

Agenda Item

Subject: Review of Minutes – Special meeting – January 27, 2021

Commissioners present: Rick Moore, Tommy Green, Jack Wilson, Bob Wagner and Mike Buckingham

Staff present: Chief Kevin Sasser and Division Chief Kathryn Wagner; Tammy Peacock

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Chairman Moore.

Public Comments

None

To discuss and take any and all actions relating to construction and remodel of new fire station and the purchase of a new fire apparatus – Chairman Moore advised the Board that discussion of a new fire apparatus would be moved to another meeting to allow for the representative to attend.

Chairman Moore conveyed the District's need for the new fire station and advised that this meeting would be for input of each Board member to express their vision for the new station.


Chairman Moore stated his vision for the new station would be to utilize the Bay House to its fullest extent and construct a building compliant to the Miami Dade Hurricane code that would include 2 bays, with the capability to add a second story for future living quarters. Chairman Moore also noted he would like to keep the façade of the building in line with Old Destin.

Chief Sasser noted that the greatest needs of the west side is to provide a quicker response to water borne and land incidents.

Commissioner Wagner stated his vision would include a 3 bay station to accommodate current and future use of additional apparatus and utilize the Bay House only temporarily until a new station could be erected. Commissioner Wagner provided the Board with a handout to illustrate his recommendation and discussed the District's potential use of the Asset Fund which currently has approximately 1.5 million dollars to improve Station 9 and Station 10. Commissioner Wagner also noted his concern for the "health" of the Bay House which would house our employees.

Discussion ensued between the Board, Chief Sasser and Division Chief Wagner on the funding for the new station and the utilization of the Asset Fund.

Commissioner Wilson noted that the District needs to make sure the substation is affordable while looking at future needs in that area; and that all District stations be structured to withstand a category 5 hurricane.



Commissioner Green thanked Commissioner Wagner for the research done on a prospective station for the west end and noted his concern of the District going into debt for the new station. Commissioner Green recommended construction could be done in stages utilizing what is available at the property now. Commissioner Green asked if the District could get financial support from the City, Sheriff, and State for utilization of the water access on the property.

Commissioner Buckingham noted that the District should research if we need to be compliant with the City regulations if the District is entertaining the option of a steel building for temporary accommodations. Commissioner Buckingham provided the Board with his design for a single story concrete roof station to allow for the addition of a second floor at a later date; while utilizing the Bay House until that time. Commissioner Buckingham noted he would request a footprint of the building and dock area for the Board to review at a future meeting.

Discussion ensued between the Board members and Chief Sasser on the new station and ambulance service to the District, as well as the living accommodations of the Bay House and how to make it functional until other living quarters are built on site.

Chairman Moore requested the Board hold several special meetings in the upcoming months to continue discussion and make any decisions needed prior to the District taking possession of the property in July.

Public Comments

None

Adjournment:

With no additional business to be discussed, the meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

