



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE

**MEETING MINUTES
CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
FIRE-RESCUE FACILITIES BOND ISSUE
BLUE RIBBON COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 2026
3:30 P.M.**

Committee Members	Attendance	1/2026 through 12/2026 Cumulative Attendance	
		Present	Absent
John Vratsinas, Chair	P	2	0
Bruce Angier	P	2	0
David Cooper, Vice Chair (via Zoom)	P	2	0
Michelle Heiser	P	2	0
John Hooper	A	0	2

Also Present

Wilfredo Negron, P.E., Senior Project Manager, Capital Projects
Colette Satchell, Director, Capital Projects
Victoria Bryan, Senior Administrative Assistant
Vickie Beauvais, Senior Administrative Assistant

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:32 p.m.

- i. Roll Call

Roll was called and quorum was present.

Motion made by Ms. Heiser, seconded by Mr. Angier, to approve the Committee's virtual attendance of David Cooper. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

2. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

- i. February 26, 2026

Motion made by Ms. Heiser, seconded by Mr. Angier, to approve the Committee's February 26, 2026 meeting minutes as submitted with no changes. In a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

4. Staff Liaison Report

Mr. Negron welcomed Colette Satchell, Director of the Capital Projects Department. Mr. Negron advised that three meetings have been held for negotiations with CORE Construction. Subsequent to the third meeting, CORE Construction provided their best estimate; however, the project is still over budget. Procurement has recommended a fourth and final meeting with CORE. A revised proposal was requested from CORE Construction with a deadline for today after which the fourth meeting will be held. If the latest proposal with CORE Construction can move forward it will be submitted at the next Commission meeting with the project awarded in April.

Mr. Negron confirmed that the plans are being negotiated as is. Chair Vratsinias confirmed that modifications were made to ensure that the project is under budget. Mr. Negron reminded the Board that three proposals were received. The firm ranked number one was CORE Construction with a proposal of approximately \$24 to \$25 million. In the event of an impasse, a second ranked firm has provided a lower bid and negotiations will begin to provide them with the same opportunity. The next step includes receiving the final and best numbers from both proposals.

Ms. Heiser asked if it is always the practice to move forward with the lowest bid. Mr. Negron confirmed in this case, the firms will be ranked with a two-step process. Three firms were requested to move forward to the second step with proposals and presentations, then rankings. CORE Construction is not the lowest bidder; however, they were ranked number one based on other criteria including past experience and qualifications.

Chair Vratsinas reiterated that the project managers have met with CORE three times with a fourth meeting to be scheduled. If the fourth meeting is not successful, Chair Vratsinas recommends meeting with the second-place participant and to start from there.

Chair Vratsinas requested information on the DRC process. Mr. Negron stated that a meeting is scheduled this week, the initial comments have been received, and the process will be moving forward parallel to the design-build firm. Work is being undertaken with the design criteria package firm, H2M for help with initial comments from the DRC. After the contract is awarded, the design-build firm will then take over and move forward with completing the process.

4. General

i. Communication to the City Commission

None

ii. Public Comments

None

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There being no further business to come before the Committee at this time, upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

Adjournment – Next regular meeting: Thursday, April 23, 2026

[Minutes prepared by A. Moore, Prototype, Inc.]