



Florida APCO Board Meeting
In Person
Tuesday, June 16th 2026
Caloosa Sound Conference Center
Fort Myers, FL
FL Chapter of APCO Annual Conference Business Meeting # 1

Attendance:

Officers & Guests Present:	Ivorie Barnes, Trae Maeder, Vonda Jones, Samantha Johnson, Gail Hall, Brandie Ball, Will Young
Absent:	Jenny Mason, James Ohmeke
Approval of Minutes:	Minutes from May 20 th , 2026 Meeting Motion: Trae Second: Vonda
Special Guests/Reports:	Dan Koenig – FL 911 Coordinators Association; Natalia Duran – FL TERT

Board Reports:

Treasurer's Report:	The Treasurer reported the following account balances as of 10:00 a.m. on June 16, 2026: - Chapter Account: \$122,341.73 - Conference Account: \$74,540.98 The Treasurer noted that all hotel invoices received to date have been paid and there are currently no outstanding conference payables. No balances were outstanding on chapter credit cards.
Secretary Report:	On behalf of Secretary James Ohmeke, Will Young presented the Secretary's Report. - Three Registered Public-Safety Leader (RPL) Scholarship applications are currently progressing through the approval process: - Shelby Fields - Jessica Martin - Amanda Neal - A smooth transition of chapter secretarial duties, records, and responsibilities is currently underway.
President/Other Report:	President had nothing to report.

Committee Reports:

ProCHRT:	Dan Koenig provided the ProCHRT report. The committee met on June 15, 2026, and will continue working with TriPod on legislative initiatives. The Florida Retirement System (FRS) study was completed last year, examining differences between General and Special Risk classifications. The current contract with Matt Puckett of Rutledge Ecenia is scheduled to expire in October. Discussions continue regarding collaboration among public safety organizations, with APCO focusing on wellness initiatives, NENA on technology issues, and the Florida 9-1-1 Coordinators Association on 9-1-1 fee-related matters. Industry associations are also being brought into these conversations. Additional updates included: Continued support for the HAVEN Act and inclusion of 9-1-1 professionals on related committees.
-----------------	--

	• Exploration of establishing a 501(c)(4) organization to support advocacy efforts and political engagement, including opportunities for vendor contributions. • Development of communication strategies to keep memberships informed. • Discussion of Community Action Teams in preparation for the 2027 Legislative Session, which begins in March 2027.
Training:	Gail provided the Training Committee report. The committee met on June 15, 2026. Updates included: • Continued development of the Two-Minute Training program. • Planning for in-person training opportunities, with the first event anticipated during the fourth quarter in partnership with Seminole County. • Discussion regarding RPL and Continuing Professional Education (CPE) opportunities, with input provided by Ricky Rowell and follow-up discussion from Trae regarding available avenues.
TERT:	Natalia provided the TERT report. Updates included: • Christine Wade was introduced as Membership Coordinator. • Florida continues to utilize the TERT platform provided by Texas. • Florida currently has 989 TERT members. • Recognition was given to the 261 dispatchers from 20 agencies who deployed during Hurricane Ian. • Florida's TERT program continues to serve as a model for other states. Natalia also discussed the use of the I Am Responding platform from RapidSOS, which is utilized by several states, including North Carolina, Kentucky, and Ohio, at a cost of \$343 annually. Motion from the Floor: Ricky Rowell moved that the Florida APCO Board cover the annual cost of the I Am Responding platform. Second: Samantha Johnson. <i>Motion carried.</i>
Public Affairs:	Will Young provided the Public Affairs report. Will reported that the Florida Chapter remains one of the most engaged APCO chapters in the country across social media and public communications platforms. Members were encouraged to share noteworthy events, accomplishments, and initiatives occurring within their communications centers for potential promotion through chapter channels.
Membership:	Trae provided the Membership Committee report was provided. The committee met on June 15, 2026. Co-Chairs Bonnie and Michael of Palm Beach County reported that membership growth has remained relatively stagnant but that renewed membership outreach and engagement efforts are being implemented.
Wellness:	The Wellness Committee report was provided. Members were reminded of the conference wellness activities, including Sunrise Yoga and the Puppy Corner. Natalia provided an update on the 9-1-1 Peer Support Network, including efforts to establish regional coordinators and identify a statewide central coordinator. Discussion included concerns regarding ten reported public safety telecommunicator suicides nationwide. Additional updates included discussion of the Struggle Well program and information shared by Samantha regarding UCF RESTORES programming being hosted in Hernando County.

Conference:	Trae provided the Conference Committee report. The Luminary Hotel is serving as the host site for the 2026 conference. Trae shared that the chapter expects to remain at the venue for the next two, and potentially three, years.
Executive Council:	Vonda provided the Executive Council report. Updates included: • Five Lifetime Membership nominations will be considered at the upcoming APCO International Conference in San Antonio. • Members were encouraged to vote on the proposal to include Colombia as part of the Gulf Coast Region. • Discussion regarding proposed bylaw revisions that would create two additional At-Large Director positions. • The APCO International Conference will be held August 2–5, 2026, in San Antonio, Texas. • Ricky Rowell was acknowledged for his service as Gulf Coast Representative.
Vendor/CCAM Representatives:	Jenny not in attendance as she is setting up the Expo Hall Members were reminded that: • The Expo Hall opens at 4:00 p.m. on June 16, 2026. • Vendor hospitality and networking events are scheduled for the evening. • Lunch will be provided in the Expo Hall on June 17, 2026.

General Discussion:	Election information was provided to those in attendance, and all were encouraged to log in to vote if eligible. Will Young mentioned anyone not having a physical device to access can get with him before 5pm on Wednesday. Steve Kennedy, speaking on his own behalf, discussed a proposed property tax ballot initiative that would eliminate property taxes on the first \$150,000 of assessed value for homesteaded properties. Board members engaged in discussion regarding the proposal and its potential legislative and fiscal impacts. Debbie Galbraith discussed opportunities to better educate conference attendees about chapter activities and increase member involvement. Suggestions included providing committee chairs with time during conference breakfasts or other general sessions to briefly discuss their committees and available volunteer opportunities. Discussion also focused on ensuring members are aware that board meetings are open and that participation is encouraged. Secretary Appointment Motion: Trae moved to approve the nomination of Will Young as Secretary of the Florida APCO Chapter. Second: Ivorie seconded the motion. Result: Motion carried.
Old Business:	None

Motion to Suspend:	Motioned by: Will Young	Seconded By: Ivorie Barnes
1124		