Westchester County Fire Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
Westchester County Fire Training Center, Valhalla
November 21, 2013

Members Present: Chairman Bergson, Commissioner Cullen, P. McDonald, R. Campbell, R Benz, K. Hoffarth, R Lyman, B. Gray, W Roza, J Seymour, R Moon

Meeting opened with Pledge of Allegiance at 1930 hrs.

- Minutes from September 26th meeting were read and approved.

- Commissioner Cullen reports that proposals for the 2014 budget are well underway. There is a proposed 2.8% increase which includes filling a vacant position and an increase in instructor fees.

- There is a proposed $1.8 Million for improvements to the drill yard which include upgrading the tower, smoke house, burn building and to repair all yard props. Additionally, to enclose the pumping building and to procure a “Pumpmaster” training simulator.

- Still pending for 2013 is approval for $2 million in capital projects for upgrades to Dispatch including a much needed upgrade for the CAD.

- Roof repairs are underway and making good progress. Upgrades are being evaluated for the apparatus floor and classrooms.

- 5 new dispatchers have been hired bringing the compliment to 25.

- 2014 Capital Project (Proposal): Begin process of radio system upgrade due to requirement to give back “T Band”. Process could potentially take 12 or more years. Needs to be completed by 2021. Current system won’t be supported after 2018. Hank commented that the trucking system was designed for mobile use.

- The Mutual Aid Plan still needs more jurisdictions to sign on.

- Westchester did have Departments dispatched to the large wild land fire in Rockland County.
• NIFR reporting is currently at 80%. Needs improvement from non-submitting Departments.

• Meetings for 2014: March 27, June 26, Sept 25, Nov 20

Meeting adjourned at 1955 hrs. Happy Thanksgiving!