

Westchester County Fire Advisory Board
December 1, 2011
Meeting Minutes
Westchester County Fire Training Center

Members Present: Chair Bergson, P. McDonald, R. Broderick, J. Keiser, G. Tockstein, R. Campbell, J. Iantorno, K. Hoffarth, T. Dinkler, R. Benz

Members Excused: R. Lyman, J. Olenik, R. Moon, T. Cain, J. Cullen

Meeting commenced at 1925 hrs with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, followed by a moment of silence for former Yonkers Fire Commissioner and Advisory Board member Thomas J. Lorio.

Minutes from prior meeting were reviewed and approved.

A discussion regarding the County 2012 budget ensued regarding impact to DES.

12 positions are going away

- 5 are previously unfunded/vacant includes 1 retirement

- 7 are lay offs

Unfunded / vacant

- 3 Communication Operators

- 1 program Administrator (EMS)

- 1 Senior Maintenance Mechanic III (Repair)

Losing

- 2 Office Assistants

- 1 Application Support Specialist

- 1 Administrative Assistant (HR)

- 1 Staff Assistant (Emergency Volunteer Services)

- 1 Maintenance Mechanic I (repair)

- 1 Program Specialist (emergency services Communications)

Implications

Pick up slack with back room consolidation (share with Public Safety) or move to main city office.

Dispatch at capacity based on current head count

Cut is greater than 10% but less than 20%

Training, Dispatch, Special Teams as they now stand will not be affected.

Final Budget must be out 12/27

It was reported that Commissioner Cullen feels that DES will be able to maintain services but not expand/enhance services.

R. Benz questioned the implications specifically impact of losing the maintenance mechanic. "Who is going to maintain and repair the props and do snow removal?"

Smoke house repairs have been approved and budgeted for. Roof repairs are "looking good for approval".

The Mutual Aid Plan has returned from the Legal department with some questions. It remains in draft form. It is to be reviewed/addressed by Commissioner Cullen, Chair Bergson and P. McDonald and returned back to Legal if necessary. One existing issue regards the Haz-mat response plan. It shall then go to the FAB for approval/adoption before it can be issued to all Departments.

The DES Budget is on the County website for review. Pages 175-186.

The development of the Strategic Plan for DES was briefly discussed. Chair Bergson noted that the current version is a good plan and will need to be "tweaked" and include realistic, accurate cost estimates.

It was reported that Commissioner Cullen has forwarded recommendations for 2 additional candidates for the vacant WCVFA positions to Executive Astorino's office. Additionally, inquiry will be made regarding the current members whose terms are about to expire.

The FAB 2012 Meeting Schedule is as follows: February 23, May 24, September 27, and November 29. All meetings commence at 1915 hrs.

No other committees reported and there was no new business. The meeting adjourned at 2000 hrs.