERT meeting at National.

ENP Update:

The ENP exam will be available in April. Last fall, seven people took and passed the exam and there are now ten ENP's in the State of Wisconsin.

Next Meeting Dates:

Tuesday, April 17th in LaCrosse, WI. This is in place of the normally scheduled meeting in May. Note that our third meeting of the year will be held on Wednesday, August 8th in Wisconsin Rapids. The meeting will include a tour of the new Wood County Dispatch Center.

Adjourned

Respectfully submitted,

Julie M. Cipra

Julie Cipra, Secretary