

Ebbetts Pass Fire District



MINUTES

Board of Directors

April 21, 2020

APPROVED 05/19/2020

1. The meeting was called to order through the use of Zoom Meetings at 9:00 A.M. by President Mike Barr and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Directors present: Michael Barr, Denny Clemens, Jon Dashner, Scott McKinney, and Pete Neal.

District personnel present: Fire Chief Mike Johnson, Cheryl Howard
Battalion Chief Aaron Downing, Engineer Glenn Verkerk

Others present: None

Media present: None

The meeting was suspended for approx. 8 minutes while Mr. McKinney's computer underwent some problem-solving action. (Note the recording was stopped during this break and reactivated approximately 5 minutes late.)

2. **PUBLIC APPEARANCES/COMMENT** – None. Cheryl Howard reported there was no one else attending through Zoom Meetings.

3. **CONSENT ITEMS**

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

4. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- 4.1. Finance Committee (Directors Dashner & McKinney)

- 4.1.1. Approval of Preliminary Budget Fiscal Year 2020-21

Chief Johnson reported that the committee had met to revenues and expenditures in addition to preparations for the coming fiscal year. He added that the adoption of the current year budget as the next fiscal year's preliminary budget was recommended. Administrative staff would continue to develop the various elements of the budget including the cost of living increase for the salary schedule and a few other projects he was planning to include in it. Mr. Neal made a motion to approve the Recommended Budget same as adopted Fiscal Year 2019-20 Final Budget. Mr. Dashner seconded; motion passed 5-0 (AYES: Barr, Clemens, Dashner, McKinney, Neal).

4.2. Personnel Committee (Directors Dashner & McKinney)

Chief Johnson reported on the various items discussed including the recent new hire of Joshua Hotchkiss starting on B Shift, Bryn Buhler's request for continuation of her retirement contributions while she was on pregnancy leave, the administrative staff working at home during this time of Covid-19 concern, and the District's Covid-19 plan.

4.3. Fire Prevention Committee (Directors Barr & Clemens)

Chief Johnson reported that updating of the District's Ordinance was still underway along with lot clearing under Joan Lark's supervision. He added the Lot Clearers' Meeting had been canceled with Joan trying to give all her requirements and communication through letters/emails. He added that the clearing would be enforced this year regardless of the ongoing pandemic.

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

Battalion Chief Aaron Downing reported that the badging had been removed from the truck anticipating that the Board would be declaring it surplus. Mr. Clemens asked about the acquiring of an engine from the bay area. BC Downing reported that the administration of that fire district had set aside activity for their surplus when the Coronavirus emergency evolved but the engine was reportedly still being held for our district.

5. Scheduled Items

5.1. Resolution 2020-02: Declaring Surplus 1989 Pierce Arrow 105-foot Aerial

Following some discussion, Mr. Clemens made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2020-02 which declares the truck as surplus and to direct the Apparatus Committee to determine the best method of disposal. Mr. Dashner seconded; motion passed 5-0 (AYES: Barr, Clemens, Dashner, McKinney, Neal).

5.2. Letter from Bryn Buhler Regarding Pregnancy Disability Leave

Chief Johnson reported that, as it had been in past practice, Engineer Buhler was asking for the Board to approve the continued payment of her PERS while she was on pregnancy leave. After some discussion, Mr. Dashner made a motion to approve the payment of Bryn Buhler's PERS during her pregnancy leave. Mr. Neal seconded; motion passed 5-0 (AYES: Barr, Clemens, Dashner, McKinney, Neal).

5.3. CCWD Resolution 2020-17 Increase Per Hydrant Payment for Fire Dept O&M

Chief Johnson reported on the increased payment per hydrant for maintenance performed by fire districts by Calaveras County Water District. He noted the other fire districts participating in the program in addition to the planned increases included within the CCWD resolution. Mr. Clemens made a motion to approve the increase approved by CCWD and directed the Fire Chief to determine the methodology for the hydrant maintenance program within the District. Mr. Dashner seconded; motion passed 5-0 (AYES: Barr, Clemens, Dashner, McKinney, Neal).

- 5.4. Resolution 2020-03: Supporting the Preparation and Submission of a Proposal for the Calaveras County North and South Exclusive Operation Ambulance Zones by the Calaveras Fire Joint Powers Authority
Chief Johnson reported that this program may not launch due to various factors including the current pandemic. Following some discussion, Mr. Neal made a motion to approve Resolution 2020-03 Supporting the Preparation and Submission of a Proposal for the Calaveras County North and South Exclusive Operation Ambulance Zones by the Calaveras Fire Joint Powers Authority. Mr. Dashner seconded; motion passed 5-0 (AYES: Barr, Clemens, Dashner, McKinney, Neal).
- 5.5. EPFD: 2019 Consumer Price Index West Urban—Cost of Living Adjustment
Chief Johnson noted that this was part of the annual exercise which was the determination of the annual COLA. He noted that the recommended amount was 2.6% based on the CPI-W Size Class B/C for year ending 2019. Mr. Dashner made a motion to table to the next regular meeting. Mr. Neal seconded; motion passed 3-2 (AYES: Dashner, McKinney, Neal; NOES: Barr, Clemens).
- 5.6. Mountain-Valley EMS Agency Notification to Approve the Exclusive Operator for 9-1-1 Emergency Advanced Life Support Ambulance Transport Services for an Exclusive Operating Area within the East Zone of Calaveras County
Chief Johnson noted that the Board would have time to review/approve at its May meeting which was prior to the May 22nd meeting of the MVEMSA Board. He noted various changes in the contract including the 4-tiered ambulance response zone (not a single zone as in the current contract period) and possibility of automated vehicle tracking being in place during the coming 5-year term.
- 5.7. Calaveras Public Power Agency Voting Instructions for the “At-Large” Position
Chief Johnson noted the Board had a choice among four agencies for the position at CPPA. After some discussion, Mr. Dashner made a motion to vote for Michael Chimento of Bret Harte Union High School District. Mr. Clemens seconded; motion passed 5-0 (AYES: Barr, Clemens, Dashner, McKinney, Neal).
- 5.8. EPFD Policy Review
- 5.8.1. End 30-day Review:
Policy 6520: Personnel – Personal Appearance Uniform Standards
Chief Johnson reported that the staff had met with Union personnel regarding the policy and was ready for Board consideration. Mr. Dashner made a motion to adopt Policy 6520: Personnel – Personal Appearance Uniform Standards. Mr. Clemens seconded; motion passed 5-0 (AYES: Barr, Clemens, Dashner, McKinney, Neal).

6. REPORTS

- 6.1. Administrative Report
Chief Johnson reported that activity was mostly focused on Covid-19 with the District adjusting as things changed. He noted the best practices had been adopted

by personnel and added that he planned to continue to be progressive with maintaining safety for personnel. He noted his appreciation to the staff that was working to keep themselves and the community safe.

6.2. Legislative Report

Chief Johnson noted legislative activity was slow if anything was under consideration. He noted the estimated TOT and Prop. 172 revenues for the next fiscal year were down considerably due to no activity during this pandemic period.

6.3. Administrative - EMS

Chief Johnson noted he had nothing additional to report.

7. **COMMENTS, QUESTIONS, CONSIDERATIONS**

7.1. Board Members

Mr. Dashner thanked Chief Johnson, Cheryl Howard, and the staff for protecting themselves and station.

Mr. Neal noted that when they start relaxing restrictions in other areas that we would need to stay vigilant.

Mr. McKinney observed that this Zoom Meeting was similar to the futuristic “Jetsons” yet it was too bad there was no vaccination nor cure for the Covid-19 yet.

7.2. Firefighters Association – Glenn Verkerk reported that the Association would soon have a meeting to determine actions with regard to mailer and BBQ.

7.3. Employees' Group:

Aaron Downing thanked the Board members for their support.

7.4. Public Comments

None

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Dashner made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Neal seconded; motion passed unanimously.
10:16 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Howard
District Secretary