

CALIFORNIA PUBLIC-SAFETY RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.

P.O. BOX 1181, RIVERSIDE, CA 92502 (213) 291-9411 (MESSAGE/FAX)
A CHAPTER OF THE ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC-SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS OFFICIALS (APCO) INT'L.
www.cpra.org

MINUTES

CHAPTER MEETING DECEMBER 09, 2010 LUMINARIAS RESTAURANT MONTEREY PARK, CA

SUMMARY

Meeting Host: Gary Poon, County of Los Angeles
Early Bird Sponsor: Not applicable for this meeting
Secretary's Report: Minutes for the November meeting are posted on the CPRA web site
Treasurer's Report: See comments
Program: CPRA Chapter Officer Installation and "Year in Review"
Presenters: CPRA Executive Committee
Attendance: 36

AGENDA

Greeting – Gary Poon. President Gary opened the chapter meeting at 10:30 a.m. He welcomed everyone to the December CPRA meeting. Mike Rowles led the Pledge of Allegiance. Gary thanked everyone for attending the CPRA Chapter Officer Installation Luncheon.

Introductions - All. New members were welcomed. Everyone in attendance was asked to introduce themselves.

Membership Report – Ken Shearen. Ken reported that we have 471 members with five new members joining the chapter. They include: Jeffrey Logan (Comm Supervisor), Melinda Valentini (Shift Supervisor), Woody James (IT Specialist), and Freddy Bear (IT Specialist) all from North County Dispatch, Rancho Santa Fe, CA. Also Battalion Chief Jose Valbuena from OC Fire Authority is a new member. Ken noted that he had sent welcome letters to each of the new members.

Meeting Program Review – Adriana Spirescue. Adriana reviewed the upcoming schedule for meetings in 2011. Preliminary details were discussed. It was noted that details for the 2011 schedules will be on the website. President Gary commented that the next meeting will be held January 20, 2011 at the Ontario PD in Ontario.

Treasurer's Report – John Wright.

Monthly Financial Report. John provided a report of income and expenses for the previous month. He stated that total income for the month was \$22,030.05 and the total expenditures were \$16,872.65. Income included meeting registrations, plus WRC booth purchases. Expenses included luncheon payments, insurance renewals, WRC publicity and registration costs, and printing costs for the CommLink.

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Minutes, CPRA Chapter Meeting, December 09, 2010 (cont.)

Regional Director/Executive Council Report – Richard Granado/Jim Acosta. It was noted that there will be an Executive Council Teleconference coming up in January. Inputs from the chapter should be submitted to Jim.

Frequency Coordinator Updates – Gary Gray. The following reports were provided:
CalSIEC SPA. It was noted that the next Southern Planning Area (SPA) meeting will be held January 12, 2011 at the LA-RICS offices. There will be a call in conference call number available.
FCC Announcements. Gary provided information about upcoming steps pertinent to a Narrowband environment. There were further comments by Dave Buchanan regarding contacting the FCC for seeking a narrowband waiver.
700 MHz Update. Dave Buchanan commented about responses to a recent public notice. He indicated that the 700 MHz Planning Committee for Region 5 submitted inputs.
800 MHz Update. Jim Donovan noted there were not specific comments to report.
800 Rebanding and Supplementary Comments – Ray Grimes. Please see attached notes.

C & B Updates – Gary Gray. Gary brought to the floor proposed updates to the CPRA Constitution & Bylaws, Article II, Sections 9 and 11. The changes provide wording corrections. A motion was made and seconded to adopt the changes. Motion carried.

Chapter Commercial Advisory Member – Jack Daniel. Jack invited each of the Commercial Members in attendance to do a self introduction and give a brief comment about their respective products and services.
Western Region Conference Booth Reservations. Jack encouraged all commercials to reserve booths promptly.

2011 WRC – Ken Mann. It was noted that the APCO Western Regional Conference (WRC) as hosted by CPRA will be Feb 7 – 9, 2011. The Ontario Convention Center will be the location for the conference. Ken commented about the variety of programs. Many details are on the WRC website at www.cpra.org/2011apcowrc.htm.

CPRA Officer Installation.

Officer Installation. Gary Gray administered the Oath of Office to the 2011 CPRA Executive Committee Officers on behalf of CPRA, the southern California chapter of the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials-International (APCO). Each officer, as identified below, acknowledged acceptance of his/her respective duties and responsibilities by stating "I do."

2011 CPRA Officers

President – Ken Shearen
President-Elect – Adriana Spirescu
Vice-President – Tim Trager
Executive Council Delegate – Jim Acosta
Sergeant-at-Arms – Don Miller
Treasurer – John Wright
Secretary – Mike Rowles

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Presidential Service & Chapter Support Service Awards – Gary Poon. Gary presented a series of Presidential Service Awards. Gary recognized Chuck Taylor for his advice, support, and behind the scenes work for the chapter; Ernest Gallo for his excellent and ongoing service as web master; Jack Daniel for his development of a strong commercial committee and his creative work with logos for the chapter; Adriana Spirescu for her superb support for the 75th Anniversary Celebration plus her contributions of photographic excellence; and Mike Rowles for his secretarial support.

Chapter Support Service Awards – Gary Poon. Gary also presented Chapter Support Service Awards as follows:

Robert Stoffel – For his service to the chapter as the Master of Ceremonies at the 2010 Telecommunicator Awards Banquet. Robert also served as the MC at the CPRA 75th Anniversary Celebration.

Ray Grimes – For serving as the lead information source regarding the 800 MHz Rebanding process for Region 5. Ray was also recognized for presenting a remarkable collection of vintage radio equipment at the CPRA 75th Anniversary Celebration.

Members of the Radio & Microwave Unit, Orange County Sheriff's Communications & Technology Division. This team was recognized for planning, preparing, and presenting a superb BBQ luncheon at the CPRA 75th Anniversary Celebration. Members of the team included: Jim Donovan, Tim Noldan, Todd Paulick, and Eldwin Lajom (Cooks); Malvin Longbrake and Sam Maynard (Set Up); and Mark Rettberg (Parking).

Outgoing President Comments – Gary Poon. Gary thanked everyone for their support and participation in the 2010 chapter events. He shared that serving as CPRA President was a very important event in his life, and that he looked forward to continuing an active role as a Director.

Presentation of the Gavel – Gary Poon. Gary introduced Ken S. who will serve as the CPRA President for 2011. Gary presented him with the official gavel for use in the upcoming year. Thus the transfer of responsibilities was duly accomplished.

Incoming President Comments – Ken Shearen. Ken commented that he was honored to serve as the CPRA President. He noted that he looked forward to working with the rest of the Executive Committee and all the chapter members to move forward with a very successful 2011.

CPRA in Review – Adriana Spirescu. Adriana presented an entertaining video show of CPRA historic and current photographs put to music. There was emphasis on the CPRA 75th Anniversary Celebration held in September. President Ken expressed sincere thanks to Adriana for the program.

Meeting Adjourned. Ken extended a special thanks to everyone for participating in the Officer Installation Luncheon. The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

New Officer Training. Members from the 2011 Executive Committee convened after lunch for a special training session designed to assist the new officers with their respective responsibilities. There were excellent discussions and an exchange of information for everyone.

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Notes for the Record.

Frequency Advisory Committee (FAC). Gary Gray convened the Frequency Advisory Committee (FAC) meeting prior to the CPRA meeting. Ongoing and new frequency requests were then presented and acted upon.

Respectfully submitted,
Mike Rowles
Secretary

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800 Rebanding and Supplementary Comments – Ray Grimes.

1. Sprint-Nextel announced that it will begin shutting down its legacy 800 MHz/900 MHz iDEN domestic network in 2013 and will promote push-to-talk (PTT) on its Sprint (2G/3G CDMA) network. This change in business direction was in part, brought on by a steady decline in iDEN subscribers since Sprint purchased the Nextel system in 2005. Sprint-Nextel presently has around 10.6 million iDEN network subscribers. Sprint has lost money in every quarter since 2007 which is partially blamed on running two incompatible networks. Some impacts are obvious, such as public safety and local government have in many cases, eliminated their traditional two-way radio systems to take advantage of push-to-talk walkie-talkies combined with telephone interconnect and text messaging in one subscriber unit. Unless Sprint offers a very compelling replacement upgrade package, these organizations may not be able to afford new equipment to move to a new network. The less obvious impact is that if the Nextel side of the business is terminated, then Sprint may argue that Nextel's 800 MHz Rebanding obligation is also terminated. Though the FCC has mandated that Nextel guarantee the funds to complete 800 MHz, Rebanding, Nextel's absence may leave a void in the administration and negotiation of remaining 800 MHz Rebanding, where the FCC would have to appoint a new administrator/negotiator entity to complete the program.
2. 2010 closes with virtually nothing of substance occurring with respect to Wave 4 800 MHz Rebanding. Though diplomatic negotiations continue between the U.S. and Mexico governments, no real expectation of an executable Wave 4 border plan is likely during 2011. Even if a diplomatic agreement was reached, both countries would have to ratify the agreement, to include a public comment period and public hearings. 2012 would be the best guess as to when Wave 4 Rebanding might proceed (notwithstanding, Mexico has enough governmental problems of a higher priority to also deal with). The concern though, is that many public safety legacy systems would then be 7 years older than when Rebanding began, leaving many agencies in limbo as to necessary and urgent replacement by Sprint-Nextel (or maybe just Sprint?). As time marches on, equipment suppliers, contractors, and service providers are moving away from 800 MHz Rebanding, so the question then is who is going to support the completion of this program and will 800 MHz Rebanding equipment be readily available?
3. By popular demand, Ray Grimes has agreed to reestablish the quarterly 800 MHz Rebanding Discussion Group meetings formerly held at OCFA's Regional Fire Training Center in Irvine. The first meeting of 2011 will likely occur in mid-February to late February. Watch for more information when the meeting venue is confirmed.
4. FLO TV (formerly MEDIA-FLO, a Qualcomm company) has recently announced the termination of its TV Channel 55 based (700 MHz) direct-to-consumer mobile TV subscription service which will continue operation to at least Spring 2011. By the end of 2009, FLO TV had developed service in 107 domestic markets, serving more than 200 million consumers. Though Qualcomm states that they are in discussions with interested telecommunications service providers to takeover this spectrum and its markets, there are indications that FLO TV may have already shut down transmitters in some locations. TV Channel 55 occupies the spectrum from 716 MHz to 722 MHz and was licensed by the FCC to operate at 50 KW ERP. FLO TV's high power operations posed serious concerns to present and future 700 MHz public safety operations regarding potential for substantial localized RF interference. The shut-down of FLO TV's transmitters may also serve to reduce the RF noise floor in the 700 MHz band.