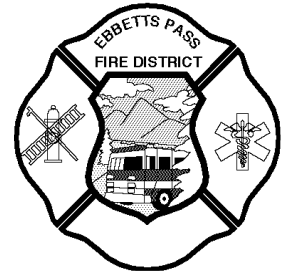


# Ebbetts Pass Fire District



## MINUTES

Board of Directors

August 17, 2021

APPROVED 09/21/2021

1. The meeting was called to order with proper social distancing among everyone and with accommodation for the public through the use of Zoom Meetings at 9:00 A.M. Board Secretary Pete Neal called the meeting to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Directors present: Michael Barr  
Jon Dashner  
Scott McKinney  
Pete Neal  
Absent: Denny Clemens

District personnel present: Fire Chief Mike Johnson  
District Secretary Cheryl Howard  
Battalion Chief Matt O'Donnell, Engineer Jim Eaves  
Firefighter-Paramedics Randayn Forrest and RJ Schulze

Others present via Zoom Meeting: None  
Media present: None

2. **PUBLIC APPEARANCES/COMMENT** - None

3. **CONSENT ITEMS**

Mr. McKinney made a motion to approve the Consent Items. Mr. Dashner seconded; motion passed 4-0 (AYES: Barr, Dashner, McKinney, Neal; ABSENT: Clemens).

4. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- 4.1. Finance Committee (Directors Dashner & Barr)

Chief Johnson reported the District was still at year end and year beginning with the Auditor's Office having not yet applied the carryover yet to the new fiscal year. He added that having added the \$3.4 million estimated carryover to the revenues and expenditures at the begging of the year, he estimated \$2.4 million for starting as District reserves. He reported that there were big payroll runs with the engine being deployed to area wildland fires. He reported that the committee would be meeting to finalize the FY 2021-22 budget

so that it could be published and readied for Board adoption at the September Board meeting. He also noted that there had been a good month of transport revenue in July.

4.2. Personnel Committee (Directors Dashner & McKinney)

Chief Johnson reported there had been more updates with COVID-19 with adaptations to make the District's plan as contemporary as possible and personnel were now required to wear masks for indoor errands in the community as our County was in a high transmission rate.

4.3. Fire Prevention Committee (Directors Clemens & Neal)

Chief Johnson reported that the committee members had reviewed the current active projects in the District including the ongoing Cruiser's remodel. Discussion regarding introduction of a possibility of burn ban continues and the committee will refine the idea with due diligence.

4.4. Apparatus/Equipment Committee (Directors McKinney & Neal)

No report.

5. Scheduled Items

5.1. CalPERS: Fiscal Year 2021-22 Unfunded Accrued Liability Paid in Full

Chief Johnson reported that three letters had been received following the District's payment of its annual amount set for the fiscal year among its separate CalPERS rate plans—Misc. Classic, Safety Classic, and Safety PEPRA.

5.2. CA EMSA Health Care Workers Vaccine Requirements State Public Health Order

Chief Johnson reported this was very fluid right now and does not include firefighters at this time. He noted that 80% of the District's personnel were vaccinated. He reported there would be more information to follow as the District moved forward trying to make the best decision.

5.3. Calaveras Enterprise Article: Rural Fire Districts Losing Firefighters

Chief Johnson reported the article reported somewhat accurately the ongoing issue of area firefighters becoming trained by fire districts only to lose them to State and Federal ramped up hiring processes and higher pay schedules.

5.4. Calaveras County Registrar of Voters: Notice of Intent to Circulate a Petition to Enact the Calaveras Local Fire Protection Tax

Chief Johnson reported the movement to enact a Calaveras County fire protection tax had moved from the Calaveras County Fire JPA to a citizen's initiative group which had taken on the building and finalization of the proposal for the County voters.

5.5. Thank-you Letter from Cheri and Tim Mann

The Board noted the thank-you and Chief Johnson commented that the success of this agency has little to do with the decisions made by the Board but through the culmination of the good calls and excellent service provided by the line staff.

5.6. Create an Ad Hoc Committee or Designate Established Committee to Negotiate Local 3581 Memorandum of Understanding

Chief Johnson reported the current MOU was expiring in June 2022 and the Local was wanting to start discussions regarding it. After some discussion, the Board's consensus was to have the Personnel Committee do the negotiation.

6. **REPORTS**

6.1. Administrative Report

Chief Johnson reported the Calaveras Fire JPA was currently working on a County-wide water tender replacement plan.

6.2. Legislative Report

Chief Johnson noted that there was not much to report other than the recall ballots beginning to arrive in the mail.

6.3. Administrative - EMS

Chief Johnson reported there has been a big call volume with nearly 60,000 miles on the 2018 ambulance and 30,000 miles on the 2020 ambulance. He also reported that Stanislaus County had officially removed themselves the Mountain-Valley EMS Agency which may mean other configurations for that particular agency.

7. **COMMENTS, QUESTIONS, CONSIDERATIONS**

7.1. Board Members

Mr. Dashner thanked the firefighting staff for their continued efforts providing excellent service for the community.

Mr. Neal noted his discouragement on the vaccination percentage within the District staff and expressed that the vaccination was important to him personally.

7.2. Firefighters Association – Jim Eaves thanked the Board members for their active involvement in the District especially as they were unpaid with many meetings to attend.

Chief Johnson reported that the Alisa Ann Ruch Foundation children had been able to come to the area and Matt O'Donnell reported that they had experienced a good day at Lake Alpine/Bear Valley area and enjoyed much food.

7.3. Employees' Group – Chief Johnson reported that the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary for 9-1-1 was around the corner and he had authorized the purchase and wearing of 9-1-1 Commemorative Uniform T-shirts for 30 days ahead and beyond the 9/11 date for this year and next year.

7.4. Public Comments

None

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Dashner made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Barr seconded; motion passed unanimously.  
9:49 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Howard  
District Secretary