

**WEST MANATEE FIRE & RESCUE DISTRICT COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING**

*Minutes of January 21, 2020
Administration Building*

The meeting was called to order at 5:06 p.m. with the following members present: Randy Cooper, David Bishop, George Harris, Larry Jennis, and Al Robinson. The Pledge of Allegiance was followed by a moment of silence and the oath. Chairman Cooper announced that anyone wishing to provide public comment on any of the agenda items should fill out a Comment Card located at the table by the door and hand them in to the Chief.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS: Chairman Cooper stated that each firm will present in order of short list ranking. Chief Rigney explained the process and that after the presentations are completed, each board member will fill out a score sheet for each firm and then a final ranking will be determined. Commissioner Bishop stated that after speaking to our legal, he has filled out Form 8B, Memorandum of Voting Conflict. He stated that the firm that he works for has previously worked with one of the firms presenting. None of the firms presenting tonight are currently working with his firm, however there is potential for that in the future and therefore he will abstain from voting. RFQ's for Construction Manager at Risk short list presentations were completed as follows: Miller Construction, Creative Contractors and Halfacre Construction. After presentations were completed the score sheets were tallied.

Chairman Cooper recessed the meeting until 6:34 p.m.

Each firm was present and Chief Rigney had the final tallies listed on the screen for presentation. The rankings were as follows: #1 Creative Contractors; #2 Halfacre Construction; #3 Miller Construction. Commissioner Jennis stated that everyone that presented are at the top of their industry.

Commissioner Harris motioned to accept ranking as follows: #1 Creative Contractors, #2 Halfacre Construction; #3 Miller Construction for Construction Manager at Risk for RFQ #2020-02 and to direct Chief Rigney to negotiate a contract with firm #1 to bring back to the board for approval; seconded by Commissioner Jennis; motion passed 3-1 with Commissioner Robinson dissenting and Commissioner Bishop abstained.

CHANGES TO AGENDA: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

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

COMMUNICATIONS: Letter from East Manatee Fire Chief Lee Whitehurst thanking Chief Rigney and Honor Guard Jimmie Leigh for attending Chief Sheffield's Memorial Service.

CARRIED FROM CONSENT AGENDA: None

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. *New Administration Building:* Chief Rigney reported that he was approached by realtor Dan Douglass with other options that just came to light for other potential locations for the administrative building. Chief Rigney stated he was seeking direction from the board to see if interested into further looking into this. Commissioner Harris stated he does not think we should stop searching; we haven't broken ground yet or spent anything except buy a piece of property. Commissioner Bishop stated we fit very well in the property that we purchased and is done looking. Commissioner Robinson asked Chief Rigney what his recommendation was and Chief Rigney stated he would prefer a board liaison to see if it is viable. Commissioner Jennis stated he agrees with Commissioner Bishop and another thing that makes ours a good parcel is it must be out of a flood zone, and he stated he is happy with the parcel we purchased. Commissioner Bishop stated we already have invested money into planning and research on this site. Chairman Cooper stated it doesn't hurt to look into it and he would be the board liaison for this.

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Commissioner Robinson motioned to look into this; seconded by Commissioner Harris; motion passed 3-2 with Commissioner Jennis and Commissioner Bishop dissenting.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. *Ratification Bali Hai Settlement Agreement:* Chief Rigney stated that in the November meeting, our legal counsel addressed a possible litigation issue. Everything was agreed upon with the work that was needed, and a copy of the settlement agreement has been provided. This agreement needs to be ratified by the Board. Commissioner Robinson motioned to ratify the Bali Hai Settlement Agreement; seconded by Commissioner Harris. Discussion followed. Commissioner Bishop asked approximately how much the cost was to defend this. Chief Rigney stated about \$13,207. Motion passed unanimously.
- B. *Committee Appointments:* Chairman Cooper made the appointments as follows. Manatee County Fire Commissioner's Association – Cooper; Barrier Island Elected Officials – Robinson and Jennis as Alternate; Awards/Appreciation Committee – Bishop; Safety Committee – Harris; Water Rescue - Jennis


CHIEF'S REPORT: Chief Rigney reported that Station 3 bunkroom project should start in February. Hayo Construction is completing the work. Chairman Cooper asked how long the project will take. Chief Rigney stated 5-6 months. Commissioner Robinson inquired about the cost for the project. Chief Rigney stated about \$16-\$17,000 for architect and \$173,000 for construction. There is \$200,000 in this year's capital budget for this project. Chief Rigney presented Commissioner Bishop with a gavel plaque as Chairman for the 2019 year.

OTHER REPORTS: Administrative Manager Kichar reported that Andrea Berggren started January 6th in the position of Administrative Assistant and will be taking her oath at next month's meeting. Chief Rigney also stated that the Captain's Promotional Testing is being completed and the promotions will be recognized at next month's meeting as well.

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS: Commissioner Robinson stated that it is an absurd amount of money to spend on the administration building. Commissioner Harris stated that he echo's some of Commissioner Robinson's misgivings as well concerning how expensive it is to build right now. Commissioner Bishop stated a lot of this is driven by law and we have to follow regulations; we have certain hurdles as a public entity. Chairman Cooper stated that the Manatee County Fire Commissioner's Association meeting will be January 27th at 6:00 p.m., at North River Fire.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, February 18, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at Administration building.

ADJOURNMENT: Chairman Cooper adjourned the meeting at 7:05 p.m.



Chairman



Secretary

