

Ebbetts Pass Fire District



MINUTES

Board of Directors

May 17, 2022

APPROVED 06/21/2022

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 President Pete Neal called the meeting to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Directors present: Denny Clemens
Jon Dashner
Scott McKinney
Pete Neal

Director absent: Michael Barr

District personnel present: Fire Chief Mike Johnson, Cheryl Howard, Erin Felby,
Aaron Downing, Shea Buhler

Others present via Zoom Meeting: None

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

3. **CONSENT ITEMS**

Mr. McKinney made a motion to approve Consent Items 3.1 and 3.2. Mr. Clemens seconded; motion passed 4-0 (AYES: Clemens, Dashner, Neal, McKinney; Absent: Barr).

4. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- 4.1. Finance Committee (Directors Dashner & Barr)

Chief Johnson reported the Finance Committee had met and reviewed finances including the El Dorado Savings Bank reconciliation. He estimated that the District would carry over nearly \$4 million to the upcoming fiscal year and noted the very good April transport revenue amount of \$125,000 received.

- 4.2. Personnel/Safety Committee (Directors Dashner & McKinney)

Chief Johnson reported the committee members had reviewed the draft MOU and that he had handed out a corrected copy for the Board review (correction different

than the one in the Board's Packet). He noted a other items discussed was the safety equipment provided which Glen Verkerk had been present to give better detail and that Rodney Hendrix was still recruiting for the open position.

4.3. Fire Prevention Committee (Directors Clemens & Neal)

Chief Johnson reported the committee had not met this month yet Joan Lark had processed a few citations. He noted that today closed the time period for private yard waste burning although the Big Trees State Park live burn continued.

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

Battalion Chief Aaron Downing reported the new engine would be coming to the District in June. He gave additional information about the pre-build status of the recently ordered ambulance along with the maintenance status of District vehicles.

5. Scheduled Items

5.1. Calaveras Local Agency Formation Commission:

Nomination Ballot for Calaveras LAFCO Special District Member - 2022

Mr. Dashner reported that he would like the position if no other District Board member was interested and noted the meetings were the third Monday of every other month. Mr. Clemens made a motion to have Jon Dashner run for the position on LAFCO. Mr. McKinney seconded; motion passed 4-0 (AYES: Clemens, Dashner, Neal, McKinney; Absent: Barr).

5.2. EPFD Personal Safety Equipment Discussion

Chief Johnson noted the highlighted items on the list under Structure and Wildland on the Personal Equipment List were items to be available on the District's shelves. The items for Structure fire response were headlamp, radio holder, hand tool, door wedges, flashlights, and hose straps. The items for Wildland fire response were headlamp, chest harness, water bottles, hydration bladder, and Code 5 bag. Chief Johnson reported that the other two highlighted items, winter coat and extrication coat, were to be researched further by District personnel.

5.3. Pacific Gas and Electric Company: Enhanced Powerline Safety Settings (EPSS)

Chief Johnson reported that PG&E seemed to want to be more sensitive to anticipate electrical issues before they become larger issues.

5.4. Calaveras Auditor-Controller: FY 2022-23 Preliminary Budget

Chief Johnson reported that, following the Board approval of the COLA, District staff put together the proposed Preliminary Budget for Board approval including the COLA and a healthy capital outlay although not all anticipated revenue increases were yet known. Mr. Dashner made a motion to accept the Preliminary Budget for fiscal year 2022-23 as presented. Mr. McKinney seconded; motion passed 4-0 (AYES: Clemens, Dashner, Neal, McKinney; Absent: Barr).

5.5. EPFD Fiscal Year 2022-23 Five-Year Capital Outlay

Chief Johnson reported that the District had paid off the ambulance loan with its IGT receipts this fiscal year. He noted a few of the items included in the Capital Outlay plan for the upcoming fiscal year which also had been included in the Preliminary Budget. Mr. McKinney made a motion to approve the 5-year Capital Outlay as presented. Mr. Clemens seconded; motion passed 4-0 (AYES: Clemens, Dashner, Neal, McKinney; Absent: Barr).

5.6. EPFD Fiscal Year 2022-23 Personnel Pay Schedule

Chief Johnson noted that the Pay Schedule presented for Board review included the upper portion as negotiated with the Union which had reduced each level to six steps. Similarly, staff had set the steps to be only six for each level for the administrative personnel. After some discussion, Mr. Clemens made a motion to accept the Pay Schedule for 2022-23 as presented. Mr. Dashner seconded; motion passed 4-0 (AYES: Clemens, Dashner, Neal, McKinney; Absent: Barr).

5.7. EPFD Longevity Pay Request for Cheryl Howard

Chief Johnson briefly reviewed the request he had submitted for Cheryl Howard to receive 12% Longevity Pay which is in parity with those who are of similar salary level within the Local #3581 ranks. He added that she had been with the District for over 30 years. Mr. McKinney made a motion to approve the Longevity Pay for Cheryl Howard as presented. Mr. Dashner seconded; motion passed 4-0 (AYES: Clemens, Dashner, Neal, McKinney; Absent: Barr).

5.8. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Between EPFD and EPFF Local #3581

Chief Johnson reported that a letter had been received from Ebbetts Pass Fire Fighters Local #3581 reporting that its members had met on May 14, 2022, and approved the MOU. Mr. Dashner made a motion to accept the Memorandum of Understanding between Ebbetts Pass Fire District and Ebbetts Pass Firefighter's Local #3581. Mr. McKinney seconded; motion passed 4-0 (AYES: Clemens, Dashner, Neal, McKinney; Absent: Barr).

6. **REPORTS**6.1. Administrative Report

Chief Johnson reported that the controlled burn at Big Trees State Park was continuing along with a USFS-controlled burn over near Strawberry on the Tuolumne County side of the river. He noted that the marquis sign was in place for the season and that Battalion Chief Matt O'Donnell was currently teaching a high angle course.

6.2. Legislative Report

Chief Johnson reported the mail-in ballots were out for the Board of Supervisors position. He added that Dana Nichols would be present at the June regular meeting of the EPFD Board with information on the citizen's sales tax initiative.

6.3. Administrative - EMS

Chief Johnson reported that the Mountain-Valley EMS Agency transition to an agency without Stanislaus County continued with establishment of an office in Copperopolis and the movement of its treasury to Calaveras County.

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

Mr. Dashner complimented District personnel for the continued quality of their work.

Mr. Clemens noted his pleasure with the process for the MOU and negotiations.

7.2. Firefighters Association

Chief Johnson reminded Board members of posted signup sheets for volunteers.

7.3. Employees' Group

Battalion Chief Downing thanked the Board members for their support with equipment and the contract.

7.4. Public Comments

None

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. McKinney made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Dashner seconded; motion passed 4-0
10:10 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Howard
District Secretary