

NJ NENA Fall Meeting

October 14, 2009

Call to Order: Chapter President Ray Kenny

Following the salute to the flag, President Kenny welcomed all the members and thanked them for their participation. He introduced the members of the NJ NENA Executive Board.

Chapter Meeting:

By-Laws Committee, Ray Strilec, Committee Chair

VP Strilec reported that the By-Laws Committee met and conducted a full review of the current By-Laws. There were several changes made to bring the By-Laws in line with the National standards. Among the changes presented were changes to the term of office for the executive board members from two years to one year and changing the title of "Commercial Vice President" to "Private Sector Vice President". A full copy of the proposed changes to the By-Laws is available on the NJ NENA Website. Any member wishing to comment on or recommend any changes to the By-laws may send an e-mail to the Ray Strilec or any member of the executive board. A vote to approve the changes will be taken at the annual spring conference in April.

Conference Committee, Gareth Williams, Committee Chair

VP Williams advised that the 2010 Spring Conference will be held at the Trump Taj Mahal on April 20 – 21. Additionally, this year we will host a pre-conference seminar on April 19. The seminar topic has not yet been chosen. Members are encouraged to check the available NENA seminars on the national website and send their preference to VP Williams. This year we have hired a company to facilitate the registration process. This will allow full on-line registration as well as the use of credit cards. Further information regarding the conference is posted on the NJ NENA website and will be updated as necessary.

Nomination Committee, Bonnie Hueg, Committee Chair

Secretary Hueg informed the members that the current executive board members have all indicated they would like to continue to serve and that there were a few changes due to the resignation of President Anthony Koslowski last year. As announced at the 2009 Spring Conference, R. Kenny moved to the President's position, R. Strilec moved to 1st VP and G. Williams was appointed to the 2nd VP position from the Central Region VP. Jeanette Nielsen of Old Bridge PD was appointed to the vacant Central Region post. The current ballot is: Second

Vice President, Gareth Williams; North Region Vice President, John Fencik; Central Region Vice President, Jeanette Nielsen; South Region Vice President, Monica Gavio; Private Sector Vice President, Robert Anderson. A copy of the nomination ballot will be sent to all members in November. Nominees must be a member in good standing, willing to accept the position, and have their agency's support to allow them to fully participate in executive board duties. Nominations can also be submitted by e-mail to njnena@yahoo.com. All nominations must be submitted by February 20, 2010. The election results will be announced on the second day of the spring conference.

OETS Report: Craig Reiner, Director

Mr. Reiner reported on the recent change of the State 9-1-1 Commission to include the radio interoperability group. It is now the Public Safety Communications Commission. He expects that the operational changes in the organization will allow for more timely action on members being appointed. He noted that the NJ NENA representative has been awaiting appointment for several years.

While it is hoped that the grant program will be restored, it is highly unlikely. He advised that A. Ebeid, the Chief Technology Officer at OIT and Co-Chair of the Public Safety Communications Commission, fought hard to keep the program in some form and will continue to work to have it restored.

New Jersey has received a Federal Stimulus Grant to improve broadband access for public safety. New Jersey hopes to fortify the Garden State Network and establish a statewide broadband Public Safety Access Network.

OETS Training Update: Charles Mars, Coordinator, ETS

Mr. Mars provided an overview of the changes to the "Sick Person" guide card. The card now includes signs and symptoms of the flu. The updated cards are being distributed by OETS staff and were available to those at the meeting. A PowerPoint program reviewing the new card and some suggestions on planning for continuity of operations during a flu epidemic is now available on the OETS website, www.nj.gov/911. Among the suggestions is the establishment of a TERT program in NJ so that personnel can be deployed where needed. President Ray Kenny advised that since the last Commission meeting, he has been able to start talks with those in Homeland security and Emergency Management to get the New Jersey TERT program off the ground. Vice President Ray Strilec announced that he has formatted a browser based copy of the EMD Guide Cards and made it available to anyone who would like a copy.

National Academies of Emergency Dispatch Presentation: Jim Grissom

Mr. Grissom provided a review of the development of the NAED and their training programs. The Emergency Telecommunicator Course (ETC) has recently been approved for basic telecommunicator training in New Jersey. He also described the NAED Accredited Centers of Excellence (ACE) program that recognizes those PSAPs that meet the high standards established by NAED. Mr. Grissom then presented an overview of the ETC program. The extensive curriculum, audio visual aids and certification process were all covered.

NG9-1-1: Robert Gojanovich, RCC

Mr. Gojanovich noted that a National 9-1-1 office has been established. For more information visit their website at: <http://www.e-911ico.gov/index.html>. This office will help ensure a smoother transition to the establishment of Next Generation 9-1-1 (NG9-1-1). A proof of concept for NG9-1-1 has been completed and the report is available on the NENA and DOT websites. Additionally, a transition plan has been submitted to Congress and is available for review on-line. An Industry Collaboration Event (ICE) is scheduled for early November. These events allow the many CPE vendors to bring their equipment in to a central location and demonstrate that it will work as promised.

Mr. Gojanovich also reported on the status of the standards for VoIP. There are three levels to the standard, I1 is intended as an immediate fix for VoIP callers to 9-1-1. This standard allowed VoIP callers to be routed to a ten-digit number when they dialed 9-1-1. I2 was an interim solution which required the callers to be sent to the PSAP's CPE. NENA is now working to finish the I3 standard which is the ideal or indefinite solution. This standard would have calls processed completely on IP. He explained that I3 is the infrastructure and NG9-1-1 involves the applications that will run on the infrastructure. The I3 solution will come out in three versions. The first version will not include texting or streaming video. He also noted that New Jersey's approach of using the existing Garden State Network for 9-1-1 and public safety communications broadband access is the most cost effective approach. The cost to build a new infrastructure and have sufficient bandwidth would be excessive.

Adjournment: Ray Kenny, President

In closing, President Kenny urged all attendees to write to their legislators to restore the 9-1-1 funds and grant programs. He will have a sample letter posted on the NJ NENA website. A motion was made, seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.