

PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES  
BOND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING  
MAY 15, 2018

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 2:01pm by Chairman Paul Bull.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Board Chairman: Paul Bull  
Board Member: John Pynakker  
Board Member: John Tesar  
Board Member: Mandy Doumit  
Board Member: Randy Sierra  
Board Member: Karla Brady  
Board Member: Heather Brennan

Absent: Board Member: Mike Hamilton

Staff Present: Acting Chief: Scott Neal  
Assistant Chief: Patrick Moore  
Executive Administrative Manager: Paula Acker

3. CHIEF COMMENTS

Chief Neal made a quick comment about this being the first meeting with presentations, that this has been a learning experience for all of us and the department hopes the committee receives all the information they are looking for.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

5. BUSINESS

a. Approval of Meeting Minutes – May 1, 2018

Mandy Doumit made a motion to accept the meeting minutes, Heather Brennan seconded the motion, there was no opposition and the motion carried to approve the meeting minutes from the May 1, 2018 meeting.

b. Discussion/Possible Action – Equipment Group:

Chief Moore and Patrick Hurley made a presentation regarding SCBA equipment. Hurley gave brief overview of what the internal group did - about 10 members were involved in the testing and evaluation of the SCBA equipment, they looked at three manufacturers': MSA, Scott Safety & AVON. Testing of the equipment included live fire, fire ground actions, and down firefighter PASS activations. The evaluation included the ease of monitoring the air pressure, heads up display and voice amplification. Ultimately, the group decided to focus on MSA. MSA is what the department currently uses, with our current packs there are issues and MSA has improved in all those areas and have made a good pack. Moore added, that we did test the three brands, with the group electing to go with MSA, G1 series that has the integrated tech: a thermal imaging camera, lithium battery, and Bluetooth capabilities; these will help to enhance our effectiveness and overall firefighter safety. This equipment will make us compliant with NFPA replacement guidelines, NFPA suggestion is to replace SCBA every 10 years or two NFPA revision cycles, the fleet we have now was purchased October of 2008, coming up on that 10-year cycle. We have two bids from two providers, with the cost in the \$730,000 to \$750,000 range; the expenditure if approved would be included in the next fiscal year budget. John Tesar asked if this price was to replace all units? Yes, it would replace the whole fleet of 70 SCBA units and 200 bottles. Currently we have 70 units with 6 out of service, we would like to restore our fleet back to 70 working units. Hurley clarified the old bottles do fit the new apparatus but they fall under the same NFPA recommendation for 10-year replacement. Karla Brady asked if the department is going to apply for a grant? and only if that grant is not awarded would we have to approve this for purchase using bond funds? Chief Neal answered; we have not because we were not eligible until the upcoming cycle for FEMA which is '18-'19. We would go in with Mohave Valley as a regional grant. We are waiting in part to see if they will be approved through this committee for purchase with bond funds. Because of recent FEMA guideline changes, the chance of us receiving the grant is estimated at 1-2% based on the new priorities FEMA has placed, the highest priority being given to those with no product, low priority are those that do have them but are at the 10 year mark, middle priority are those that are 10-15 years old. Also recently Fort Mohave applied for the grant with product 2 years older than ours and they were denied. We have to decide to either apply for the grant and continue using the equipment we have – this includes investing a tremendous amount of money into the repairs/upkeep (\$60,000 next fiscal year) of these units and replace them in a couple of years. The Grant process will take one year to 14 months, we are not sure it is worth this organization spending that much more money this next fiscal year. John Pynakker asked if it makes more sense to do this over the life of the bond? Do them in portions? Chief Moore responded, the thinking has changed regarding these types of purchases, we used to spread out the purchase, with about Five sets a year, but statistically it is

cheaper for us to buy in bulk and plan for the whole fleet replacement in the capital replacement plan – not only for the cost savings but also the safety, we can ensure that all of our equipment is identical, and eliminate potential risk of user error. Karla Brady asked if the grant is 100% funded? Chief Neal said it was 90-10%. Karla Brady asked what the timeline is from application to award? We would hear no sooner than next summer. Chief Neal reiterated that because of recent changes: the drop in funding and changes in criteria, that we do not believe we would be approved for a grant. Karla Brady made a motion to recommend the grant be applied for and if the grant is not obtained within a year, we go ahead with the purchase based on new quotes. Heather Brennan Seconded the motion. Discussion: John Pynakker's concern is we are only a few months away from it reaching 10 years and that there are issues with equipment breaking down. Randy Sierra is also concerned about the safety of the guys, with equipment breaking down. Heather Brennan questioned what the price difference would be if we waited. Answered that there is no guarantee but we can get in on whatever deals are available at the time. Paul Bull asked for all in favor? One vote yes, Karla Brady – all other committee members voted no. Motion does not carry. Mandy Doumit motioned to move forward with recommending the purchase of the MSA Fleet, John Tesar seconded the motion. No discussion. All in favor, motion carried. No other presentations for the Equipment Group.

c. Discussion/Possible Action – Apparatus Group:

No presentations for the Apparatus Group.

d. Discussion/Possible Action – Facility Group:

Mark Labriola, introduced himself he is an Engineer with the department and is head of the facilities group committee. He explained when the department went for the bond a big part of it included a new Station #7, for now he would like to put that on hold, it's not that Station #7 is not going to happen, it will with the next bond sale. At the time of the election we had no idea the Laughlin Ranch Bypass road was going to go in, with it now in progress it eliminates the immediate need for Station #7 right now. To take care of our current needs we came up with a relocation of our Station #2 site. Right now the station is falling apart, we have issues with the bays (the bays are not tall enough for our apparatus, built in the 70's), and the sleeping quarters have no second means of egress. Instead of putting Two million dollars into Station #2 and throwing good money after bad, we decided to look for another piece of property. We cannot purchase property with the bond, and we do not own any other site besides Station #7 site. What we would like to do is relocate Station #2 for just the 56-hour side, build a new station across the street behind the senior league field on the river. With this site we would have a river response that is much quicker, currently the response time is 8 to 10 minutes from call to launch (hook up, cross street, deal with busy launch

area). With the boat being at the station on the water this will cut 6 minutes off our response time, the boat will be in the water on a boat dock. Currently Section 12 is being worked on by the City, they are already improving the area with cabanas and beach front all the way down to Merrill Ave., this improvement has created a second “davis camp” for us. Davis Camp one of our biggest call loads during the summer and it sits at the north end of our district up by the dam. With the City beach improvements, we will have “davis dam 2”. The following are some of the reasons why we are looking to be on the river: for the call load to the right and left (up and down river). We are at the site behind the senior fields on the river; we have a schematic to give you an idea of what it looks like. This station would have its own boat ramp for access, a PD charting station (PD will not have to run all the way down to Rotary Park for lunch or take a break, also a possible holding cell). With the money we had allotted to fix Station #2, we would build a new Station #2 on the water – this would open up the current Station #2 for us to move our Billing Office from where we are paying rent (\$2,300-2,400) a month. We could move them to the current Station #2 living quarters that would be turned into individual offices, they would be right there with other administrative personnel already housed at current Station #2. This would be a minimal cost, about \$100,000 to transition to offices and fix the roof. The new Station #2 would have 3,000 sq ft. living space, and 70 x 70 bays that will fit 3 apparatus. This design will be a standard station build, for use here and for future stations to keep the costs down on plans, engineering and construction. The Station entrance would be off First Street, the boundary to the north is the RV park & wash area and boundary to south cuts along existing bathroom and snack bar at the senior fields. Salt cedars would be removed and the City would not lose any of the existing cabanas. We would need to fill and grade the area and we would be able to utilize the hillside directly behind existing Station #2 site, and that area we plan use for expanded training grounds – use that dirt to fill & level the areas we need to on the new site. The aesthetics would be close to the look of the Ramada, make it match what the City has already in the area. We have talked with Parks & Recs, it meets the land use requirements. There are some items that will need to be addressed with the property: The wash area is a haven for the homeless, the whole site will be secured, the signal would need to be moved from its current location to First Street, and the power lines need to go underground that feed the ball field. Our reason for choosing this site instead of further down towards Merrill Ave.: Our response model uses a 2-mile radius, if we move down close to Merrill Ave. (it’s about a mile south) it creates a gap between Station #2 and Station #3 up on McCormick and overlaps Station #1 area. Mileage response times were reviewed with the proposed changes, there is a decrease in response times (this includes the new Laughlin Ranch Bypass) and shows with the new road we can put off the Laughlin Ranch station until later. Moving on to Station #5 for a moment, it is unsecurable, the bays are too small and most of the apparatus cannot fit. For instance,

a ladder truck will not fit because we have outgrown the station. The station is too far south in the district. We are proposing moving the station north a little bit where Brookfield homes is expanding they have planned for around 300 more homes. The Fox creek area has just grown as far as call volume. We are talking with Brookfield about some land they have that would be a good space for a fire station. We are looking into couple options of either transferring the land to the department and then paying for the land upon the sale of the existing Station #5 property or even the possibility of Brookfield giving the land to the department for a station, they like the idea of a fire station in that area. We would use the same plans that we come up with for the new Station #2. With the new locations, the response times get better and we do not overlap the Fort Mohave district as much. Station #2 proposed site would still need the City's approval. All of the changes we are talking about would cover new station #2, new station #5, new station #7 & remodel of existing station #2. Laughlin Ranch Blvd changed everything for us; internal changes have brought up these new ideas. We have wanted to get on the river for a long time and we would like to change our response from a body recovery to a rescue situation. Greater protection for the community, and the added growth on the river with the new beaches. Karla Brady requested a copy of the PowerPoint presentation. We are in the concept stage right now and we just need to know if it's feasible and not waste time. We are just looking to sell you on the vision today. Karla requested coming to them one station at a time. To clarify, this presentation is to give you an overview of what we are thinking and make sure we are heading in a feasible direction and not just planning for nothing. Paul Bull wanted to add that there is a significant amount of logic going into this. However as a resident of Laughlin Ranch and having sat in those meeting where we were told we were getting a fire station there and a new Station #5 was never discussed, he does not believe the intent is to bait and switch, but to some voters directly affected by these changes – might not feel the same way. Some estimates for the costs of the stations were given: Station #5 1.5 million, Station #2 2.2 million. Mark has spoken with the homeowner association at Laughlin Ranch to let them know what we are thinking, we do not want to blindsides people. Mark would like to go to Parks & Rec to see if this property for Station #2 is a possibility. We are not asking for approval to build, but we need to know whether this is even possible, if it is not we have to start making other plans. Karla Brady stated it is very unprofessional to go to the city without the board and this committee's approval, that this is a big decision; she has a whole bunch of questions. Paul Bull would like to clarify what we are asking: permission to go to Parks & Rec to see if they are even willing to let us have that property, and if it even meets the requirements to have a station there. If they say no, then we have to go back to the drawing board and tear down and re-build the existing Station #2. Heather Brennan motioned to take this to the Fire Board so Mark can go to Parks & Rec. Randy Sierra 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion, discussion followed. Karla asked to clarify the motion, we

are not saying yes or no, that we are just sending it to the board? Paul Bull clarified that we are giving Mark permission to go and see if this land is a possibility, we are not saying yes to a new station or being built there, we are not saying no it should not be built there. Paul does not see a concern in asking, we are not giving him the authority to build a station, and it is just an opportunity to see if the land is a possibility. Chief Moore expanded that we are not looking for an approval of the fire station, just the opportunity to see if the land is a viable option. More discussion on what the motion covers, and concerns that Karla posed. The station approval will come to this board for approval, we just need to know if we are able to have the property or if we need to make a completely different plan. All those in favor of the motion? Opposed? Karla Brady was opposed to the motion, motion carried by the remaining committee members.

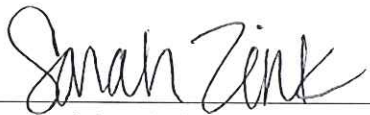
6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Surprised there were not more safety items submitted. We expect more safety items at the June meeting. We can go back to just one meeting a month, the first Tuesday in June.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 3:08pm.

Minutes prepared by,



Sarah Zink, Administrative Clerk

Approved by,



Paul Bull, Chairman  
Bond Oversight Committee