

# Ebbetts Pass Fire District



## MINUTES

Board of Directors

July 18, 2023

APPROVED 08/15/2023

1. The meeting was called to order with additional accommodation for the public through the use of Zoom Meetings at 9:00 A.M. Board President Scott McKinney called the meeting to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

District personnel present: Fire Chief Mike Johnson  
District Secretary Cheryl Howard  
Battalion Chief Rodney Hendrix, Aaron Downing  
Shea Buhler, James Crabtree, Rodney Rodr, Bryn Buhler  
Kyle Salyer, Alex Baker, Sean Bitner, RJ Schulze  
Josilyn Layton, Evan Hendrix, Mark Prozorov,

Public present: Jim Layton with additional family and friends of Jocelyn Layton  
Rich Lokey  
David McLaughlin

Others present via Zoom Meeting: none

2. **PUBLIC APPEARANCES/COMMENT**  
None

3. **CONSENT ITEMS**

Mr. Barr made a motion to approve Consent Items 3.1. and 3.2. Mr. Dashner seconded; motion passed 5-0 (AYES: Barr, Clemens, Dashner, McKinney, Neal).

4. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

4.1. Finance Committee

4.1.1. Intra-Account Budget Transfer for End of Fiscal Year

Chief Johnson reminded the Board members that at the June meeting of the

Board they had approved the transfer from reserves to the 5640 Structures account where expenditures there had exceeded the budgeted amount. He noted that this intra-account transfer took from the accounts that had excess and placed it in accounts that had overages. In doing so, the accounts showed without showing the negatives that had been there such as electricity. Cheryl Howard commented that the Account Summary Sheets show the proposed intra-account transfer as applied to the accounts. Mr. Dashner made a motion to approve the Intra-Account Budget Transfer for the End of Fiscal Year dated 06/30/2023 as presented. Mr. Barr seconded; motion passed 5-0 (AYES: Barr, Clemens, Dashner, McKinney, Neal).

4.2. Personnel/Safety Committee

4.2.1. Probation Conclusion: Badge Pinning of Josilyn Layton

Chief Johnson reported that this was the opportunity memorialize the transition of Firefighter-EMT Josilyn Layton off probationary status. He congratulated her on her achievement and thanked her for her hard work over the past year in order to pass her probationary period. Josilyn Layton introduced her grandfather, Jim Layton, who then pinned her badge on her uniform shirt.

4.3. Fire Prevention Committee

Chief Johnson reported the County continues to move forward with the citation process. He also noted that the enforcement of the fireworks ban had gone well on the 1<sup>st</sup> and the 4<sup>th</sup> with only a few incidents even with the “safe and sane” special events at the three homeowners associations. He reported the Calaveras County Fire Chiefs Association would be considering the approval of the Calaveras County agreement at their meeting on July 26<sup>th</sup>.

4.4. Apparatus/Equipment Committee

Battalion Chief Aaron Downing reported the current state of the fleet noting the newest engine was currently getting some warranty work done in Sacramento.

5. **SCHEDULED ITEMS**

5.1. EPFD Resolution No. 2023-4: Declaring Vehicle Surplus (1993 HME Fire Engine)

Chief Johnson reported that he recommended the District determine an engine to be surplus which would get the count of fire engines back down to six. He added that there were several options for disposing of the extra engine but he was recommending the Board consider donating it to the Bret Harte High School for use in their Fire Tech Program. He then introduced David McLaughlin who was currently in charge of the 2-year program which introduces the career of firefighting to area high schoolers. David McLaughlin briefly outlined the goals of the program noting that the maintenance of apparatus would be facilitated with the use of an actual fire engine. Mr. Dashner made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-4 Declaring as Surplus the 1993 HME Fire Engine. Mr. Barr seconded; motion passed 5-0 (AYES: Barr, Clemens, Dashner, McKinney, Neal). Chief Johnson stated that he would begin the process to donate the engine to the high school.

- 5.2. Fire Agencies Insurance Risk Authority: Property and Liability Insurance Policy 2023-24  
Chief Johnson reported that he had started discussion with FAIRA about the value of the new engine which had been input as \$10 million instead of the proper \$1 million value. He added that premium costs had increased but there should be some refund.
- 5.3. Extension for Continued Review of Policy 6800 Personnel – Physical Medical Exam  
Chief Johnson reported that the Union had not yet been able to meet to discuss the policy and asked for continued time for review.
- 5.4. Special District Risk Management Authority 2024 Health Benefits Rates  
Chief Johnson reported the medical insurance premiums were being increased by 15% for 2024. Staff was currently looking into other providers to see if any cost savings would be available.
- 5.5. Braun Northwest: New Ambulance Change Order Removing Chassis  
Chief Johnson reported there was a \$57,000 credit due to the chassis issue. The chassis that had been found in Nevada was found not to be viable after it was in Braun's facilities for a number of reasons.
- 5.6. Hoblit Chrysler/Jeep/Ram/Dodge: New Ambulance Chassis 2024 Ram 5500 Quote  
Chief Johnson noted the quote dated 6/23/23 for a 2024 Ram 5500 chassis. He noted that with all the recent issues with trying to get a chassis for the current ambulance buildup at Braun Northwest and the upcoming need for an ambulance remount, the Board may want to consider the ordering of two (2) Ram chassis. Following some discussion, Mr. Barr made a motion to approve the purchase of two (2) Ram 5500 chassis. Mr. Neal seconded; motion passed 5-0 (AYES: Barr, Clemens, Dashner, McKinney, Neal).
- 5.7. Braun Northwest: Ambulance Remount Proposal  
Chief Johnson noted that the cost of the current ambulance being built by Braun Northwest was \$290,000. Battalion Chief Aaron Downing briefly described the remount process in light of the condition of the ambulance box to be remounted noting that the plans were to run the boxes for ten years and then repaint. Mr. Dashner made a motion to proceed with the HGAC Remount Proposal dated June 23, 2023. Mr. Barr seconded; motion passed 5-0 (AYES: Barr, Clemens, Dashner, McKinney, Neal).

## 6. **REPORTS**

### 6.1. Administrative Report

Chief Johnson reported the District had been busy with the usual Independence Day holiday events, Death Ride, and car show. He noted the Alicia Anne Ruch Burn Foundation kids would be visiting on the weekend of the 30<sup>th</sup> with plans for the EPFFA to provide breakfast on that Sunday.

Chief Johnson reported that he had contacted a company for doing the required NEPA for acquisition of the USFS land for moving Station 3 and he was expecting a proposal to possibly be ready for the next meeting of the Board of Directors.

6.2. Legislative Report

Chief Johnson noted the required number of signatures for the local County sales tax measure was nearing its goal.

6.3. Administrative - EMS

Chief Johnson reported the Mountain Counties EMS Agency had hired a Disaster Coordinator.

7. **COMMENTS, QUESTIONS, CONSIDERATIONS**7.1. Board Members

Mr. Dashner thanked the responding staff for the quality of the service given to his family.

Mr. Clemens stated that he liked the way things are moving within the District.

7.2. Firefighters Association

Nate Attaway reported the raffle winners had been notified and would soon be receiving their prizes.

7.3. Employees' Group

Rodney Hendrix introduced Firefighter-Paramedic Mark Prozorov. Rodney Hendrix added that if any Board member knew of potential medical insurance providers that could be contacted to quote for providing plans to our District, to please let staff know.

7.4. Public Comments

None.

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Dashner made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Neal seconded; motion passed 5-0. 9:48 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Howard  
District Secretary