NASNA Annual Meeting and NENA National Conference

Representatives from the Ohio 9-1-1 Program Office attended the June 16-20 National Association of State 9-1-1 Administrators (NASNA) Annual Meeting and National Emergency Number Association (NENA) Conference in Nashville, Tenn. to further promote the development of 9-1-1 in Ohio.

Rob Jackson and Sharon McMurray attended the June 16-17 NASNA Annual Meeting. At the meeting, they interacted with counterparts from a variety of states, helping to foster the kind of communication that will be integral in making Next Generation 9-1-1 (NG9-1-1) work on a large scale. Additionally, the meetings featured presentations from representatives of NENA and the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials (APCO), industry experts, and various federal agencies.

Following the conclusion of the NASNA Annual Meeting, the NENA conference was held June 18-20. Ohio 9-1-1 Program Office staff members attended a wide variety of educational presentations on NG9-1-1 and associated issues. There was a large contingent of local 9-1-1 representatives from Ohio and our state participation in national efforts is strong.

Both events were extremely beneficial and the Ohio 9-1-1 Program Office is happy to have been able to participate, learn, and communicate with its partners in providing 9-1-1 service to the public.

Sharon McMurray attends an educational session at the NENA Conference.
Federal Engineering Report

Federal Engineering, Ohio’s NG9-1-1 consultant, delivered a report on June 14, further outlining previous recommendations to the state about costs associated with transitioning to NG9-1-1.

The intent of the study and report was to determine the comparative costs for a county to either join the state-run Ohio NG9-1-1 system or independently implement NG9-1-1 services at the local level, while achieving and maintaining compliance with the Public Safety Access Point (PSAP) Operations Rules specified in the Ohio Administrative Code. In order to do this, Federal Engineering examined PSAPs on the basis of size and sought information on costs for small, medium, and large PSAPs.

The report recommended a 25-cent 9-1-1 Universal Service Fee. Such a fee would completely fund the proposed statewide NG9-1-1 core services and the Emergency Services Internet Protocol Network (ESINet), as well as allow for an increase in the disbursements each county currently receives from the state for 9-1-1 purposes.

The report is available in its entirety on the Ohio 9-1-1 Program Office website on the “ESINet Steering Committee” tab in the “Shared Documents” section.

Local 9-1-1 representatives have reviewed the report and are currently providing input to the ESINet Steering Committee.

Save the Date – Ohio 9-1-1 Symposium – September 12, 2018

The Ohio 9-1-1 Program Office will conduct the annual Ohio 9-1-1 symposium for 9-1-1 professionals around the state on Wednesday, Sept. 12. Please go to https://www.eventbrite.com/e/ohio-9-1-1-symposium-tickets-43721290557 to register for this event.
GIS Webinar

Responding to a request from the Ohio Chapters of APCO and NENA at their spring quarterly business meeting, the Ohio 9-1-1 Program Office coordinated an NG9-1-1 Geographic Information Systems (GIS) webinar. The one-hour session was free and included presentations from NENA Technical Issues Director Roger Hixson, Jeff Smith of the Ohio Geographically Referenced Information Program, and Chris Santer, NENA’s representative to the Technical Standards Subcommittee.

The webinar was well attended and served to disseminate valuable information about the critical role GIS will play in NG9-1-1 and how best to prepare for the future. Participants were given contact information for questions or further issues relating to the proper function of NG9-1-1 in Ohio.

A recording of the webinar is available on the Ohio 9-1-1 Program Office website on the Resources page.

From left: Jeff Smith (DAS, OGRIP), Roger Hixson (NENA), and Chris Santer (NENA rep to the Technical Standards Subcommittee) each served as subject matter experts for the NG9-1-1 GIS Webinar.
State Fair Booth

The Ohio 9-1-1 Program Office again co-hosted a booth at the Ohio State Fair, July 25 through Aug. 5. Along with the Ohio AMBER Alert Advisory Committee, the Ohio 9-1-1 Program Office used this booth to promote public outreach and education on important matters of public safety.

Information on the current state of 9-1-1 in Ohio and coming NG9-1-1 technological and capability enhancements, as well as information about the Ohio 9-1-1 Program Office’s role in 9-1-1, was available to the browsing public. In particular, the Ohio 9-1-1 Program Office had a variety of materials for children, including Op and Rader coloring sheets and an interactive wheel to help children learn when and when not to call 9-1-1. Additionally, the AMBER Alert Advisory Committee again provided information about AMBER Alerts, Endangered Missing Child Alerts, Endangered Missing Adult Alerts, and the Ohio Blue Alert, as well as child identification kits, which parents and guardians can use to record their child’s vital information for quick access and distribution in the event of an emergency when a child goes missing.

The Ohio 9-1-1 Program Office enjoyed making the most of this time to engage with the public we seek to serve on a daily basis.