

ONEIDA COUNTY FIRE ADVISORY BOARD

Anthony Picente, County Executive

Robert Eaton, Chairman

Neil Southerland, Co- Chairman

Hobart Dana, Secretary

Kevin Revere Director of Emergency Services

The October meeting of the fire advisory board was opened at 1900 hrs. By Chr. Eaton who also lead the pledge to the flag. The minute of the September meeting were read and approved on motion by N. Blau with second by Chief Southerland.

Report by Director of emergency services;

After brief discussion it was agreed that a briefing about the radio upgrades will be given to the legislatures on Oct 24.

A new contract has been agreed on for the dispatchers.

Radio testing has been completed and the testing of the simulcast network went well. The systems will be turned on by the end of the year. The upgrades are on schedule for substantial completion with no extention needed. There is a 3 page punch list to be completed by the end of the year. There will be additional training for department staff on the microwave system as well training on the new radio consoles and trunk radios.

OFPC has begun the process of approving the fire training schedule and quick as a class is cleared it will be on the training schedule website.

After Jan 1 it would be the time to look into optional radios for approval to be used on the new system.

The office is looking at both the security of the 911 center and the cyber security of the various systems.

Chr Eaton expressed concern about the lower numbers of training classes and suggests greater efforts in the zone meetings to get departments to sign up to sponsor classes and increase firefighter participation.

Kevin reported that all staff positions are filled. Some are in training and it is expected they will complete successfully.

Fire Prevention; October is busy season and there are some issues with the trailer but it is currently in service. The county Firemens Assoc. is looking for funding sources to possibly purchase a replacement.

Fire Police; Still working on class schedule.

EMS; No report

Cause & Origin; there are 2 open investigations.

Volunteer Assoc; the next meeting is Nov 16. The board appointments have been sent in.

Chief's Assoc; Board appointments have been submitted. The next meeting Will be the dinner in January.

Old Business; it was pointed out that every Chief in the county was notified of the September meeting in Maynard with the county exec.

New Business; The first pink tie gala was held Oct 14 and was very well attended. The Date has been set for Oct 13 2018.

Legislators; The 911 cell surcharge is hoped to bring in 1.3 m for the next fiscal year. It is understood this is only an estimate as there are no hard statistics to use. There was also a discussion about capital bonding as related to ongoing upgrades to emergency communications Staffing at the 911 center was discussed with Fred noting that there are 4 current openings with 2 having been offered to prospective candidates and 2 more set up for interviews. There are two items that stand out when trying to fill positions, the job is sometimes very stressful and also we face a competitive disadvantage in the area of salary.

Motion to Adjourn by D. Petrie, with second by N. Blau.

Respectfully submitted,
Hobart Dana, Secretary