

**LOUISIANA NENA CHAPTER MEETING MINUTES**  
**JANUARY 25, 2024**  
**LAFAYETTE, LA**

President Dennis Darouse called the meeting to order and welcomed all first-time attendees to the meeting. The prayer and pledge was led by Richard McGuire.

**Secretary/Treasurer's Report**

*Financial*

Linda Lavergne reported that the current membership is 187 and prior membership was approximately 184. NENA's checking account balance is \$45,756.75 which includes money received for the Symposium.

On a motion made by Debra Hopkins, seconded by Sean Spansel the financial report was unanimously approved.

*Minutes*

On a motion made by Richard McGuire, seconded by Jack Varnado the minutes from the previous meeting were unanimously approved.

**New Business**

*Committee Reports: Louisiana Next Generation 9-1-1 Sub-Committee*

Richard McGuire reported that the Louisiana Next-Generation 9-1-1 Sub-Committee is moving forward with the Joint Services Agreement. Mr. McGuire advised that the Louisiana Next Generation 9-1-1 Sub-Committee plans to release the Request for Qualifications for the Consultant next month. Mr. McGuire then stated that Louisiana Next Generation 9-1-1 Sub-Committee will meet at the next chapter meeting to select the consultant who will draft the RFP for NG911 services. Discussion followed.

*Committee Reports: Symposium Committee*

Linda Lavergne reported that the 2024 Louisiana APCO/NENA Symposium will be held April 29<sup>th</sup> – May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 in Bossier City at the Horseshoe Casino & Hotel. Ms. Lavergne reported the Symposium Committee met last night and has begun selecting speakers and are currently filling in the agenda. Ms. Lavergne asked that if anyone has ideas for training or speakers for the 2024 Symposium to contact a member of the Symposium Committee.

Jade Gabb then advised members of the various topics that will be presented at the Symposium which include, cyber security, the use of the APCO training portal, NCIC/CJIS/FBI updates, managing conflict on the job, response domestic violence and branding your agency/social media management. Discussion followed.

*Louisiana Wireless Information Network (LWIN)*

Brandon Allen with Motorola Solutions gave members an update on the Louisiana Wireless Information Network (LWIN) and discussed infrastructure, system coverage, subscriber statistics, system statistics and outages. Mr. Allen also informed members of the nine new proposed tower sites in the state of Louisiana. Mr. Allen then advised members that if anyone has questions regarding the ethernet project to contact Blaine Kelly with AT&T.

Mr. Allen also spoke to members about the new technology from Motorola which includes radios that have the ability to connect over WIFI and connect over cellular which helps supplement radio coverage for first responders. Discussion followed.

*Panic Button Application/Smart911*

Brian O'Donnell with Rave Mobile Safety updated members on the progress of the statewide Rave panic button project. Mr. O'Donnell advised that Rave is currently educating schools and working with 911 offices throughout the state regarding the set up and use of the panic button. Discussion Followed.

**Other Business**

Jade Gabb led a discussion with members regarding the use of a social media company to help promote both the Louisiana Chapters of APCO and NENA as well as the annual Symposium. Mr. Gabb advised he is proposing the use of Empire Media Management for a 6-month trial at a rate of \$200.00 per month. On a motion made by Kory Latiolais, seconded by Richard McGuire the hiring of Empire Media Management was unanimously approved.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Tommy Mazzone to adjourn, seconded by Chad Breaux and unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned.