2011 Spring Business Meeting

Meeting Called to Order
Bernard Brown called the meeting to order at approximately 0915 hours.

Susan Rorrer could not be here so Erin Elrod read the minutes from the 2011 Fall Business meeting and they were put up on power point for everyone to see. Denise Marrs made the motion to accept the minutes as read and Athena Plummer seconded it. Buster declared that the motion was accepted.

Treasurer’s Report
Chris Knights gave the treasurers report. He stated that the beginning balance was $16801.31 and the ending balance as of (May 20, 2011) was $24878.54. He went on to explain how purchasing CD’s does not make sense anymore. Chris stated that the balance that we carry is going up. He posed the following question for members to think about; “Should we utilize this money for other purposes?” Chris advised that the balance he quoted earlier does not include $2750.00 in outstanding invoices. This does not include 40,000 from VITA. He said that processing this takes time, most likely, a couple of weeks. He projected that we should still have $18,000 or $19,000 after the deduction of conference fees. Chris then stated that this was his last year as being treasurer. He has served in this position for the 4 years. Bill Agee made the motion to accept the treasurers’ report as it was made and Steve Souder seconded the motion. The motion was accepted.

President’s Report
Bernard Brown took the floor to convey how much he enjoyed his tenure as the president of the Virginia Chapter of NENA. He expressed his thanks for being given this opportunity. He said that one of his goals was to bring the NENA organization and the APCO organization closer together in their working relationship, and felt as though he accomplished that. He talked about how he was able to get money from the wireless board to go towards an education fund. It was also important to him to get new people involved, and advised that he felt like the organization was moving in that direction, citing virtually a whole new board of NENA officers. He encouraged people to give back to the Chapter. He shared his vision of how he would like Virginia not to just be one of the leaders in public safety, but to be the leader – the state that everyone looked to as the template for leadership. He thanked Steve O’Connor and Steve Souder for all they have done for him. He thanked Rodney for mentoring him and being a source of
humor. He thanked Denise for all of her help, especially her tireless work on organizing the conference. He thanked George Thomas for all his assistance and expressed how deeply he would be missed. He then turned his attention to the NENA board, thanking them for all of their help, and stating that he felt confident in the new board, explaining that they have lots of knowledge and enthusiasm. He asked for a round of applause for the conference committee and the Wyndam hotel staff. He concluded by saying that he was thankful for the friendship and support, and is looking forward to serving as the past president. A well deserved round of applause was given.

**Nominations and Elections**
The nominating committee, via the chair Rodney Gentry, certified the elections for the 2011 Executive Board of the Virginia Chapter of NENA. The incoming board members were asked to take the stage for the swearing in ceremony. Allan Weese was sworn in as president. Erin Elrod and Denice Marrs were sworn in as first and second vice president, respectfully. Elizabeth Ashby was sworn in as secretary and Jackie Carroll was sworn in as treasurer. Bernard Brown was sworn in as immediate past-president.

NENA President, Steve O’Conor, ENP, and NENA Northeastern Director Edward M. Marecki, ENP, presided over the swearing in of the new Virginia NENA officers, shook the hands of all members of the board, and congratulated them.

**Incoming President’s Report**
Bernard Brown then stepped down as president and handed things over to Allan Weese. The motion was accepted and Steve Souder seconded it. Bernard stated that the motion was accepted. Allan then presented Bernard Brown and Chris Knights with an award for their continued commitment to the Chapter. Allan added that Susan Rorrer has been the secretary for four years, and she will get an award. Allan thanked both of them for their faithful service to the chapter.

Allan informed the members that in the coming year, NENA will have a whole new website and a new conference crew. Allan told the members that he will be encouraging more participation in the ENP program, and that the Chapter has plans to award approximately three scholarships. Allan informed us that all of that information is available online. Allan said that he was looking forward to working with Steve Souder, President of the Virginia Chapter of APCO. Allan then ensured that all of the members knew that Bernard Brown was running for the second vice president for NENA National. Allan wished him heartfelt success on behalf of the whole Chapter.

**Historical Committee**
Karen Smallwood was given the floor to give a report on the historical committee. She advised she did not have anything to add, but she will put her email on the website should anyone have anything to add. Steve O’Connor wanted Ron Bonneau to have Karen’s email address.

**Conference Committee**
Denise Marrs gave the conference committee report. She gave the numbers of the turnout. There were 226 in attendance for the conference. Allan has asked her to be the conference chair for next year’s conference, and she has accepted. Allan said if anyone wants to help, please let Denice or him know.

**Nomination Committee**
Rodney Gentry then spoke on the nomination committee. He stated that Bernard Brown will be the chair of the nomination committee, as this position is usually occupied by the past president.
**Bylaw Committee**
Rodney Gentry did not have anything to add at this time.

**E9-1-1 Services Board - Grants Committee**
Allan Weese presented the grants committee report. He advised that he did not attend the last wireless board meeting. The grant guidelines for 2013 were approved, and the 2012 grant awards were tabled until the next meeting. Bill Agee said it will be around July 14th before any decision will be made regarding the grants for 2012. For 2012, there were 68 applications from PSAPs throughout Virginia. Members were encouraged to let other PSAPs know about the educational grant.

**Membership Committee**
Allan had been chairing the Membership Committee, but considering his newfound responsibilities he has decided that it would be most prudent of him to turn it over to someone else. The total members in the Virginia Chapter of NENA as of February 2011 are as follows; Public Sector/Government – 104, Private Sector/Commercial – 37, Emergency Dispatcher – 19, Associates – 0, and ENP’s – 43. This number of ENP’s was a major jump from last year. Allan then went over the 2011 Group Membership Packages. He recognized Rodney for getting the ENP study groups together. Allan informed the Chapter that National NENA is now offering scholarships for membership and that this information is on both APCO and NENA’s websites.

**Old Business**
Jackie Carroll will be preparing for the audit of finances and this should be underway or completed by the fall meeting.

Allan notified the Chapter that we have proposals coming up to realign us back with NENA National.

Kay Carroll from Prince William is coordinating the ENP study groups.

**New business**
This Chapter needs committee volunteers. Specifically, we need them for the bylaw committee. Rodney Gentry has helped out in the past but he is moving up in Virginia APCO so we need someone else to help. This Chapter has not had a chairperson for the commercial committee. Denice Marrs will be chairing the conference committee for next year. Bernard Brown will be chairing the nominations committee and he will need support. Allan Weese will turn over the membership committee to someone else. In addition, he would like to add a technology committee who can deal with NG911 and who can advise the NENA board in the direction to work with the state

**Bylaw Changes**
Allan informed the Chapter that the Bylaws went out on list serve. It gave a red line comparison of the new to old. He said that this combined the constitution and bylaws to just bylaws, and it outlines additional responsibilities for the officers. This will assign specific responsibilities for the two positions of president and vice president. Those holding the top three positions on the board will have to be ENP’s. NENA National had pointed out that there was information in the bylaws that should not be there; rather, they should be in a policy and procedure book. This book has been started. Another change that will take place is that Allan has separated the state into six regions, each of which will be headed by a Regional Director. These Regional Directors will be elected for two-year terms, staggered. The Regional Directors will serve on the Executive Board of the Chapter. A map was shown of how the different regions will be separated. (}
The following bylaws were altered: PPM - 1.0 Elections Procedures & PPM - 2.0 Annual Conference. Allan opened the floor to questions. He passed out revised bylaws and asked how many people in here were NENA members. Then he opened the floor to questions.

Bill Agee wanted to know where it spells things out for the first year of the new Regional Directors program. Bill said it talks about a vacancy. Allan advised him that part of it was moved over to the policies.

A member asked to clarify the meeting forum, specifically the amount of people who are at the meetings. Rodney asked if this modification was consistent with NENA National and Allan confirmed that they were; NENA National approved these in April.

Allan called for a vote, and Bill Agee made a motion to approve it and Bernard Brown seconded it. The motion was carried by the present membership.

Allan reassured the members that information will go out regarding details about the regions, and the Regional Directors. Allan said if members would like to volunteer, email him, Erin Elrod, Denice Marrs or any other members.

**Chapter Support**

Chris Knights talked about wanting to support Bernard Brown in his upcoming election to Second Vice President of National NENA. Chris would like to give Bernard up to and not to exceed $3000.00 for his campaign costs. Bill Agee made a motion to approve this and Erin Elrod seconded this. This motion has been carried and approved. Bernard expressed his appreciation for the Chapters generosity.

Chris Knights advised the Chapter that $2285.00 was raised at the second annual George Thomas Memorial Golf Tournament.

Bernard Brown made a motion to donate $250.00 to the George Thomas fund. Pat Schumate seconded this motion. The Chapter as a whole voted and everyone agreed, so the motion was carried.

There was discussion about upcoming conferences. The next NENA National conference is June 18-23 in Minneapolis. August 7-20 is the next National APCO conference in Philadelphia. The upcoming APCO/NENA/SIEC fall conference is in Roanoke on October 25-28. The 2012 NENA/APCO Spring conference is May 18-20 “not set yet” in Virginia Beach.

Denice Marrs was asked if they could go ahead and register for the hotel in Roanoke, and Bill Agee said not yet. He said it would probably be another month or so before anyone could register.

**Meeting Adjourned**

Allan Weese adjourned the meeting at 1110 hours.

Elizabeth Ashby
Secretary