

## Texas APCO Board Meeting 02092021

**Members Present:** Jeremy Hill, Cindy Bridges, Roderick Jackson, Greg Ballentine, Dustin Alexander, Kelle Hall, Shantelle Oliver, Robbyn Hart, Mandi Jones

**Members Absent:** Beth English

**Call to order** by President Jeremy Hill at 10:04 am.

**Approval of Minutes:** Kelle motioned to approve the last meeting's minutes. Robbyn seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Financial Report**

Robbyn provided the Treasurer's Report.

## **Old Business**

### **April 2021 APCO Conference**

There will not be any penalties for the last 2 years' cancellations. They request we commit to 2023. Robbyn made a motion we commit to 2023 providing no extra fees are added. Shantelle seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Fall 2021 Training Symposium**

Members discussed successfully researching and putting together training for the fall symposium, knowing there was a possibility for it to be cancelled due to COVID related restrictions. It had been discussed in the past to observe how the national conferences go and proceed from there. Members discussed utilizing a virtual platform in October to continue with a fall symposium. The current budget is \$1,000. Cindy made a motion for TX APCO to provide an 8 hour virtual event in October. Kelle seconded it. Motion passed unanimously. Members also discussed possibly providing TCOLE credit for the 8 hour course.

### **APCO Training Division**

Cindy reported the YouTube channel name is TX APCO. The name is general so separate files can be created for each category of training and announcements. Members discussed the possibility of offering TCOLE credit for training provided via the YouTube channel. This posed many questions including: How can we prove who is watching? How do we prove people are watching and engaged the whole time? Who will create lesson plans? It is doubtful TCOLE will approve credit for a 2 minute training. As another option members discussed looking into providing TCOLE credit for the 8 hour training during the Fall Symposium. Shantelle provided TCOLE insight: Who will report it? We need to get permission from TCOLE to do training virtually. People would have to register for the virtual conference beforehand for accountability. We would need to get the virtual platform approved by TCOLE. TCOLE would probably require attendees' cameras to be up and on for the duration of the training. Members discussed possibly

using satellite locations across the state and have the membership physically go to one of the locations to attend the training. A central host would be needed to get credit. People could log into the class from anywhere if they just wanted to attend the training but not get TCOLE credit. Each member will research virtual training possibilities and solutions and the best way to proceed. The topic will be revisited next meeting.

Board members will send their 2 minute training videos to Roderick for review, and he will post them to the YouTube channel.

### **APCO San Antonio**

Kelle advised there are no major updates. They are still searching for people to do resume reviews. They need 3 people per day Monday and Tuesday. A lunch pass is included. 4 hours of volunteering provides a day pass for the conference. They're ideally looking for someone from the San Antonio area as they do not have any funds to provide travel. Most of the TX APCO Board is attending. Kelle suggests arriving Friday, Aug 13<sup>th</sup>. Robbyn advised TX APCO will cover the hotel and conference registration prices. Flight and transport costs are not covered.

### **Ambassador Program**

Kelle emailed Board Members a draft of the Ambassador Application. Members discussed Ambassadors submitting 2 minute trainings to the TX APCO YouTube Channel. Roderick will reach out to Charlesetta Malone with PETS to see if PETS would like to offer trainings as well.

### **Inclusion Committee**

Shantelle is asking for board members' input for topics and questions for the committee. Members discussed renaming the committee the Membership Engagement Committee.

### **Health and Wellness**

Jeremy advised the APCO Health & Wellness Committee is developing a mirror image to 16 Life Saving Initiatives from the Fire Service which names 9 things everyone should do every one day to make sure they're healthy and well. APCO is developing a CISM standard. The APCO Health & Wellness Committee has to wait for that standard to move forward. Kelle suggested adding a financial aspect to the overall wellness plan.

### **Awards**

Jeremy asked how we should proceed with presenting the 2019 awards that would have been presented at the 2020 spring conference April of 2020. Members discussed posting some type of presentation on the TX APCO YouTube Channel, shipping them to the agency of the recipient, or possibly delivering them by hand. It was suggested that the President or the Ambassadors deliver them. Kelle made a motion if we can hand deliver the awards to each recipient for under \$500 we do deliver them. If not, then ship them. Roderick seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. The 2020 awards need to be selected

and announced. Mandi will chair the 2020 Awards Committee. Kelle will teach Mandi how to share information on the TX APCO social media to gather nominations.

### **Weldon Joe Blair Award of Distinction**

Greg typed up the official nomination for Ken Yoder. Greg will forward the nomination to the President of APCO International, Derrick Poarch with APCO International.

## **New business**

### **Sunshine Fund**

Greg provided an addition to the policy manual for establishing a Sunshine Fund to be used to give money to members in need. A copy was emailed to all Board Members. Cindy made a motion to accept Article 10 and add it to the policy manual. Robbyn seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Pre-Conference Course**

The provider of the pre-conference course for the spring conference can no longer provide the training. Members have been discussing offering an alternative to this course virtually. The alternatives thus far have been using a NENA course. Kelle suggested we present an APCO course and ask NENA if they will split the cost with us. Roderick suggested using Michael Swainson from Canada. He already has an 8 hour course called Survival Skills for the First Responder that is for Telecommunicators. The course would likely be offered via Zoom. Roderick will ask Michael Swainson if he is available and the cost.

### **Changing of Guard**

Kelle asked if we would do a virtual meeting in April for changing of the guard. Members agreed we will remain virtual for now.

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Nominations**

Nominations are needed for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President position. Cindy will do a call out for nominations. Jeremy suggested we utilize the YouTube channel.

Meeting adjourned at 11:32 am.