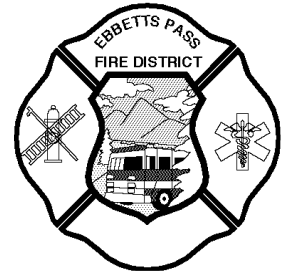


# Ebbetts Pass Fire District



## MINUTES

Board of Directors

February 16, 2021

APPROVED 03/16/21

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. The start of the meeting was delayed until 9:10 to enable some of the directors to complete their personal scheduling of Covid-19 vaccinations. At 9:10 Board President Denny Clemens 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  
Engineer Chuck Hatcher

Others present via Zoom Meeting: Dane Wadle, CSDA Field Coordinator, Sierra Network  
"JS"

Media present: None

2. **PUBLIC APPEARANCES/COMMENT**  
"JS" said he had no comment.

3. **CONSENT ITEMS**

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

4. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

4.1. Finance Committee (Directors Barr & Dashner)

Chief Johnson reported that the Committee planned to be ready at the next regular meeting to discuss at Board level the possibility of pension buyout. Some of the

decisions the Board will be facing is the interest rate, the amount to finance, in addition to a few others.

Chief Johnson reported that the District had received much of the reimbursements from the District's 2020 strike team response. He noted that the ambulance revenue was down slightly for the month but the amount per month should rebound later in the year as more transports had been done.

4.2. Personnel Committee (Directors Dashner & McKinney)

Chief Johnson reported the COVID-19 plan had been updated with the removal of the requirement of double layers of pants for response to COVID-19 calls. He also reported the staff has now been trained in vaccination administration which is part of the MVEMSA plan for the future. However, there had been no discussion about how the District personnel would be used in the future.

Chief Johnson reported there had been no injuries this past month among the District personnel.

4.3. Fire Prevention Committee (Directors Clemens & Neal)

Chief Johnson reported there had been no meeting and that Ordinance 2020 was on the agenda for adoption.

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

Chief Johnson thanked the committee members for their work on getting the seat repaired in the Quantum fire engine.

5. Scheduled Items

5.1. NextDoor Posting: Outstanding Fire Service – Marjorie Ramirez

Chief Johnson reported that this was one instance of the thankfulness of the community following impact of the major storms in January.

5.2. Resolution 2021-1: Authorizing the Execution and Delivery of an Installment Sale Agreement, and Authorizing and Directing Certain Actions in Connection with the Acquisition of a Fire Truck

Chief Johnson reported that the Board Packet had included detailed information on the financing for the acquisition of the new fire engine. The financing company was requiring the resolution be approved by the Board of Directors. Mr. Dashner made a motion to approve as presented Resolution 2021-1: Authorizing the Execution and Delivery of an Installment Sale Agreement and Authorizing and Directing Certain Actions in Connection with the Acquisition of a Fire Truck. Mr. McKinney seconded. Mr. Clemens asked if it was fixed rate and the answer was yes. He then asked if there were a prepayment penalty to which Chief Johnson referred him to the Exhibit A of the resolution showing the prepayment option. Mr. Clemens then asked if the loan were like a line of credit and it is not. The vote was then taken and the resolution passed 5-0 (AYES: Barr, Clemens, Dashner, McKinney, Neal).

- 5.3. **California Special Districts Association: Call For Nominations Seat A Board of Directors**  
Chief Johnson noted that the position was available if any Board member was interested and no interest was voiced.
- 5.4. **Calaveras Local Agency Formation Commission: Extended Time Ballot for Independent Special District Representatives on LAFCO**  
Mr. Dashner recommended that Travis Owens of Murphys Sanitary District be the other one for the Board to vote for as he was familiar with special districts and was also on this side of the County. Following some discussion, Mr. McKinney made a motion to vote for Jon Dashner and Travis Owens for the Calaveras LAFCO. Mr. Barr seconded; motion passed 5-0 (AYES: Barr, Clemens, Dashner, McKinney, Neal).
- 5.5. **EPFD January 2021 Storms Cost Compilation**  
Chief Johnson reported that the District had met a lot of challenges within the community during its response during the January storms. He noted that it had recruited an extra hire dispatcher and pulled in other agency's tracked UTVs that were also needed and he thought it had worked well. He noted there had been 40 to 60 calls each day during the storms and the chains for the loader had been worn out during the four days.
- 5.6. **EPFD Fire Ordinance 2020**  
Chief Johnson reported there had been no comments to the Ordinance 2020 submitted to the District Office. Following some discussion, Mr. Clemens opened the public hearing. When there was no public comment forthcoming, Mr. Dashner made a motion to accept the EPFD Fire Ordinance 2020 as presented. Mr. Barr seconded; motion passed 5-0 (AYES: Barr, Clemens, Dashner, McKinney, Neal). Chief Johnson stated that he would forward it on to the County for Board of Supervisors' ratification.
6. **REPORTS**
- 6.1. **Administrative Report**  
Chief Johnson commented that he had already discussed the storms and noted there was not anything more to report unless the Board members had questions.
- 6.2. **Legislative Report**  
Chief Johnson introduced Dane Wadle, CSDA Field Coordinator Sierra Network, who would be presenting information regarding some legislation that CSDA was making a specific call to action for special districts. Mr. Wadle noted there were two items that the CSDA would like the District to support: 1) COVID-19 relief funding for special districts HR535 and S91; 2) AB361 which was a bill to amend Brown Act to allow remote meetings during declared emergencies. The Board

members were in consensus with acknowledging the need and directed Chief Johnson to send the appropriate letters or other messages of support as appropriate.

6.3. Administrative - EMS

Chief Johnson reported that Battalion Chief Rodney Hendrix was working on the update for ambulance rates and transitioning to the bundling of rates to follow the industry standard for ambulance transport billing. He also reported that BC Hendrix would be continuing the acquisition of AVL which, hopefully, would cut down on some staff time preparing reports for MVEMSA.

7. **COMMENTS, QUESTIONS, CONSIDERATIONS**

7.1. Board Members

The various members expressed their thanks to the District personnel for jobs well done during the storms.

7.2. Firefighters Association – None.

7.3. Employees' Group – Chuck Hatcher noted appreciation of the Board's support of the staff.

7.4. Public Comments  
None

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Barr made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Neal seconded; motion passed unanimously.  
10:05 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Howard  
District Secretary