Present: Hank Bergson, Dave Klaus, John Marshall, Rich Lyman, George Tockstein, Howard Stern, Joe Iantorno and Commissioner John Cullen

Excused: Caparelli, Ochs, Olenich, Lee, Campbell and Outhouse

Chairman Hank Bergson opened the meeting at 7:31 PM. The first order of business was the annual election of Officers, there was a motion to re-elect the current officers Hank Bergson – President, George Tockstein Vice President and David Klaus Secretary. The motion was made to cast one vote for the proposed slate, the motion was seconded all in attendance voting aye.

The meeting schedule for 2018 is as follows: January 25th, March 22nd, September 27th and November 15th all meetings to be held at DES stating at 7:30 PM unless otherwise noted.

There was discussion as to how Line of Duty Deaths are defined. This came about after 9/11. The County is forming a committee to come up with a standard for the County to apply. The Committee met initially last Wednesday to begin looking this over. Andy Jones from OFPC, Bill Barnes, Al Mignone and Larry Lee (not sure of spelling) were at the meeting. They will look over the State Guidelines and possibly adopt those. The goal is not to remove names but to clarify who will be eligible and have a policy on how to deal with any issues that may arise, it is good to be proactive. John Marshall and George Tockstein are also on the committee. Commissioner Cullen setup the initial meeting and has recused himself from the Committee.

Since the election there has been a Transition Team set up. They will begin to meet with the various Departments within the County. DES will meet transition team present what they do.

DES Report
DES will present their budget on December 1st at 11AM.
State Interoperability Grants – Vista, Banksville & Poundridge are being looked at as the 1st recipients for Radios under this grant. DES is getting together the information as to how many radios will be needed and which coordinators, departments and will get them. They have quotes and should be ready to purchase soon. They are looking at Tri-Band radios. A questionnaire was sent about the grant. They should have an equipment list available at
the next meeting. Looking at outfitting Chief’s and also equipment that might be responding out of State.

DES is currently dispatching 52 Fire departments and 31 EMS agencies

Construction – The Tower is near completion. The locker room should be completed in December. The Monument is having the coping and railing worked on. The Barn for 2018 has been approved, 2018 work on outdoor areas should continue and rehab on Emergency Operations Center.
There are now 16 State Instructors assigned to DES.

Radio Project – There is a concern by Departments as to how the Radios will be distributed. You can go on the County Website in the Communications Division there is a Radio Request form. It was asked if another update on the Radios will be held, the answer was only if there are any new developments. T-Band or 700 mHz is probably the biggest issue right now. The Multiband radios from the Interoperability grant might help free up radios.

There was a question from the floor, Will we be notified if our membership to the Board is being renewed. The consensus was to show up until you are told otherwise.

There were no further questions. The next Fire Advisory Board meeting will be held on January 25th at 7:30 PM at the Fire Training Center. The meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.