

Illinois APCO Operating Procedures Committee

MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, September 24, 2008

2008 Committee Members:

Tom Carrico, Cahokia Police Department
Kevin Diluia, Northwest Central Dispatch
Ed Milam, Pleasantview Fire Protection District
Jim Richardson, Gurnee Police Department
Gina Schneider, Marion County 9-1-1
Chuck Wrede, Tri-Com Central Dispatch

Call to Order:

Chairman Chuck Wrede called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. at Tri-Com Central Dispatch in St. Charles. The primary purpose of the meeting was to review the nominations for this year's communications awards and select the winners by vote.

Roll Call:

Members Present:

Ed Milam
Chuck Wrede
Tom Carrico (via speakerphone)
Kevin Diluia (via speakerphone)
Jim Richardson (via speakerphone)
Gina Schneider (via speakerphone)

Members Absent:

None

Also Present:

Allan Marquardt, President of Illinois APCO, participated by speakerphone through the discussion of the special awards for the DeKalb dispatch centers involved in the NIU shooting incident.

Welcome:

Chuck welcomed the committee members and thanked them for their time and effort spent on studying the 20 award nominations that were received. He gave a special welcome to new committee member Kevin Diluia.

Ed and Chuck met at Tri-Com for the meeting. The rest of the committee participated by speakerphone via the APCO conference bridge.

Eleven (11) nominations were submitted for the “Telecommunicator of the Year” award, three (3) the “Line Supervisor of the Year” award, three (3) nominations for the “Director/Manager of the Year” award and three (3) nominations for the “Technician of the Year” award.

Discussion of Miscellaneous Items with President Marquardt:

Illinois APCO President Al Marquardt joined the meeting remotely (by speakerphone) to discuss a number of items related to the awards program. The following items were decided or discussed:

- Hotel rooms at the October conference have been secured for the four (4) award winners.
- The group addressed the problems experienced at last year’s awards banquets caused by the restless audience. The crowd was a little rowdy and noisy following the cocktail hour and dinner. This year, more speakers will be set up around the room so everyone can clearly hear the presentation. It’s hoped that this will help keep the people in the distant areas of the room from becoming distracted.
- Another measure to hold the crowd’s interest will be the shortening of the awards presentations. Chuck will no longer read the award nomination criteria. Plaques will only be awarded to the winners, not the other nominees. There was some disagreement as to whether the names of all nominees should be read aloud. Some felt this further prolonged the program, others said the nominees deserve the recognition. Chuck will continue this discussion with President Marquardt at a later time.
- We will attempt to get photos of the award winners to post on a display board at the conference to promote the awards program. Gina’s agency has a large scanner and printer that can scan and reproduce photographs. She can make poster-size prints if needed, up to 36x36 inches. When contacting the award winners and nominators, Chuck will ask them to send a photo to Ed. Ed will send the photos to Gina, who will scan and enlarge them to an appropriate size. Gina will also make the display board, which will be set on an easel she has. Gina will send photos of the display to the committee members for comment.
- Al said he and Chuck discussed whether the Illinois APCO award submissions should conform to the requirements of APCO International. APCO International’s nomination form is quite restrictive. Al said APCO International has relaxed their requirements and will accept Illinois APCO’s nominations as is – they do not have to be submitted on a different form. The deadline for submitting nominations for APCO International’s awards is April 1st. At some point between the October conference and April, Chuck will contact our winning nominators and advise them that we will forward copies of the nominations to APCO International. The nominators will have the option of updating or making improvements to the nominations before they are sent to APCO International.

Presentation of Special Award Plaques to DeKalb Dispatch Centers:

At this year’s October conference, special APCO award plaques will be presented to the public safety dispatch centers for Northern Illinois University, City of DeKalb and DeKalb County recognizing their fine performance throughout the campus shooting incident that occurred at NIU

in February. Chuck will contact Sgt. Mike O'Connor of Libertyville PD to further discuss this. Mike is out of the office until September 29th. His phone number is 847 362-2435.

Al and Chuck will talk about the creation of the plaques and how they will be presented at the awards banquet at next month's conference. Chuck may include this in his presentation, or Al may make a separate presentation.

At this point in the discussions, President Marquardt excused himself from the meeting.

Discuss & Rank Nominations:

As in past years, the committee members ranked the nominees by assigning a score of one (1) to their top choice, two (2) to their second choice, and so on. The nominee with the fewest total points was the winner.

Technician of the Year:

The committee reviewed the nominations for "Technician of the Year." The nominees were Christopher Kindelspire of Grundy County ETSB, Ryan Nelson of Gurnee 9-1-1 and Helen Wiedenfeld of Northwest Central Dispatch in Arlington Heights.

Each member of the committee discussed the strengths and weaknesses of each nomination and gave their scores. Mr. Kindelspire was voted the winner in this category. Mr. Nelson and Ms. Wiedenfeld had the same score and, therefore, tied for 1st runner-up.

Director/Manager of the Year:

The committee reviewed the nominations for "Director/Manager of the Year." The nominees were Renee Espinosa of the Countryside Fire Protection District, Taylor Mieure of the Mundelein Police Department and Steve Rauter of WESCOM in Plainfield.

Each member of the committee discussed the strengths and weaknesses of each nomination and gave their scores. Ms. Espinosa was voted the winner in this category. Mr. Rauter was the 1st runner-up.

Line Supervisor of the Year:

The committee reviewed the nominations for "Line Supervisor of the Year." The nominees were Jerry Chapman of Du-Comm in Glendale Heights, George Kinsley of the Lake County Sheriff's Office and Gail Matsui of WESCOM in Plainfield.

Each member of the committee discussed the strengths and weaknesses of each nomination and gave their scores. Mr. Kinsley was voted the winner in this category. Mr. Chapman was the 1st runner-up.

Telecommunicator of the Year:

The committee reviewed the nominations for "Telecommunicator of the Year." The nominees were William Canning, Kari Cichon and Stacy Mulcahy of the City of Chicago Office of

Emergency Communications, Lisa Diehl of Du-Comm in Glendale Heights, Gretchen Hurst of the Decatur Police Department, Heidi Kapsalis of Northwest Central Dispatch in Arlington Heights, Cathy Kennedy of Galesburg/Knox County Public Safety, Tracy Morey of the Barrington Hills Police Dept., Johnathon Paholke of the City of Effingham Police Dept., Michael Stonequist of the Evanston Police Dept. and Sherry Wood of the Deerfield Police Dept.

Each member of the committee discussed the strengths and weaknesses of each nomination and gave their scores. Ms. Diehl was voted the winner in this category. Ms. Morey was the 1st runner-up.

Vote to Formally Approve Selection of Award Winners & Runners-Up:

Chuck asked if anyone had further comments regarding any of the nominations. Hearing none, he entertained a motion to formally approve the award winners and runners-up as follows:

TECHNICIAN OF THE YEAR

Christopher Kindelspire (Winner)
Ryan Nelson (1st Runner-Up)

COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR/MANAGER OF THE YEAR

Renee Espinosa (Winner)
Steve Rauter (1st Runner-Up)

LINE SUPERVISOR OF THE YEAR

George Kinsley (Winner)
Jerry Chapman (1st Runner-Up)

TELECOMMUNICATOR OF THE YEAR:

Lisa Diehl (Winner)
Tracey Morey (1st Runner-Up)

Tom moved to formally approve the list of award winners and runners-up as read by Chuck. Ed seconded the motion, which then passed by unanimous vote.

As the committee liaison to the Illinois APCO Executive Board, Ed will officially report the voting results at the Board's next meeting. In the meantime, Chuck will e-mail the results to President Al Marquardt and 1st Vice President Jason Kern.

Discuss Remaining Steps of 2007 Awards Program:

The committee briefly discussed the remaining steps of this year's awards program. Chuck will complete the minutes of today's meeting and send them to the committee members and Illinois APCO President Al Marquardt and 1st Vice President Jason Kern. He will advise the nominators and award winners as soon as possible. Follow-up letters will also be sent to the nominators and nominees thanking them for their support of the program and congratulating them on their awards/nominations. The names of the committee members who will attend the conference will be

listed in the correspondence sent to the award winners and nominees. The award recipients will be encouraged to contact the committee if they need any assistance while attending the conference.

Chuck will not be able to attend the entire APCO-NENA-ICC conference in October, but will be there to present the awards at the Monday evening banquet.

Chuck will contact Sherrill Ornberg to discuss the ordering of the plaques for the winners and nominees. He will also contact Gregg Riddle to coordinate the conference registrations and hotel arrangements for the winners.

Adjournment:

No one had any other business to address, so the meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chuck Wrede

Charles H. Wrede, Chairman
Illinois APCO Operating Procedures Committee