

5-21-89

5-22-89 agenda
item 3.

APCO BOARD OF OFFICERS MEETING

April 19, 1989

Arlington Heights, Illinois

Proposed Minutes

The meeting was called to order by President Gary Gray. Others in attendance were President-Elect George Murray; First Vice President Sam Gargaro; Second Vice President Ronnie Rand; and Executive Director Bob Tall.

President Gray announced the subjects to be considered at the meeting.

1. Rand suggested that the staff investigate the possibility of having college credits awarded for APCO's educational courses.

2. Gargaro moved that the APCO Institute Board of Directors study the feasibility of developing a Telecommunicator Supervisory Course, do scientific marketing research in selected states, and issue an RFP for the development of the course if its feasibility is indicated. The motion was seconded and carried.

3. The Board directed Tall to investigate possibilities with respect to the retention of a Grants Officer on the APCO staff or as a consultant.

4. By concensus, the Board decided to ask the May 22 meeting of the Executive Council in Charleston, W. Va., for authority to fill the staff position of Director of Administrative Services.

5. Gargaro volunteered to write a summary of Board activities since the January Board meetings in New Smyrna Beach for distribution to the Executive Council.

6. A letter from Tennessee Local Frequency Advisor Joe Gourley, concerning frequency advisory work prior to the submission of a formal request for coordination by an applicant, was discussed by the Board and referred to a meeting of the Board of Directors of Automated Frequency Coordination, Inc., scheduled for May 23 in Charleston, W. Va.

7. A letter from John DiSalvo, of the Florida Division of Communications, pertaining to correspondence between an employee in his division and an employee of CET, Inc., was discussed by the Board, which directed Tall to correspond with CET regarding the matter. (Letter is Attachment #1 to these minutes.)

8. The Board considered and declined to adopt a recommendation from APCO Controller Jack Woods concerning the possibility of establishing a one-time initiation fee for APCO membership, in

addition to dues payments.

9. The Board considered a letter from 1991 Annual Conference Chairman Joe Dowd, of Tulsa, requesting the Board's opinion as to whether it would be acceptable to apply a surcharge on hotel rooms at the Conference to pay for bus transportation to and from the hotels to the site of the Conference activities, and held that such a surcharge should not be levied.

10. Other matters of general interest were discussed, and further preparations were made for the submission of the new budget request to the Executive Council early in July, for its action during the Annual Conference in August.

11. Murray moved that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was seconded and carried. The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert E. Tall,
Executive Director

BOB MARTINEZ
GOVERNOR
JIM SMITH
SECRETARY OF STATE
ROBERT A. BUTTERWORTH
ATTORNEY GENERAL
GERALD LEWIS
STATE COMPTROLLER
TOM GALLAGHER
TREASURER
DOYLE CONNER
COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE
BETTY CASTOR
COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES

LARSON BUILDING, 200 E. GAINES ST.
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-0950



RONALD W. THOMAS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

PLEASE ADDRESS REPLY TO:

Division of Communications

April 10, 1989

Mr. Bob Tall
Executive Director
APCO, Inc.
P. O. Box 280
New Smyrna Beach, FL 32070

APR 10 1989

Re: Letter of February 23, 1989 from Joe A. Stephenson of CET, Inc. to
Kourosh Bastani

Dear Mr. Tall:

Mr. Kourosh Bastani of our Bureau of Communications Engineering received the enclosed letter regarding Mr. Carlton Wells on March 20, 1989 from Mr. Joe A. Stephenson of CET. Since CET is a contractor to APCO, I felt that our position should be directed to you.

I consider Mr. Stephenson's remarks regarding Mr. Wells' personal intentions and capabilities to be viciously derogatory and one of the most unwarranted personal attacks I have ever seen. They are even further antagonistic since the originating problems were due to CET system performance, rather than any action initiated by Mr. Wells. I consider such hostile correspondence to raise a larger question as to CET's motives regarding a cooperative attitude toward the Local Frequency Advisor concept itself.

Since Mr. Wells, as well as Mr. Bastani, work neither for CET nor APCO, and have many other responsibilities in addition to frequency coordination, I request that you advise CET to refrain from making such slanderous remarks regarding our employees, and at the very least attempt to reconcile such matters in a professional manner more conducive to a mutually cooperative effort. I also request that you advise CET that in the future, any problem which they cannot resolve directly with our employees be referred through our supervisory channels which is Mr. Bob Ferrell his immediate supervisor, Mr. John DiSalvo, Bureau Chief, and finally Mr. Glenn W. Mayne, Director.

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As Mr. Stephenson admitted in his letter, the initiating incident of February 16, 1989 occurred when CET elected to modify the Florida application database while Mr. Wells was on-line with the same database. Since Mr. Stephenson should be fully aware of the confusion which follows at the distant end in such a situation, I find it completely absurd that CET, responsible for nationwide multi-user access activities, would allow this kind of pre-emption, and at the very least, provide no warning message to advise the on-line user.

Mr. Wells' two E-Mails to APCO of February 16, 1989 correctly document his experience with the CET system inadequacies during this incident:

E-Mail regarding #12405:

"This application should be checked. While I was working in the application database on 13281 (Clewiston) the screen blipped from 13281 to 12405. As the cursor scanned the screen, items became blank; except for the changed item. Then the next screen brought up 12405. CET still has some bugs to work out of their programming; especially when the application database is open. We can't be held responsible for accuracy of the database. This happened 2/16/89, 9:21 am....."

E-Mail regarding #13281:

"The application on the database does not have the frequencies entered. The system would not let me access that portion of the database for this application. This was noted in the "coordinator's remarks" section of the application database. No E-Mail was sent to CET regarding this matter."

Mr. Stephenson should be aware that Mr. Wells cannot read the minds of the CET staff, and was conscientiously and very accurately reporting to APCO exactly what happened. His conclusion as to CET's "bugs" is also correct. In view of the FCC time constraints upon frequency coordination, you can rest assured that Mr. Wells, Mr. Bastani, and the rest of our staff will continue to document and forward to APCO the data as to all hindrances by CET to the timely completion of our work.

The CET system further skewed this unfortunate situation by not providing Mr. Wells with an acknowledgement to either of his two E-Mails of February 16. Mr. Stephenson admitted in his letter as to previous problems with E-Mail acknowledgements; we agree that such problems began with inception of the CET system and evidently continue to this day.

Mr. Wells' E-Mail to APCO of February 22, 1989, which restated both his approval of #13281 (Clewiston) and the system problem of February 16th, was due to a phone call from APCO stating that they had not yet received any approval for #13281 i.e., APCO had not received the second E-Mail of February 16. Mr. Stephenson's statement that "The message was sent, and obviously was received by NAPCO, because they mailed the application to the FCC on February 22, 1989." was his own incorrect assumption as to what happened.


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With continued CET system difficulty, Mr. Wells' E-Mail of February 22 also received no acknowledgement. Mr. Wells' subsequent E-Mail of February 23, 1989, in light of no acknowledgements to any of his previous submittals, and knowing that APCO had not received at least one of his past three, was simply a recap of all previous E-Mails to date on the subject of #13281. The fact that Mr. Stephenson did not recognize this, and instead interpreted Mr. Wells' statements as "misleading", "incorrect", "not necessary", and "derogatory" is simply a further overall indication of the CET system inadequacies rather than "a reflection of his ability" as Mr. Stephenson put it. Carlton Wells is one of our most highly respected Communications Engineers within the Division of Communications, and on behalf of the State of Florida, I strongly resent Mr. Stephenson's comments as stated and as implied.

As to the time between our first approval of #13281 on February 16th, and our second on February 22, the intervening 6-day delay will unfortunately be charged to the APCO clock.

I regard Mr. Wells' actions with regard to the particular City of Clewiston application to reflect his sincere and conscientious interest in a successful frequency coordination effort on behalf of his client. I would expect no less and no differently from any employee of the Division of Communications. Had it not been for Mr. Wells' perseverance in attempting to communicate the necessary information to APCO, the coordination for Clewiston might remain uncompleted today.

Sincerely,



John R. DiSalvo, Chief
Bureau of Communications
Engineering

GWM:krt:jscet.doc

Enclosure: 2/23/89 Letter with Attachments

cc: Gary David Gray, President, APCO w/enclosure
George W. Murray, President Elect, APCO w/enclosure
Sam Gargaro, First Vice President, APCO w/enclosure
Ronnie Rand, Second Vice President, APCO w/enclosure
Ali Shahnam, APCO Frequency Coordination Manager w/enclosure
Ken Yoder, APCO FAC Chairman w/enclosure
Della Shealy, President, Florida APCO w/enclosure
Gill T. Lineberry, APCO National Executive
Committee w/enclosure
Bill Davis, President, CET w/enclosure