

**FIRE-RESCUE FACILITIES BOND ISSUE
BLUE RIBBON COMMITTEE MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING**

City of Fort Lauderdale
100 North Andrews Avenue
8th Floor Conference Room
Fort Lauderdale, Florida, 33301
September 18, 2008, 6:00 p.m.

Board Member	Attendance	1/2008 through 12/2008 Cumulative Attendance	
		P	A
Thornie Jarrett, Chair	P	7	0
Dianne Shuler, Vice Chair	P	5	2
Don Bastedo	P	7	0
Mary Graham	P	5	2
Gloria Jackson	P	1	0
Steve Kirsch	P	7	0
Allan Kozich	P	7	0
Delores McKinley	P	5	1
Patrick McTigue	P	7	0
Douglas Ruth	P	7	0
Norman Thabit	P	7	0

Staff

Robert Bacic, Battalion Chief
Mark Friedman, City Construction Manager
Eric Geen, URS
Albert Carbon, Director Public Works Department
J. Opperee, ProtoType Services Recording Clerk

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Chairman Jarrett called the meeting of the Fire-Rescue Bond Blue Ribbon Committee to order at 6:03 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes: July 2008

Motion made by Member Kozich, seconded by Member Bastedo, to approve the minutes of the Board's July 2008 special meeting. Upon voice vote, motion passed unanimously.

3. Staff Liaison Report

Construction

Station 29:

Member McTigue pointed out that the Bond Funded Report and the URS Progress Report showed different budgeted amounts for Station 29. Mr. Carbon stated the correct number for the Bond Funded Report was \$3,790,000.

Design

Station 49

Mr. Carbon informed the Board that Station 49 was in for building permit. Member Graham asked when the project would be put out to bid, and Mr. Carbon stated this would happen after they had the permit. Mr. Carbon stated the contractor would be mobilized at the end of the year.

Station 3

Mr. Carbon reported Station 3 was in for the DPAP permit and the building permit. He expected this would go out to bid at the end of October, to the same 25 pre-qualified bidders.

Public Meetings

Preliminary Design

Station 35

Mr. Carbon said they had a tentative agreement with the church to swap properties. Appraisals were due Monday, and once it was determined the properties were of equal value they would enter into the agreement. Mr. Carbon was unsure if the property was platted and Member Graham remarked on what a lengthy process this could be.

Station 46

Mr. Carbon informed the Board that this was scheduled to go to the County Planning Council in March 2009. It would then go to the County Commission and the City Commission.

Evaluation

Station 13

Mr. Carbon stated they were in contact with Birch State Park representatives, who requested a meeting. The two remaining items were underground utilities and relief of storm water fees. Mr. Carbon explained the Park owed several hundred thousand dollars in these fees, but there were lawsuits charging that the City could not charge the Park these fees. They were waiting an opinion from the City Attorney on this. Mr. Carbon said if they could settle these issues, they might be able to build a station behind the existing station [to the west], eliminating the need for a temporary station. The discussion included City staff working with State staff and Rep. Seiler.

Station 54

Mr. Carbon stated they were in negotiations with the Opus Group, which owned the entire block across the street, regarding a possible property swap. This would eliminate the need to build a temporary station. Mr. Carbon explained if they could swap the properties, Opus would get a continuous property on the Intracoastal and one block over.

Station 8

Member McTigue asked about the \$103,620 the Bond Funded Report showed Spent and Obligated for Station 8. Mr. Carbon explained this was the cost for URS pre-construction program management and was actually Encumbered, not Spent and Obligated. Member Thabit requested an itemized report regarding the \$103,620.

Mr. Carbon explained that they had divided the total costs of the URS Program Management Contract evenly among 10 stations. He agreed to add an "Encumbered" column to the spreadsheet. Member Thabit doubted they would make any progress with Station 8 and felt the bond should not be charged for anything unless there was an actual disbursement of funds.

Member Graham asked why Station 8 had been included when they did not have the site when the URS Program Management Contract was signed in summer 2006. Mr. Geen advised Member Graham to examine the progress reports URS issued monthly. He explained that URS was involved "from cradle to the project going out for bid and actually reviewing the bids." Mr. Geen said URS had been involved with all ongoing projects except for Station 8. Member Graham asked what tasks fell to URS when they worked on submittal to DRC and Planning and Zoning. Mr. Geen said they coordinated the submittals. Mr. Carbon advised Member Graham to consult the scope of work that was in the URS contract.

Mr. Carbon reported there had been no progress regarding Station 8. Since they had determined that Stations 13 and 54 must be rebuilt, Station 8 had become the last Station in the program. They would not proceed until they knew what funding would be left.

Member McTigue pointed out that the Bond Funded Report and the URS Progress Report showed different budgeted amounts for Station 8; there was a \$1.8 million discrepancy. Mr. Geen explained that the URS report included the cost of land.

4. Member Discussion Items

Annual Report

Mr. Carbon informed the board that their report had been sent to the City Commission and would probably be on their October 7 agenda. Chairman Jarrett asked that any responses from Commission members be forwarded to Board members.

Station 53 Financials

Member Thabit reminded Mr. Carbon that the Board had requested at the last meeting that per square foot costs be included for Stations 47 and 53. Mr. Carbon explained that these figures were not available because they had not yet negotiated a final change order for Station 53, and they had not yet closed out Station 47. Mr. Carbon promised to provide this information to the Board next month if it was available.

Station 49 Financials

Other Discussion Items

Member Thabit asked Mr. Carbon to summarize the contract amount and the amount expended as it was applied to the projects, and Mr. Carbon agreed to provide this.

Member Graham was concerned that the financial figures did not match. Mr. Carbon explained how the report had been altered to be more accurate. He said one reason the numbers appeared not to match was that they segregated the bond funds from other funds used for stations 47 and 53/88.

Member Graham asked why the City had not yet paid the contractors. Mr. Carbon said they were waiting for Padula Wadsworth to request payment and they were waiting to negotiate West's final change order, which he anticipated would be six figures.

Member Thabit asked for a current interest earned figure. Mr. Carbon agreed to provide this to the Board.

Member Graham asked for a chronological order of station construction. Mr. Carbon advised her that the agenda provided this information: 29, 49, 3, 35, 46, 13, 54 and 8. He added that the Construction Schedule used the same sequence.

Member Ruth felt they should still be seeking a site for Station 8. Chairman Jarrett felt this would become a “political football” for the candidates for that district’s Commission seat.

Mr. Carbon explained to Ms. Shuler that the City could pay up to 110% of the appraised value for land, but this must be approved by the City Commission. The City Commission must make a specific finding that the purchase would be in the public’s best interest if they wanted to pay more than 10% over the appraised value.

Chairman Jarrett was concerned that CMIA’s experience had been solely with road projects. He explained to Member Graham that 12 firms had submitted proposals and 6 had been interviewed. The Selection Committee had evaluated the firms and CMIA had received the highest score. Mr. Friedman said he had discussed the project with one of the principals from CMIA and been satisfied with his experience. Chairman Jarrett stated, “We don’t need another group of problems derived from people who are totally inexperienced what they’re about to do.” He noted, “That is a classic reason why a contractor underbids something is he doesn’t know what he’s doing.”

Ms. McKinley requested that this Board be represented on future selection committees.

5. Adjournment

With no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at **7:18 p.m.**

Attachments:

Financial Report

Minutes – July 17, 2008

Fire Station Monthly Reports

Program schedule

CIMA Qualifications and Bid Package sent via email