



**JEFFERSON COUNTY
FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 1
(EAST JEFFERSON FIRE RESCUE)**

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MEETING MINUTES FROM AUGUST 3, 2020**

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Rich Stapf, Jr. called the meeting to order at 3:00 PM. Virtual “GoToMeeting” held on-line: call in number (571) 317-3122, Access code or ID 841-632-117.

COMMISSIONERS & ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

District 1 Commissioners: Rich Stapf, Jr., David Johnson, David Seabrook, Geoffrey Masci and George Randels

Absent:

Admin Staff: Interim Chief Smith, AC Tracer, AC Brummel and District Secretary Ysseldyke-All

NEW BUSINESS

A. Marrowstone Fire Station 1-2

Hand-outs from Chairman Stapf, Jr. include Marrowstone Island Fire Station background information on the purchase of the modular unit to what has been done to date as far as septic, storm water retention, water line extension, PUD power and CATV hook-up and parking lot expansion. The handout also included a recommendation to pause the project and allow designing, permitting and bidding to take place.

Chairman asked if there was any questions.

Commissioner Masci agreed with Chairman Stapf Jr.’s recommendations.

Commissioner Johnson commented that Marrowstone Island is underserved. EJFR has been building a relationship with them for nine years and pausing the project would set back the relationship and possibly make it unsalvageable. It would be a disservice to drop this project.

Chairman Stapf, Jr. said to pause and let the process catch up so as not to be like the City of Port Townsend with their 4-plex project.

Discussion ensued about getting the permitting through the County in a timely manner. Chairman Stapf Jr. said that the design work had to be done before submittal for permits. The easement deal for the septic system is done but now there is a 16 foot alleyway from 1890-91 that needs to be waived as vacated that is holding up the septic permit.

Chairman Stapf, Jr. asked Shoreline for a \$10,000 depreciation credit on the modular unit. There were other interested parties in the modular unit and the request was denied. Also mentioned was the current high cost for building and public work projects. A new modular unit costs about \$191,000.

Commissioner Masci said there is usually a 5 to 12 month turn-around time for ordering a modular unit. Commissioner Masci also said the words “pause and hold” on the project are not the right terminology. The project needs to be sequenced properly. Commissioner Masci was in favor of taking advantage of the offer from Marrowstone Island for a project manager. We have already committed, we are not pausing.

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Chairman Stapf, Jr. suggested that Assistant Chief Tracer and Volunteer project manager Nuerenberg take over the project in order to get the project back in sequence properly, legally and get the design work out to bid. Even with the donation of \$128,000 from the Marrowstone Island Foundation the project will probably end up costing a quarter of a million dollars. Chief Cowan at Shoreline would retain or sell the modular unit to Bothell with EJFR retaining first right of refusal in two or three years.

Commissioner Seabrook commented about Chairman Stapf Jr.'s memo that stated total cost is unknown. Commissioner Seabrook also said, other than the alleyway determination let the project manager discover more of the cost.

Chairman Stapf, Jr. expressed the need for project reorganization. The potential cost is not firm until it is a bid.

Commissioner Randels does not like the word pause. The commitment to continue with the project stands.

Chairman Stapf, Jr. says we cannot be clouded by the Marrowstone Island Foundation donation monies. EJFR is required to be good stewards of public funds. Possibly EJFR should negotiate their way out of the modular unit agreement and it could be used by the Bothell fire department. Two or three years down the road the unit will be available.

Commissioner Johnson said two or three years would be a tremendous blow to the Marrowstone Island citizens.

Public comment from Bud Ayers went over the recent upgrades to Station 1-2 that have been needed for years. He talked about the rise in insurance rates on the Island. He also talked about the Island recruiting campaign and ideas to get residents to afford EMT training. Mr. Ayers reiterated the Island's commitment to the project and recruiting volunteers.

Chairman Stapf, Jr. thanked Mr. Ayers and described what needed to be done on the project. The support to continue with the project among the Commissioners was unanimous.

Commissioner Seabrook said to proceed forward until it is not a good idea and honor the intent.

Commissioner Masci said there is a cross perception of things. The Commissioners are unanimous in support of Marrowstone. The timeline is decided by the County not this particular modular unit. The timeline is indeterminate because of the County and permitting. A professional project manager will simplify the timeline and make clear the items to be addressed. We should move ahead with permits and bring on a project manager.

Chairman Stapf, Jr. said that pre-septic and alleyway needs a legal opinion. The County has not held us up as the permits have not been applied for yet.

Public comment: Bud Ayers asked to have the easement for the septic system explained.

Chairman Stapf, Jr. explained the price of granting the easement was to continue the water tap to the property to the north and to excavate a septic area for the property to the North as we are excavating for our own system on the easement.

Commissioner Johnson asked what permits needed to be applied for. Driveway, septic and foundation permits as well as a storm water retention system need to be addressed.

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Commissioner Masci made a motion to terminate the ILA with Shoreline for the modular unit with first right of refusal next time it is sold and AC Tracer to work with project manager Jim Nuerenberg to take over project management. Before a second could be made more discussion ensued.

Commissioner Johnson wanted to know how much time EJFR had to pick up the building. Chairman Stapf, Jr. said that August 19 was the drop dead date. Commissioner Johnson stated that EJFR has a relationship agreement for \$128,000 to help improve response time on Marrowstone Island.

Commissioner Seabrook added that the Shoreline ILA did not have a timeline and he thought EJFR should proceed with the Marrowstone project and the ILA with Shoreline.

Chairman Stapf, Jr. said he had identified a place to store the modular unit on Seton property.

Shoreline's Chief Cowan said he was under the impression that EJFR was looking to get out of the ILA.

EJFR Chief in put was solicited by Chairman Stapf, Jr.; AC Brummel asked if the modular was worth having after 12 or 13 years of use, or should we go with new construction? The modular unit will already need a new roof and painting. Chief Smith said the Board is committed. The project needs to get on the right track and it is important to get prices. AC Tracer said the property was donated and we have not gotten back to the community about the building challenges. The project needs to happen but we need to bring it to the people. Commission Johnson said the community will lose faith in EJFR if we do not move forward with this modular unit.

MOTION: Commissioner Masci made a motion to terminate the ILA with Shoreline for the purchase of the modular unit. **Chairman Stapf, Jr.** seconded the motion. Motion carried with Commissioner Johnson and Commissioner Seabrook voting no.

More discussion about the above motion. Commissioner Seabrook would have liked 30 days of notice to pick up the modular unit to look at cost estimates. He is not in favor of the motion.

Chairman Stapf, Jr. replied that the move date has moved out several times with the most recent date of mid-July and the current move date was determined less than a week ago. He agreed the use of the word pause for the project was not appropriate.

Commissioner Randels said that we can look at other options for housing.

Commissioner Johnson saw three issues: 1. Keep the ILA or not with Shoreline. 2. Have AC Tracer work with project manager Nuerenberg for site management and 3. Within 180 days EJFR should commit to a new facility.

More discussion about showing good faith and obligating funds ensued.

MOTION: Chairman Stapf, Jr. made a motion that the EJFR Board of Commissioners is dedicated to carrying through with their commitment of living quarters at Station 1-2. **Commissioner Randels** seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Chief Smith asked for direction for staff to move forward.

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ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Commissioner Masci made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:30 PM. **Chairman Stapf, Jr.** seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Jefferson County Fire District 1

Rich Stapf, Jr., Chairman

David Johnson, Vice Chairman

David Seabrook, Commissioner

Geoffrey Masci, Commissioner
ATTEST:

George Randels, Commissioner

Teresa Ysseldyke-All, District Secretary