

**Florida APCO Business Meetings  
2007 Spring Conference/Doral Marriott  
May 22 – 25, 2007**

**Opening Business Meeting  
Tuesday, May 22, 2007**

**Board Members Present:**

President Eddie Williams

President-Elect Lori VanGilder

Past President Robin Schmidt

Treasurer Randy Kerr

Secretary Debbie Gailbreath

Board of Officers: Susan Pettingill, Ricky Rowell and Clara Woody-Redmon

**Absent:** Executive Council Rep. Tom Sorley,

President Williams called the meeting to order at 10:40 a.m.

Richard Pinsky introduced Florida Representative David Rivera who spoke in support of Florida APCO and the FRS legislation. Representative Rivera, who is the Chair of the Rules & Calendar Council, pledged his support for the FRS legislative initiative in 2008 once it passes through the budget committee.

Eddie opened floor to nominations for the Board openings and announced voting will take place at the Thursday afternoon business meeting. Open positions include: Executive Council Representative, President-Elect, Treasurer, and the three Board of Officers. Dick Nelson nominated Nancy Dzoba for the Executive Council Rep, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Natalie Duran. Debbie nominated Joann Brown for the Board of Officers, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Lori. Nancy nominated Bryan Rintoul, Randy nominated Vic Cullars, Sue nominated Eric Ferrari, Lori nominated Ricky and Sue nominated Randy for Treasurer. Eddie encouraged anyone else interested in running for the Board to contact the nominating committee: Robin Schmidt and Dick Nelson.

Letters of agency support were been received from Ricky Rowell, Bryan Rintoul, Eric Ferrari, and Joann Brown. Vic Cullars reported that he had forwarded a letter of support to Randy. Debbie received verbal approval from Nancy Dzoba's supervisor at the conference.

Robin announced the proposed by-laws amendments to be voted on at the Thursday business meeting (includes strike-outs and amendments in blue text) :

Article VI - CHAPTER ELECTIONS

6.0 ELIGIBILITY

Only members who hold ACTIVE membership status in this Chapter may be Considered for any elective position of this Chapter. No more than two members from the same Public Safety Agency may hold a position of Chapter Officer.

#### 6.1 POSITIONS TO BE FILLED

~~The following officers shall be elected at each Annual Conference: President Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, three Board of Officers Members, and an International Executive Committee Person. Additionally, should the President-Elect be unable to advance to the office of President then the President shall be elected at the next annual conference.~~

The following officers shall be elected at the annual conference yearly:

President-Elect

Three Board of Officers

The following officers shall be elected at the annual conference every two years:

Secretary on the even years

Treasurer on the odd years

Executive Council on the even years

#### 6.2.1 TIES

In the event of a tie of the officer position, that position shall be determined by the President. Should one of the candidates be the current President, then determination will be made by the President-elect or the next succeeding officer.

#### 7.6 VACANCIES

7.6.1 In the event an elected official is unable to complete their term, the vacancy shall be filled in the following manner:

- a) President, President-Elect, and the Board of Officers will be filled through advancement in rank.
- b) Vacancy in any other office shall be filled by Presidential appointment with approval of the Board of Officers, until the next annual conference when the position can be voted on by the membership.

#### **Treasurer Report - Randy:**

Conference Account at \$76,100 +/-

Savings Account \$40,700.

General Operating Account \$9,100

#### **Secretary Report – Debbie**

All minutes have been posted and distributed. Motion to accept by Robin 2<sup>nd</sup> by Nancy

#### **Committee Reports:**

*Disaster* – Natalie

A F.A.S.T. Update is scheduled during the conference. Telecommunicator Emergency Response Teams (TERT) currently exist in AL, FL, IL, NC and SC. Natalie is assisting with training in Texas and Seattle. TERT has officially been adopted by the Department of Homeland Security. Requirements to participate on the TERT includes ICS certification and a physical exam, to include vaccinations. TERT deployments require a 14-day commitment. Training will be available on-line and will include an exam and certification. Discussions regarding who pays for the training and exams/vaccinations, in addition to the deployment time required, with follow-up discussions planned in the future.

**Training**- no report

**Public Affairs**

Chapter Booth - Fran Self

The booth was at the Florida Chiefs Association in January and is scheduled for the CJIS conference in Ponte Verde in July. The booth table cloth is missing..has anyone seen it?

**Website** – Eric

All the conference info has been updated and will be updated with conference photos, FRS info and the Board and committee info following the conference.

**List Serve** – Bryan

Managing the list serve and helping to keep SPAM and other non-pertinent correspondence out.

**Roundup**: - Eddie

Dick has agreed to continue us with publishing the Roundup. If anyone is interested in learning from Dick and assisting with the creation and publication, contact Dick. Next Roundup info needs to Dick by June 10<sup>th</sup>. Everyone is encouraged to submit articles.

**Standards Task Force** – Shannon Sewell

The Task Force met with the Retirement Task Force and Richard Pinsky on Monday and had discussions about joining together for possible 2008 proposed legislation. Lori, Debbie & Shannon made a trip to Tallahassee in November and met with Dept. of Emergency Management, the State 911 Coordinators Office and the State Technology Office seeking an oversight for the State Certification process.

**Retirement Task Force** – Joyce Taylor

Thanks to everyone that assisted this year. Recognition at the opening breakfast given to those who traveled to Tallahassee for the legislative sessions. Strategy/plans have already begun for next year's session. It is important to get agency CEO input and support from local county commissioners to support our Bills. We need to meet with these local administrators prior to the next session. Will be sharing "county action items" developed by Richard and distributing a "resolution" that was signed by the Miami-Dade County Commission, in hopes of getting all counties to sign the resolution. In addition, agencies need to invite their local legislators to visit their comm. centers. We can use the hurricane season preparedness as a reason to invite them to the center, and then demonstrate what we do by having them listen in on phone calls and radio transmissions.

Randy to provide a report on the financial impact that the travel to Tallahassee had on the Chapter finances.

**2008 Conference** – Debbie

The Board visited and approved the 2008 site: The Innisbrook Golf and Resort in Palm Harbor (Pinellas County). Margaret Hamrick and Shannon Sewell of Tampa Fire/Rescue will serve as co-chairs. The Board will meet with Margaret and Shannon at Innisbrook on June 28 & 29. Anyone interested in joining the conference committee, or has any ideas for the conference, contact Margaret or Shannon.

**Other Business:**

Nancy Dzoba: NIMS has proposed that the Comm Leader (CommL) position be filled by a field law enforcement or fire rescue agency member. Nancy and the other RDSTF Communications Committee Chairs believe that the position can be filled by a civilian communications expert, just as the RDSTF committee chair positions. Recommend that FL APCO present a letter to APCO International and request International stipulate that utilizing a field agency member is not necessary. Vic Cullars made a motion for Nancy to draft a proposal and FL APCO to approve and send to International. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Robin, motion carried.

Meeting in recess at 11:45 a.m. until the Thursday afternoon elections and business meeting.

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***Business meeting reconvened, Thursday, May 24, 2007 at 3:45 p.m.***

Debbie verified that all members present were “voting members” via the current membership list and distributed election ballots. Dick made a motion to close the nominations, with a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Robin. Dick and Robin announced the candidates for the Board and confirmed their eligibility:

President-Elect: Sue Pettingill

Treasurer: Randy Kerr

Executive Council Representative: Nancy Dzoba

Board of Officers: Ricky Rowell, Joann Brown, Vic Cullars, Eric Ferrari, Bryan Rintoul

Ricky made a motion to declare Sue, Randy and Nancy as elected to the Board since they had no opposition. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dick, motion carried with no discussion.

Dick, Robin, Nancy and Debbie counted the votes for the remaining candidates. The three elected to the 2007-2008 Board of Officers was announced: Ricky Rowell, Joann Brown and Eric Ferrari. Ricky made a motion to destroy the ballots, with a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Lori. Motion carried and ballots destroyed by Robin.

Eddie presented Dick Nelson with an award of appreciation and thanked him for continuing his work on the Roundup.

Proposed amendments to the By-laws were read by Robin (see above). All proposed amendments were voted on and passed with no opposition.

Eddie announced that he would not continue serving on the Board as the Immediate Past President. He may be taking a job with a vendor and as such, would not be eligible to serve on the Board. Robin has agreed to continue to serve as the Immediate Past President, the position vacated by Matt Stillwell last fall.  
Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

**Post-Conference Board Meeting  
Friday, May 25, 2007 9:00 a.m.**

**Present:**

President Lori VanGilder  
President-Elect Sue Pettingill  
Treasurer Randy Kerr  
Secretary Debbie Gailbreath  
Board of Officers Ricky Rowell, Joann Brown and Eric Ferrari  
Past President Robin Schmidt  
Vic Cullars  
Bryan Rintoul

**Absent:** Executive Council Rep. Nancy Dzoba

Newly elected FL NENA President Bill Stevens and NENA Board Officer Doug Christ stopped in to thank FL APCO for the great conference and to welcome the new APCO Board. Bill stated that he intends to work closely with FL APCO this year on many issues, including the FRS legislation. Since FL NENA will be hosting the International NENA conference in 2008, FL NENA will not be co-hosting the FL APCO/NENA conference next year at Innisbrook. FL NENA has information on vendors that were not in attendance at this year's conference but did attend the FL NENA conference last year; Bill will provide that info to us.

President VanGilder announced the following committee and Board oversight assignments:

***Technology Committee*** – newly created committee established to work on providing sample BDA's, RPF's and other resource documents. Bryan volunteered to assist on the committee. Chair: Vic Cullars. Board Oversight: Randy

***Legislative Committee*** – newly created committee to include the old "Retirement Task Force" and "Standards Task Force" and a new 911 legislative committee. Committee

will be divided into 3 areas with chairs as follows: FRS – Joyce Taylor; Standards – Shannon Sewell and 911 – Jeff Ballard. Board Oversight: Robin

Discussion regarding lobbyist Richard Pinsky. Ricky made a motion to officially select Richard as our lobbyist for the 2008 legislative session and pay him on a month-to-month basis. His fees not to exceed \$2500 per month, starting June 1, 2007 through the end of the 2008 legislative session. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Robin. Motion carried, no opposition.

**Commercial Advisory Committee** – newly created committee to assist with the vendor show and vendor sponsorship programs. This committee will work closely with the conference committee and will be responsible for establishing the technical tracks of the training sessions and coordinating the vendor show at the conferences. Priscilla to continue as the Chair, with assistance from Joe Galelli. Board Oversight: Sue.

Lori asked that the 3 newly created committees each establish a formal mission statement.

**Public Affairs Committee** – Roundup: Dick Nelson. Booth: Fran Self. List Serve: Bryan Rintoul. Website and Board Oversight: Eric

**Disaster Committee** - Chair: Natalie Duran, Board Oversight: Ricky

**Training Committee** – Co-Chairs: Cary Sargent and Laurie Piatt. Board Oversight: Joann

**By-laws Committee** – Responsible for review and updating of the conference manual, policy manual and Chapter by-laws Board Oversight: Sue (as required by Policy Manual), who will select committee members.

**2008 Conference Committee** – Co-Chairs: Margaret Hamrick & Shannon Sewell. Board Oversight: Debbie

Lori asked that all committees submit committee plans/goals and budgets for review at the June 29 workshop. Committee chairs and/or members are invited to the workshop but the individual agency should cover travel expenses.

Each Committee is expected to provide a committee update on all conference calls and chapter meetings. If the chair is unavailable, the information should be provided to the Board oversight. A written copy should also be provide to Debbie to include in the official meeting minutes.

Discussion regarding the Roundup and producing a color edition. Print costs are \$439 and \$203 mailing costs for each edition. Eric to discuss further with Dick.

Travel for Board members: many agencies are beginning to cut travel expenses from their budgets. If this occurs, the Chapter will cover expenses for meetings, but Board

members may be expected to share hotel rooms with other Board members.

APCO International conference in Baltimore. All Board members are planning to attend. Joann needs costs covered and was provided with a complimentary conference registration. She will report back regarding hotel and/or air travel needs. Ricky to check with his agency regarding expenses.

Eric to look at possibly utilizing "Pay Pal" on the website to allow donations into the newly created \$9.11 fund and conference registrations, vendor programs, etc.

Randy to establish a separate checking account for the \$9.11 fund. The mailing address for checks in the Chapter P.O. Box in Sarasota. Randy will give the account info to Debbie and she can make deposits directly into the account. Randy will also check on setting up a "Political Action Committee" to pay Richard.

Lori will contact Julie Troutman at the APCO Institute about assisting with distribution of \$9.11 flyers. We raised \$1435 for this fund during the conference. Eric will post the names of all contributors and we will look at starting a "100% club" for agencies that get 100% of their center employees to donate.

***Monthly conference calls:  
4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month.***

Lori to confirm with Jessica at Orange Fire/Rescue that we can use that conference call line.

***Tentative meeting dates established:***

October 18: Committee Meetings

1pm = Disaster committee

2pm = Technology

3pm = Training

4pm = Conference

October 19

9am = Legislative Committee

1pm = Fall Business Meeting

Eric to check on room rates at hotels at Disney. Will confirm meeting location once hotel is established.

Robin to contact Richard possible June meeting in Tallahassee (Debbie & Lori) and to schedule the January Board workshop in January in Tallahassee.

Meeting adjourned at 12pm.

