

WEST MANATEE FIRE & RESCUE DISTRICT COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

*Minutes of September 8, 2020
Administration Building and via Zoom*

facility. Commissioner Robinson stated that he heard that the building he found was a Cat 3 building and no one would look at it. This is absolutely absurd. Commissioner Jennis stated that he would like to rebut Commissioner Robinson's comment about looking at that other building. He stated he did, and the building has residential type windows and doors; adjacent properties have large trees that could potentially fall during a storm; limited parking and did not fit our needs. To say we did not consider that building at all is untrue. Commissioner Harris stated he looked at the building as well and the building is ill suited for our needs. He also asked Chief Rigney if we would be dispatching our trucks during an event. Chief Rigney stated ECC would switch to regional dispatching and they would give us the calls and we would prioritize those calls post storm and start dispatching out. Commissioner Harris stated it is imperative that we have a building that will withstand a hurricane to be able to do that. Discussion ended; roll call was taken. Commissioner Robinson-no; Commissioner Bishop-yes; Commissioner Harris-yes; Commissioner Jennis-yes; Chairman Cooper-yes; motion passed 4-1.

CHIEF'S REPORT: BC Johnson wanted to remind everyone that this Friday marks the 19th Anniversary of 9/11. Chief Rigney stated that it will be shown on METV. BC Johnson also reported on a call that our boat responded to. It was a barge off of Longboat Key that had some railroad ties on it that caught fire.

OTHER REPORTS: None

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS: Commissioner Robinson stated that staff does a great job with budgeting, but when it comes to capital expenses we go nuts. He stated when it comes to fire trucks when they are eight years old, we have got to get rid of it. We need to think out of the box. He stated we are not being honest with our taxpayers; we are too lazy to sit down and figure it out and justify before we spend the money. He stated his four fellow commissioners are no different then 90% of the government employees. Chief Rigney stated that our last engine that we took out of service was about 15 years old and we usually keep those as a reserve until 20. We also usually get 13-15 years out of our air packs. Commissioner Robinson stated he gives kudos for that. Commissioner Robinson asked where he heard the eight years thing. Chief Rigney stated he believes the eight years was for the ladder truck. It was the right time to sell it.

Commissioner Bishop stated to characterize the process as being lazy, he does not feel that is an accurate statement. He stated the public sector and the private sector, while we would love to cram them in together, it does not work like that in the real world. The private sector has some freedoms to do certain things. Government and Fire Rescue has a whole separate set of level of responsibilities and that is what our fiduciary responsibility is. We need to balance or public needs and our private needs. We are all here on the board as a good representative of balance to the process. When there is dissenting that happens, we still stay in decorum; we do not reference laziness. He stated he feels this board has been very successful and is proud to be on this board. He stated he feels everyone is doing a good job; staff is doing a good job. Also, from a capital improvement standpoint we are being responsible, and we are doing the right building at the right time; the cost is only going to go up.

Commissioner Harris stated he echoed a lot of what Commissioner Bishop said. He stated one thing stands out about all and that is the business we are in is a capital-intensive business. It requires a lot of capital to do the job we do. He stated he has always respected the way we have handled ours.

Commissioner Jennis stated he agrees with Commissioner Bishop on everything he said. The administration does a great job running this District very frugally, they shop hard and explore all alternatives when we are buying capital items. He stated Commissioner Harris is right, it is a very capital-intensive business. The items that we buy are often specialized; they have to be life safety quality. We are very frugal with the taxpayer's dollars and we think before we spend anything. He stated he is very proud to be associated with the District. This is the right building at the right time.

Commissioner Robinson stated that the \$2M expenditure is on the other 4 Commissioner's. The building we are in is quite adequate. Lives or property will not be saved.

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The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. with the following members present: Randy Cooper, David Bishop and Al Robinson at administration building. Larry Jennis and George Harris via Zoom. The Pledge of Allegiance was followed by a moment of silence and the oath.

PUBLIC HEARING for Fire Assessment Certification Resolution 2020-04: Chairman Cooper called the Public Hearing to order. Administrative Manager Kichar verified it was published in the Bradenton Herald on August 30, 2020. Chairman Cooper opened for public comment. There was no public comment. Chairman Cooper closed the hearing. Commissioner Bishop motioned to approve Resolution 2020-04 Fire Assessment Certification; seconded by Commissioner Jennis; motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING 2020-2021 Budget Adoption Resolution 2020-05: Chairman Cooper called the Public Hearing to order. Administrative Manager Kichar verified it was published in the Bradenton Herald on August 30, 2020. Chairman Cooper opened for public comment. There was no public comment. Chairman Cooper closed the hearing. Commissioner Harris motioned to approve Resolution 2020-05 for the 2020-2021 Budget; seconded by Commissioner Jennis; roll call was taken. Commissioner Bishop-yes; Commissioner Robinson-no; Commissioner Harris-yes; Commissioner Jennis-yes; Chairman Cooper-yes; motion passed 4-1.

CHANGES TO AGENDA: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

CONSENT AGENDA: Commissioner Bishop motioned to approve consent agenda as presented; seconded by Commissioner Harris; motion passed unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS: None

CARRIED FROM CONSENT AGENDA: None

OLD BUSINESS:

A. *Administration Building:* No Update

NEW BUSINESS:

A. *Guaranteed Maximum Price Creative Contractors:* Chief Rigney reviewed the timeline for when we began with discussion on a new administration building. He stated he was happy to report that Hall Architects, Creative Contractors, and the District's committee have completed the planning stage and we have received the Guaranteed Maximum Price. The building is estimated to cost \$1,250,198 which includes site development and the actual building. General conditions are \$117,256 and general requirements are \$27,302. Also included in the GMP is a contingency of 3%. Liability insurance, construction management fee and payment and performance bond. The total GMP for the project is \$1,521,285. Chairman Cooper stated he thought we are getting a good building for the price. It is important to know that labor and materials are going right back into the community. It is a great way to stimulate our local economy. Commissioner Harris motioned to approve the GMP with Creative Contractor's; seconded by Commissioner Jennis; discussion followed. Commissioner Robinson asked if the \$1.5M included the land. Chief Rigney stated it did not. Commissioner Bishop stated he has looked over the documents and it seems reasonable considering the work environment. The documents are well presented and well itemized. Commissioner Bishop stated that if the 3% contingency is not spent, that money stays with the District. Commissioner Jennis stated he reviewed the plans thoroughly and was impressed with them. He stated that the money is where it is needed to be and that is in the structure. Commissioner Robinson asked if this building was designed to survive a Cat 5 Hurricane. Commissioner Bishop stated it is being built to the code. No where in building code is it designed for a category of a storm. We are an essential

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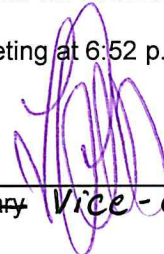
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NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, October 20, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at Administration building.

ADJOURNMENT: Chairman Cooper adjourned the meeting at 6:52 p.m.



Chairman



Secretary *Vice-chair*

(Seal)

