President Rod Coleman called the meeting to order at 10.00

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
President Coleman asked Harold Parker to lead the invocation and pledge of allegiance.

President Coleman announced that Harold Parker would be retiring soon and thanked Harold for his outstanding service to the association and 911 in Alabama.

WELCOME
President Coleman asked Ray Preston to come forward and welcome everyone. Ray welcomed all attendees to the AT&T facility and stated that AT&T has worked very hard to establish a well organized public safety team and asked the regional account managers, Chip Boswell (Birmingham, Shelby County, Calhoun County, Etowah County), Alan Bonner (Walker, Cullman, Tuscaloosa County down to Bibb County), Oliver Harris (counties north of Cullman County) and Nelvin Short (Jefferson County) to come forward and introduce themselves. Ray Preston then introduced Sandra Wall, Service Manager. Sandra gave an overview of her responsibilities and advised that any problems experienced in the trouble reporting process should be brought to her attention and she could have the trouble escalated. Ray Preston also announced that Sandra has re-established the OGM meetings and urged everyone to attend those scheduled meetings. He further announced that a new contact list was available at the sign-in table and that a copy would be posted on the website as soon as possible.

RECOGNITION OF GUESTS AND NEW MEMBERS
President Coleman recognized guests and new members and thanked them for their attendance.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 2008 MEETING MINUTES
The membership was presented with minutes of the October 12, 2008 annual meeting held at the Perdido Beach Resort in Orange Beach, Alabama. After review, a motion was made by Roger Humphrey to approve the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Harold Parker and approved by a vote of members present.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORT
Alabama NENA Treasurer, Roger Wilson presented the membership with the fourth quarter financial statement for the association's account(s). After review, Chris Heger made a motion to approve the financial report as presented. The motion was seconded by Margaret Bishop and approved by a vote of the members present.

COMMITTEE REPORTS
1. Legislative – Nothing to Report
2. Wireless - Johnny Hart advised that the Alabama Wireless Board has issued a RFI and once the information was received it would be presented to the districts and the wireless providers. Roger Wilson added that, for clarification, this network would only affect the wireless providers
and the delivery of wireless calls. He stated that should the wireless providers indicate a favorable opinion on the RFI, then the next logical step would be to issue a RFP as part of a bid process for this network.

Roger Wilson also advised that there are currently only about 8 districts left that have not been certified as Phase II capable. He reminded the membership that the June 14, 2009 deadline was approaching and encouraged all districts currently not certified to work toward testing and certification prior to that deadline in order to received reimbursement on their investment. Jean Martin with Southern Linc advised that she would readily help any district in their service area with testing as soon as possible in order to accomplish certification.

3. Conference – Bill Brodeur reported to the membership that the conference had netted a profit of approximately $8,400 for the 2008 Conference. He stated that this was lower than the previous years and outlined several issues that caused the conference to lose revenue, including attrition with the hotel, less sponsorships, etc. Current Conference Chairman, Lynn Wright advised that there were going to be some changes made in the coming year to try to offset some of those losses, including an increase in registration fees to $175.00. She further advised that a voucher would be issued for $50.00 credit on a three night stay at the Perdido Beach Resort in an effort to help offset the increase for attendees and further encourage attendees to register their stay with the hotel in an attempt to meet the room block guarantee and avoid attrition. She also stated that there were some plans to make changes to the educational sessions and events, including more class offerings and opportunities to attend a specific class, changing the lunch from Tuesday to Monday, etc. Lynn stated that she welcomed all ideas and suggestions and introduced the Conference Committee as follows:
   Conference Chair – Lynn Wright
   Exhibit Hall Chair – Shelton Gray
   Education Chair – Amy Adams
   Merchandise Chair – Cheryl King
   Promotion Chair – Larry Duncan/Chuck McKinley
   Shrimp Boil Chair – Chris Heger

Art Faulkner stated that the conference committee should be mindful of the fact that for those agencies who receive per diem for their travel expenses, keeping the room rate low is a priority and that increases in registration fees are easier for those attendees as opposed to increases in room rates.

4. Membership - Cheryl King advised that the membership committee is still challenging each agency to recruit one new member this year. President Coleman advised that he had received a roster of members on the roll which number 395, however, 129 of those listed had not yet renewed at the time the list was posted.

5. Internet/Website – No report
6. Addressing/GIS – No report
7. ECD Database – No report. President Coleman did encourage everyone to complete their district’s information in the database and to periodically update that information.
8. BREMSS – Max Armstrong advised that BREMSS is currently working on new protocols and rules but that did not affect the entire state.
9. TERT – Hunter Simmons advised that a Leadership Training Class was currently being developed. He further stated that the website was not currently available publicly but would be soon.
10. NENA – President Rod Coleman stated that he had been informed by Southeast Regional VP, Tonni Dunne that National NENA CEO, Brian Fontes had met with President Obama’s Transition team and was confident of a continued strong partnership with our national leaders. President

11. HLS – Art Faulkner advised that Homeland Security was currently in the process of applying for the FY 09 Grant which would be approximately $12-13 million this year. He stated that the application process would be complete by March 1, 2009 and expected the funding around June of this year. He further stated that it is anticipated that soon matching funds may be required on the grant and that this will provide a better opportunity for 911 districts to provide funding to match funds for upcoming projects they may have.

12. APCO – Helen Smith advised that the next quarterly APCO meeting will be held at the Montgomery Communications Center on February 5, 2009 and the Annual Conference would be held at the Perdido Beach Resort March 29-April 1, 2009 and that this was the last year that it would be held at the Perdido Beach Resort.

13. TELCOS – Ray Preston reminded everyone of the new contact list mentioned earlier. A representative from Century Tel stated that he would be available to answer any questions or concerns.

14. IACP – No report

15. IAFC – Brian Bonner reported that the IAFC Conference would be held February 3-6. He further advised that the IAFC had been investigating radio communication issues and have developed best practices for radio communications. Additionally, there are training programs concerning Mutual Aid that are available. All documents and training courses are available on the website: www.iafc.org

16. AAND – Hunter Simmons reminded municipal districts that they must have a formal motion from their city council to participate in the ACCA’s Joint Bid Program. He further stated that a Task Force was being developed jointly with ALNENA and anticipated a conference call to be scheduled for the coming Friday. He also advised that quarterly meetings would begin to be held in conjunction with the ALNENA quarterly meetings, scheduled for after the lunch on those meeting dates and locations. Hunter reminded the membership of the Joint Conference being held with AEMA at the Hotel Capstone in Tuscaloosa on Tuesday through Thursday of the coming week and encouraged members to attend at least the break-out sessions scheduled for 911 on Wednesday.

LATA REPORTS

Birmingham LATA: Bill Brodeur advised that the Jefferson County consolidation effort had stalled and that it appeared that the issue was “dead”. He further stated that Harold Parker had retired from his position in Homewood and that Hunter Simmons has been named as the 911 Director for that District.

Huntsville LATA: Larry Duncan advised that there was nothing new to report.

Mobile LATA: Chris Heger advised that Baldwin and Mobile counties were currently in the installation phase of a VoIP system and future plans were to create a network between the two counties.

Montgomery LATA: Kristi Stamnes was not present to report.

OLD BUSINESS

Bylaws Committee
President Rod Coleman advised that the Bylaws Committee had been formed for the purpose of updating the current bylaws to make the language more current and applicable, as well as incorporating
suggested changes in the structure of the executive board. He further stated that term limits are being considered. He stated that the bylaws would soon be posted on the website and a period for comments to be submitted to the chairman, Larry Duncan would be allowed. He stated that the current plan included bringing the final changes before the membership, possibly at the April quarterly meeting for final comments and/or suggestions and then the formal version proposed by the committee would be submitted in accordance with the current bylaws and voted on by the membership at the annual meeting in October.

Federal E9-1-1 Grant Program
Hunter Simmons gave an overview of the Federal Grant Program stating that a federal grant in the amount of $43.5 million dollars has been made available for public safety, specifically PSAPs and will be distributed at the state level with Alabama receiving $686,000.00. This money requires a 50% match and must be used to either implement Phase II Wireless or develop an IP Network. Since Alabama has already developed a program to fund Phase II implementation, developing an IP Network is the project we should be working toward. Hunter continued that jointly AAND and ALNENA had developed a task force to work on long term goals for 911 in Alabama and ideally incorporate those ideas into the model plan required for the grant funding. John Ellison stated that one of the problems we face in Alabama is that we do not have a state wide coordinating 911 office to handle this project and the distribution of the funds. We are going to have to figure out which state agency will handle the distribution and we need to find help with developing a comprehensive plan for the development of the network and to complete the model plan template. A formal motion was made by John Ellison and seconded by Margaret Bishop to authorize the ALNENA Executive Board to spend up to $15,000.00 to hire a consultant to help us with this project. After a lengthy discussion concerning issues involving selection of the consultant and availability of funds for the required match to the grant monies, the motion passed by a unanimous vote of the members present and voting.

Art Faulkner requested the floor to make a statement to clarify a misunderstanding regarding a statement he made at the last meeting and recorded in the previous minutes. Art stated that in the previous minutes it was recorded that he had said that the Homeland Security Office would assist with the application process but did not have the manpower to manage the grant. Art stated that it was his understanding that the Governor would designate the office that will handle the grant funds and it has already been indicated that Homeland Security will be that office and that Jim Walker is committed to handling that portion of this project. Art stated further that HLS would make the application, with or without the model plan completed and will “pass through” the money when and if awarded. He clarified that when he made the statement that his office did not have the manpower to manage the grant, he meant that there were no available personnel to work full time on the model plan and manage the proposed IP network, and he did not intend to give the impression that HLS would not manage the application and distribution of the grant funding.

State IP Network
President Rod Coleman stated that we have been talking about the state model plan in the previous agenda item and that the plan was to center around a state IP network. He commented further that this network was for the purpose of linking PSAPs together on a network, sharing data, delivery of 911 calls and to prepare for Next Generation 911, meaning the ability to receive other kinds of data, including text messaging, video, etc.
NEW BUSINESS

911 Goes to Washington
President Coleman stated that each year a delegation from ALNENA attends this National Conference for the purpose of meeting with our congressional leaders and discussing the issues facing 911 in Alabama. This trip is March 23 - 25, 2009. He stated that each year ALNENA has assisted with the funding for two members of this association, not serving on the executive board to attend this conference. He continued that the purpose is to assist these individuals whose district does not have the available funds for this trip. Art Faulkner made a motion to authorize reimbursement funding for up to two members of general membership and up to two members of the executive board who do not have the available funding in their district to attend and that the President will determine the individuals who will receive this assistance. The motion was seconded by Harold Parker. The motion was passed by a majority vote of the membership with Ernie Blair voting against the motion. President Coleman asked anyone interested in this assistance to contact him as soon as possible.

Language Line
President Coleman advised that he had received an offer from Language Line to enter into a 3 year contract for PSAPS to lock into the current pricing for the next 3 years. He advised that he had been advised that their pricing was going to increase in the near future. He further stated that the Executive Board had voted to authorize the execution of this document and that PSAPS can choose to enter under this blanket contract. All current customers will merge into this contract without any additional paperwork. He stated that Language Line will be billing the individual PSAPS and not ALNENA for the usage. Several questions were asked concerning the terms of the contract as it applies to the individual PSAPS and President Coleman agreed to seek clarification of the terms applicable at the PSAP level.

Spring Educational Seminar
Chris Heger stated that if there was enough interest, the executive board had approved a budget to plan an educational seminar sometime in the Spring in a central location in the state, possibly the Montgomery area and schedule one of the educational sessions offered by National NENA. She continued that we haven’t taken full advantage of these classes and they were very beneficial toward certification of new ENPs, as well as recertification of existing ENPs. She stated that the idea was to plan a two day event with a registration fee in the area of $75.00 and an approximate $99.00 hotel rate. Chris asked for a show of hands to indicate the level of interest, indicating that approximately 30 attendees would be needed to accomplish this and she would try to schedule it around other existing events and activities that are already scheduled.

TracFone
Roger Wilson stated that TracFone is attempting to get certified to be eligible to receive Universal Services Funds. He explained that recently the Wireless Board sent a letter to the FCC stating that they did not believe that TracFone’s remittance practices comply with existing state law and subsequently TracFone petitioned the FCC to be allowed to “self-certify” that they are in compliance with state laws in not just Alabama but in several other states as well. Roger continued that TracFone has issued a press release “spinning” the issue to insinuate that the Alabama Wireless Board is meeting on Friday to vote to either allow or prevent TracFone being able to distribute approximately 600,000 free handsets to the “less fortunate” and that the story had appeared this morning in the Birmingham News. Roger encouraged everyone to attend the Wireless Board meeting on Friday being held at the AT&T office complex located at 100 Concourse Parkway in Birmingham at 9:30. Roger stated that John Ellison indicated that he intended to contact the Birmingham News to provide further information on the issue.
Jeff Robertson stated that TracFone's main interest in this certification is to receive a windfall from the Universal Services Fund, estimated to be approximately sixty to eighty million dollars and it has also been estimated that in 2008, TracFone withheld approximately $120 million in 911 surcharges across the United States. He continued that this activity by TracFone is going on in several states. He encouraged the association to issue its own press release concerning this issue. John Ellison encouraged everyone to reach out to their local media and discussion followed concerning the drafting a sample press release to be posted on the website and utilized by the 911 representatives.

211
President Coleman introduced Doug Goodwin with the United Way to discuss the relationship between the 211 initiative and 911. Mr. Goodwin explained that the 211 initiative was started by the National United Way to be an information resource. He stated that 211 is interested in working with 911 in an effort to relieve the 911 systems of nonemergency calls for information and for 911 to provide information on the protocol for getting those occasional emergency calls they receive to the proper agency for assistance. He stated that 211 is now statewide and very active in Alabama and if anyone would like any further information, he would be glad to assist.

Governor’s Broadband Initiative
Art Faulkner stated that approximately a year ago, Governor Riley created a task force, of which he is a member to work on enhancing broadband across the state. Two weeks ago, the governor announced that he had signed a contract with a company to help with broadband deployment across the state. He advised that part of the initiative was to improve broadband connectivity to the 911 centers. He advised that the Alabama Super Computer Authority has asked for some information to determine those agencies that need assistance with broadband connectivity and that he would be working with President Coleman to determine the level of deployment to the various 911 centers. The Governor also created a GIS council and is in the process of making appointments to that council and that a representative from 911, probably Max Armstrong will soon be appointed to that council.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION
The membership gave a standing ovation to Harold Parker on the occasion of his retirement and in appreciation of his service to ALNENA and 911 in Alabama.

NEXT MEETING
President Coleman advised that the next quarterly meeting would be April 22, 2009 in Chilton County at the Alabama Power facility in Clanton, Alabama.

ADJOURN
Bill Brodeur made a motion to adjourn the business meeting. The motion was seconded by Margaret Bishop and approved by the members present. The meeting was adjourned at 11:30.