

FIRE-RESCUE BOND  
 BLUE RIBBON COMMITTEE MINUTES  
 REGULAR MEETING  
 City of Fort Lauderdale  
 100 North Andrews Avenue  
 Commission Chambers  
 Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301  
 February 16, 2006

Board Members	Meeting Attendance	Cumulative Attendance from 01/19/ 2006	
Thornie Jarrett, Chair	P	P-2	A-0
Dianne Shuler, Vice Chair	P	P-1	A-1
Mary Graham	P	P-2	A-0
Allan A. Kozich	P	P-2	A-0
Patrick McTigue	P	P-2	A-0
Douglas Ruth	P	P-2	A-0
Guido Teichner	P	P-1	A-1
Don Bastedo	P	P-2	A-0
Norman W. Thabit	P	P-1	A-1

Staff

Robert Bacic, Battalion Chief  
 Albert Carbon, Director, Public Works Department  
 Frank Snedaker, Chief City Architect  
 David Carter, Union Representative Engine 46  
 Sandra Goldberg, Recording Clerk

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Chairman Jarrett called the February 16, 2006 meeting of the Fire-Rescue Blue Bond Ribbon Committee to order at 6:04 P.M. A quorum was achieved with eight committee members present.

2. Approval of Minutes of January 19, 2006

The minutes of the January 19, 2006 meeting were reviewed.

Item 1: It was requested that the minutes be corrected to reflect the Roll Call record to indicate that Ms. Shuler, Mr. Teichner was not present at the January 19, 2006 meeting; and, Mr. Kozich was present at the January 19, 2006 meeting.

Item 2: It was requested that the minutes be corrected to reflect the date of the minutes should read December 15, 2005, not December 14, 2006.

Motion to approve the minutes as corrected was made and seconded. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

### 3. Staff Liaison Report

#### A. Activities over the past month.

##### i. Project Status on Fire Stations

##### 1. Station 47

Mr. Carbon reported that the comments on the plans for station 47 were received back from the City Building Department. The most significant comments came from the Fire Department and have to do with egress and ingress and the fire alarm system. The plans have been sent back to the fire engineer and the comments will be incorporated. The modified plans will be submitted back to the Building Department in the next week to ten days. The Building Department will take an additional week to ten days for review and then the plans will be put out to bid. Mr. Carbon stated that station 53 is at the same status.

Mr. Ruth asked whether both stations 47 and 53 were going to be out to bid in two to three weeks. Mr. Carbon responded that the timeframe will be up to ten days for modification of the plans and ten days for the Building Department to re-review. Then both stations 47 and 53 will be ready for bid in about three weeks.

##### 2. Station 46

Mr. Carbon reported that no advancements have been made regarding the relocation of station 46.

##### 3. Station 8 (the new southeast station)

Mr. Carbon reported that he met with representatives of the Broward Hospital District and the hospital project is not a go in a timeframe compatible with the City's project needs. Alternatives are being explored including purchasing the property across 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue from the Hospital. This alternative would require purchase of the land and entering into a lease agreement with the Hospital District for shared parking. This option is only feasible if the property is sized adequately to accommodate the building footprint as it is known for sure that it is not large enough to accommodate the building and parking.

#### 4. Station 29

Mr. Carbon reported that the final comments were received from the Fire Department and are being incorporated into the plans. The primary change request is the bay length from 64 feet to 97 feet to accommodate two vehicles. Other minor changes include pole relocations, and modifications to ingress and egress. Mr. Carbon stated that by next meeting the committee should be ready to schedule community meetings. Mr. Snedaker confirmed Mr. Carbon's expectation.

Mr. Carbon indicated that an item that didn't make the agenda was Fire Station 13 at Birch State Park. The easement documentation has been located. The City has easement rights for a strip of land that measures 160' x 200', which is too small to accommodate the station with parking. The City will need to seek to amend the easement with the State.

Mr. Ruth asked if the easement was for 100 years or perpetual. Mr. Carbon replied that is perpetual. Mr. Carbon stated that the easement used to be wider, 200' x 200'; but over the years Sunrise Boulevard got wider and 40 feet of the easement is now road right-of-way.

Mr. Jarrett asked if the original 200' depth would have been sufficient to accommodate the station with parking. Mr. Snedaker confirmed that it probably would be, however, they would request the ideal area of land they would need from the State. Mr. Carbon indicated narrower but deeper is more ideal.

Mr. Ruth asked if there was a road near the property that would allow a drive-through design. Mr. Snedaker indicated the design would incorporate a drive-around. Mr. Carbon indicated the engine would not be able to go all the way around the back and in through the back. Mr. Jarrett asked if station 13 is a battalion station and as such maintains four vehicles. Mr. Carbon confirmed that it is and would remain a battalion station.

#### 5. Station 54

Mr. Carbon reported they are investigating the price of the two lots adjacent to the existing station. No response from the owners has been received to date. Mr. Jarrett asked if the potential existed of a landowner in the area having a problem with vacating the alley. Mr. Carbon indicated he did not believe there would be as the City owns the greatest extent of land along the alley.

Mr. Jarrett asked if the \$2 million for land acquisition for station 8 would still be adequate given the time that has elapsed since the City has been negotiating with

the Hospital District. Mr. Jarrett stated his concern that in the event the lease agreement with the Hospital District does not go through; will there be sufficient funds in case the City has to proceed with land acquisition elsewhere? Mr. Carbon replied that the original estimate was for \$1 million for land acquisition per parcel. The City staff has not stopped looking for land to purchase in the event the Hospital District deal does not happen. Mr. Carbon stated that the lot across from the Hospital is less than the 0.8 acre needed to accommodate a complete facility, so the City may end up saving money on this station. Mr. Jarrett asked if the hospital district seemed amenable to the parking lease agreement. Mr. Carbon indicated the Hospital District representative's initial comments were yes, they were willing to consider the lease agreement.

Mr. Ruth asked if the water tank is being torn down and are they building another one. Mr. Carbon replied, yes that is the plan. Mr. Ruth suggested that the rebuild the water tank and construct the new fire station beneath it. Mr. Carbon indicated that would be an appropriate co-use.

Mr. Carter asked about the School Board property located at South Andrews Avenue and SE 6<sup>th</sup> Street. Mr. Carbon indicated that that is the Southside School site and the City has an agreement with the School Board to construct a park improvement project on that site.

Mr. McTigue commented that land prices have increased significantly in the past year. Mr. Carbon responded that is why the City is trying to avoid purchasing property where possible. Mr. McTigue asked who owns the parcel being considered for station 8. Mr. Carbon responded an individual owns the parcel. The Hospital District owns the complete block minus the one parcel. A house is currently located on the property and previous negotiations with the owner by the Hospital District have been negative. Mr. Carbon stated that since this is a new proposal from the City for a fire station, he is hopeful the owner will be more willing to negotiate.

Mr. Jarrett asked about the ability to store reserve vehicles at the new and existing stations as well as the vehicles that may need to be evacuated in the event of a hurricane. Mr. Bacic responded that one of the primary goals of the design of the bond was to accommodate the reserve vehicles and evacuated vehicle indoors. Mr. Bacic and Mr. Carbon confirmed that the stations that will be able to accommodate reserve apparatus with a 97' bay are: stations 2, 29, 46, 53, 3 possibly 13 and 35, and 8. Stations 49, 54, and 47 cannot.

Mr. Jarrett asked what types of vehicles are in reserve. Mr. Bacic replied that the City has 5 engines, 1 ladder, 8-10 rescue and 3 detail units. Mr. Bacic stated that in a worst case scenario, if any trucks had to stay outside in a storm they would be the reserve units, not the new ones.

Mr. Ruth asked if there was an update on the environmental studies. Mr. Bacic replied the consultant has completed the test borings and the analyses are in process.

ii. Architect Scope of Services

Mr. Carbon reported the City has not received any Scope of Services from the architect as of yet. The next scope to be supplied should be for station 8. The City architect has provided us stations 29 and 46; another consultant prepared station 53.

iii. Updated Schedule

Mr. Carbon reviewed the schedule. The next big milestone is the bidding of the projects. Both projects are anticipated to be ready for bid by mid March; review to be completed by around April 14; award of contract the first meeting in May; and then a 12-month construction schedule.

Mr. Jarrett asked if, since we are so far along with station 29, they should begin having committee meetings in the communities involved. Mr. Carbon replied, yes, if the committee agrees, he will schedule the March meeting at City Hall and then in April the committee can begin holding meetings in the communities. Mr. Carbon suggested inviting the presidents of the adjacent Home Owners Associations to the meeting for a presentation of the project and then asking the presidents if they want an individual of the Fire Bond Committee to attend their individual Home Owner Association meetings.

Mr. Jarrett asked if there is an updated schedule. Mr. Carbon indicated that the schedule provided last month is still current; station 53 is on schedule; but station 47 is about three months behind schedule. Mr. Carbon stated that station 13 should be added to the list.

Ms. Shuler asked is there was any update on their recommendations to the City Commission. Mr. Carbon replied not yet, but he will get those for the Committee. Mr. Jarrett asked to be reminded of the primary issues the Committee had raised. Mr. Carbon replied the primary issues related to the schedule and the use of funds.

B. Activities Scheduled for the next month

Mr. Carbon reported the activities for next month include: the Construction Management Contract to go to City Commission for approval; the bidding of stations 47 and 53; the architectural draft scope; station 29's specifications for the environmental consultants to be ready for review, but not yet ready for bid; and, more action on station 13 including making contact with State's Parks Department and the Department of Environmental Protection. Mr. Carbon indicated it will be a busy month with a lot of

activity. Mr. Jarrett asked about the land acquisition for station 46. Mr. Carbon responded that, yes, staff will proceed on that station as well.

Ms. Graham stated that the Building Department only requires plans for their review. The projects also entail sets of specifications, which are included with the bid packages. Ms. Graham asked if the specifications would be ready within the next 20 days for the bidders. Mr. Carbon indicated that the specifications for both projects are ready for bid.

Mr. Ruth asked about the \$500,000 for remediation for station 29. The schedule indicates \$200,000; did we lose \$300,000? Mr. Carbon indicated no that is an error; the original spreadsheet lists \$500,000, which is the correct amount. Mr. Carbon indicated he will provide the Committee with a financial statement of the bond. He will provide the financial reports on a quarterly basis.

#### 4. Member Discussion

Mr. Carter stated that the Union representatives were working well with Mr. Bacic on Union issues. Mr. Carbon indicated that the Union comments were received and the comments on station 29 were very good and detailed. Mr. Carbon stated that he will supply the Fire Department Union's comments on station 29 as back up to the minutes of the February 16, 2006 meeting.

Mr. Jarrett asked Mr. Bacic for an update on the Fire Chief. Mr. Bacic responded that the current Chief's last day is March 24<sup>th</sup>, but no news has been announced regarding his replacement. Mr. Jarrett asked if the Fire Chief position has been separated from the Director of Fire Rescue Bureau. Mr. Carbon responded that the police and fire chief report to one of the assistant city managers, then ultimately the city manager.

#### 5. Adjournment

With no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 6:49 P.M. by Chairman Jarrett.