



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE

**MEETING MINUTES  
CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE  
FIRE-RESCUE FACILITIES BOND ISSUE  
BLUE RIBBON COMMITTEE  
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2024  
6:00 P.M.**

**1/2024 through 12/2024  
Cumulative Attendance**

<b>Board Member</b>	<b>Attendance</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Frank Snedaker, Chair	P	2	0
David Cooper, Vice Chair	P	2	0
Mark Booth	P	1	1
Michelle Heiser	P	2	0
John Vratsinas	P	1	1

**Also Attending**

Raymond Nazaire, Senior Project Manager  
Danica Grujicic, Project Manager II  
Jill Prizlee, Chief Engineer  
Betty Crews, Senior Administrative Assistant  
Carla Blair, Prototype, Inc.

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m.

**• Roll Call**

Roll was called and quorum was present.

**2. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes**

**• January 25, 2024**

Chair Snedaker commented that he thought he had requested an updated schedule be included in the meeting materials. Danica Grujicic, Project Manager II, advised that the schedule was unchanged.

**Motion** was made by Mr. Cooper, and seconded by Mr. Booth, to approve the minutes of the January 25, 2024 meeting as presented. In a voice vote, the **motion** passed unanimously.

## **Staff Liaison Report**

Raymond Nazaire, Senior Project Manager, read the memorandum dated January 25, 2024. He noted the Expenditure Report was attached.

Chair Snedaker asked for clarification on whether the work on the Fire Station 54 air conditioning system was listed on the bond report. Discussion ensued.

Jill Prizlee, Chief Engineer, clarified that the project was a separate project and not funded with the bond.

### **Fire Station #8:**

Mr. Nazaire read the staff memorandum for Fire Station No. 8, as follows:

Fire Rescue Station No. 8 is complete and operational. The warranty period for the building and the site expired January 2023. City Staff conducted the one-year warranty inspection, on February 3, 2022. The Contractor is currently working on addressing the unforeseen additional Florida East Coast Railway (FEC) work and deficient items (pipe insulation).

FEC signalization work is to synchronize the Fire Station signals with the adjacent railway crossing as a requirement by the Broward County Traffic Division. FEC and the Contractor, Burke Construction Group, Inc. completed the fiber wire connection to the main FEC panel on January 21, 2024. The Contractor is scheduled to complete work on the control cabinet at the intersection of Andrews Avenue and Southwest 17th Street and have fiber programming on February 22, 2024. This item also includes required pull boxes and demolition/restoration of the sidewalk at the control box location. The restoration of the site will be completed today. After the final programming, the Contractor will coordinate the final signalization connection.

On September 13, during a construction meeting with City staff, the Contractor proposed to install batt insulation (also known as blanket insulation) above the ceiling space over the bunk rooms area first, as Phase 1, then install the sound pipe wrapping as Phase 2, if required. The new proposal for Phase 2 will include existing pipe insulation and work on the existing fire sprinkler system, HVAC ducts and light fixtures. The contractor shall prepare proposals, change order, and breakdowns for both phases for City review.

The tentative date for installing batt insulation is the end of February 2024.

Chair Snedaker asked if the installation had happened yet. Mr. Nazaire confirmed that it was not yet complete.

Mr. Cooper asked whether the items scheduled for completion by this date were completed. Danica Grujicic, Project Manager II, explained they were scheduled for completion that evening.

Ms. Heiser asked whether Fire Station #47 was on the bond and noted an issue with mold at the station had resulted in separation of crews and addition of trailers in the bays. Chair Snedaker advised that the station was approximately 12 years old, and the mold may be a maintenance issue.

Mr. Vratsinas asked that Deputy Fire Chief Robert Bacic provide a high-level update on the issues with Fire Station #47 at the next meeting. He asked whether the batt insulation in Fire Station #8 was because of noise or related to a new problem. Chair Snedaker stated it was still the noise problem.

### **Fire Station #13**

Mr. Nazaire read the staff memorandum for Fire Station No. 13, as follows:

ACAI Associates, Inc., City of Fort Lauderdale's architectural consultant, is working on addressing the remaining comments from the Development Review Committee (DRC) as Site Plan Level II; and continue working on the approved change order, the platting requirement, the offsite improvements and permitting. Staff continue to work with the consultant and City Legal Department on the requirement for plating as per Broward County Planning Council; and Public Information Office (PIO). The Legal Department is working on the Adjacent Right-of-Way report that is required for the completion of the re-platting process and staff is coordinating additional legal documents request. The Consultant has submitted the required documentation for the re-platting permit and will submit the Adjacent Right-of-Way report when it is completed. The estimated completion date of the platting process is April 2024.

The consultant is addressing the comments for 60% construction documentation and start to work on the 90% progress construction documents. The review meeting for the 60% comments was held on January 19, 2024. At this meeting Staff and consultant reviewed the request for the change order for the retaining wall design and tornado load due to the code change. It was agreed that the consultant resubmit the counteroffer for the retaining wall design and to consider a request for the change order for the tornado load after 90% of the construction documentation is complete.

The presentation to review and select the proposed finishes was held February 6, 2024. The consultant is working on the selection of the appropriate color temperature for circulation as requested by the Fire Department.

The Grant Administrator submitted the Resilient Florida Infrastructure Implementation Grant application for the construction of the Fire Rescue Station on September 1, 2023.

Construction is estimated to begin in September 2024.

Mr. Vratsinas asked what changed with the retaining wall, and what Code was driving that change. Mr. Nazaire advised the retaining wall redesign was a request by FEMA.

Mr. Vratsinas inquired as to the tornado load change, noting he thought the building was rated Category 5. Mr. Nazaire stated that with the change, there has been a request that the engineers check to see if tornado load is required. Discussion continued regarding Broward County Code and FEMA requirements, as well as the likelihood of a tornado.

**Temporary Fire Station #13** (This project is funded through other sources and managed by TAM)

Mr. Nazaire read the staff memorandum for Temporary Fire Station No. 13, as follows:

The parking lot portion of the project has been substantially completed and staff anticipates that Waypoint will complete the Temporary Fire Station portion by the end of January 2024. The contractor is working on the open punch list items. The two portions of the parcel are separated by a fence and City staff recommend opening the parking lot to offer public parking while construction and punch list remedies are being performed. The contractor, Waypoint, requires a hold harmless agreement for the City to utilize a parking lot while the project is still under construction.

The entire project should be completed by May 2024, once the new Temporary Fire Station #13 trailer is delivered and installed by another vendor, as reported by TAM.

Chair Snedaker asked if construction was still on schedule with the changes. Mr. Nazaire stated they are on schedule.

Mr. Vratsinas asked whether staff sees anything that could cause a delay. Mr. Nazaire advised that staff is working as a defense against issues with the schedule, noting the Code change had been a potential delay.

Ms. Prizlee commended Mr. Nazaire and Ms. Grujicic for thwarting what could have been an open door for an excuse to delay the project within days, memorializing the response in writing.

Mr. Vratsinas noted that he would also like to thank Deputy Chief Bacic for making sure the demolition of Fire Station #54 moved forward.

### **3. Discussion of Fire Stations**

Mr. Vratsinas asked if a schedule for meetings through the end of the year had been published. He pointed out potential conflicts in August and November.

Betty Crews, Senior Administrative Assistant, stated she would email the schedule. Chair Snedaker commented that they could discuss it at the next meeting. He noted the new location was convenient.

**4. Adjournment – Next regular meeting: Thursday, March 28, 2024**

There being no further business to come before the Committee at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 6:26 p.m.

[Minutes prepared by C. Parkinson, Prototype, Inc.]