Meeting Minutes

October 9th, 2017 Conference Call

Chapter President John Grappy called the meeting to order at 10:02am.

Executive Board Members in Attendance:

- John Grappy, President
- Brad Reinert, Vice President
- Mark Greenthaner, Secretary
- Timothy Baldwin, Treasurer
- Gary Thomas, Past President
- Jeff Parish, Western Region
- Kevin Fanning, Central Region
- Audrey Kenny, Eastern Region
- Michael McGrady, Conference Chair

Conference:

Mike & Tim discussed the financials from the conference. $69,215 in revenue was generated resulting a $15,000 profit on the conference. The chapter is still owed $7,600 from vendors and $5,852 from attendees. Mike will reach out to those who still owe.

There remains two outstanding items from the auction.

Total 281 attendees/speakers/vendors this year. This was the largest turnout in over 10 years. Mike mentioned our largest ever turnout was 313.

Mike discussed the board should consider a late registration fee for one day attendees. There currently is a late fee for the whole conference but not one day registrations.

Two vendors overpaid totaling $300-$400. Mike will reach out to those vendors.

Mike mentioned the board should consider an “anniversary dinner” for the 2018 conference. It would make sure everyone stays close. This decision should be made soon. Vendors can be notified and budget accordingly.
Legislative Report:

Mike briefed the board on legislative issues.

There is yet to be a state budget. The general assembly was considering implementing a 5% hotel tax. This eventually was removed from the table. Mike mentioned his company as well as many others who rent hundreds of rooms a year and how that would be detrimental to a company’s bottom-line and would be forced to pass costs onto consumers.

Mike acknowledged the lack of a state budget really doesn’t affect the 911 program because of our funding source. Mike was quick to add it can eventually be a problem someday while referencing the latest attempt of the General Assembly to raid the 9-1-1 fund.

Mike doesn’t see any major legislation coming up. It’s recommended that the board attend, if available, the legislative hearing on 10/19 regarding FirstNet. Jeff Boyle is to testify on behalf of PEMA. Mike mentioned FirstNet will cover 95% of the population then questioned our rural counties coverage?

Mike discussed the Sunset of Act12- There are 3 people interested in participating on the legislative affairs committee. Would like to form committee January 1st. Mike discussed he would also like to invite APCO and CCAP following an initial meeting of just PA NENA members. Mike also mentioned it would be wise to invite PEMA to a committee meeting to get numbers on how the cost of 911 has been reduced and how increase in spending went from 16% a year to 1%.

Regional Reports:

Eastern: (Audrey Kenny) – Nothing additional to Report

Central: (Kevin Fanning) – Nothing additional to Report

Western: (Jeff Parish) – Nothing additional to Report
**Presidents Report**

John discussed with the money made off of the conference and the large sum in the bank that we should host a NENA Course at each of the regional meetings. The course would be the same at each meeting. The chapter would pick up the cost of the course and would be free for PA NENA members to attend. John & Mike mentioned this would be an attempt to up our numbers. If someone would like to attend the course who isn’t a NENA member they could register for NENA then attend the meeting course. The thinking is to have an 8 hour course with a “working lunch” to discuss regional business. Board members should begin thinking of potential classes.

John acknowledged he may have made a controversial comment during his speech at the conference regarding consolidation & PSAPs taking on PSP dispatching. John believes the comment that got everyone’s attention was the money saved if PSP were to be dispatched by the counties. John reaffirmed his belief that a call begins and ends with the County.

John wanted the board to know he received a phone call from the President of the FOP that represents PSP. While the FOP does not represent the PCOs, the FOP would be against the counties taking over the dispatching of PSP. This information will be later addressed at a Legislative Affairs committee meeting.

**Vice President’s Report:** (Brad Reinert)

Brad discussed the TERT initiative and the TERT committee that will be chaired by Gary Thomas.

Brad wanted to let the board know of all the positive feedback that he’s been hearing regarding the conference.

**Secretary Report:** (Mark Greenthander)

Mark echoed Brad regarding the positive comments he’s heard about the conference.

Mark informed the board of an upcoming NENA Course (Leadership in the 9-1-1 Center) that will be held in Erie County on November 2nd.
Treasurers Report: (Tim Baldwin)

Signature cards are being mailed to both John & Mark from their local PNC Bank branch.

Tim asked the board to let him know ahead of time what dates will be selected for the regional meetings. He would like to attend all 3 meetings and needs notice of the dates to plan accordingly.

Tim discussed that our by-laws have drifted from that of the National by-laws. Tim will work to make sure Mark has the most recent copy.

Mike stated to send our by-laws to National NENA. They will review ours and send back any changes or recommendations they suggest.

Tim discussed with the board moving to Phase 2 of the website project. Tim will work with Mike, Mark & Diane to get that project underway.

Past President’s Report: (Gary Thomas)

Gary was excused from the meeting.

Old Business:

N/A

New Business:

John would like the TERT & Legislative Affairs committees to kick off meetings beginning in January. There were 3 people who submitted their interest in the Legislative Affairs committee. Gary was excused therefore numbers weren’t known for the TERT committee. Mark mentioned sending out a “Call for Participants” to remind the membership of the 2 committees. John liked that idea; however Mike likes to keep that group close and “hand-picked”. It was determined the letter would be sent out in such a way that simply submitting your name does not guarantee a spot on the committee.
Elections:
N/A

Changing of offices:
N/A

For the Good of the Order:
Nothing to report.

Adjournment
Meeting adjourned by President Grappy at 11:18.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark T. Greenthaler
Secretary