Ebbetts Pass Fire District

MINUTES
Board of Directors
October 21, 2025

APPROVED 11/18/2025

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

Directors present: Michael Barr
Denny Clemens
Jon Dashner
Scott McKinney
Jon Vattuone

District personnel present: Fire Chief Mike Johnson, Cheryl Howard
Aaron Downing, Glenn Verkerk, Dalton Butow
Cody Salyer

Public present: None

Others present via Zoom Meeting: Erin Felby
Stacey Wagner

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

3. **CONSENT ITEMS**
Mr. Barr made a motion to accept Consent Items 3.1. and 3.2. Mr. Vattuone seconded; motion passed 5-0 (AYES: Barr, Clemens, Dashner, McKinney, Vattuone).

4. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**
4.1. Finance Committee (Directors Barr & Dashner)
Chief Johnson reported the District had recently undergone the on-site portion of the annual financial audit. He asked on behalf of Marvin Pescador if the Board wanted a particular item from the audit to be reported on during the November regular Board meeting. Additionally, he questioned whether it was required to be Chuck Nicholson, CPA, giving the information to the Board as Mr. Nicholson had a scheduled event

which may make the report have to be moved into December. The Board's consensus was that it was acceptable to have Marvin Pescador report since he was so familiar with the District's finances.

4.2. Personnel/Safety Committee (Directors Dashner & McKinney)
Chief Johnson reported there had been no injuries over the previous month and recruitment continued for the two positions. Recently hired Firefighter-EMT Cody Salyer reported on his on-going paramedic training which he anticipated entering the didactic phase in December which could mean paramedic licensing possibly in June.

Chief Johnson noted that the District-wide group picture taking was scheduled at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, October 29th. He added that the shift bids have occurred for 2026.

Chief Johnson reported that the newest volunteer, Doug Fabris, would soon be participating in the upcoming County training classes.

4.2.1. EPFD Employment Opportunity: Executive Secretary Recruitment Testing
Chief Johnson reported that the oral interview and skills assessment panels for the Executive Secretary had been completed. He noted that panel participants included Rose Beristianos, Greg Sessions, Erin Felby, Joan Lark, and Denny Clemens. He noted that the successful applicant would undergo a background investigation and a physical examination. Following some discussion, the Board's consensus was to have the Fire Chief continue with hiring.

4.2.2. Annual Health and Wellness Exams Update
Chief Johnson reported On Duty Health had been conducting the second week-long on-site full NFPA 1582 physical examination and fitness assessments of the firefighters. This was the second of the annual physical exams through the awarded grant.

4.3. Fire Prevention Committee (Directors Clemens & Vattuone)
Chief Johnson reported that he was working on a job announcement for the fire prevention position. He added that Josilyn Layton was busy updating pre-fire plans while readying for transition to ImageTrend.

4.4. Apparatus/Equipment Committee (Directors McKinney & Vattuone)
Battalion Chief Aaron Downing reported the Velocity was back in service with a new air conditioning hose and batteries. He continued with outlining the working condition of various response apparatus and ambulances.

4.5. Station 3 Construction Committee (Directors Barr & Alternate Clemens)
Chief Johnson reported that personnel at Station 3 were working toward placement of an on-demand water heater to replace a tank water heater to allow more room within the current station. He also noted he had begun discussions with Dmitry Semenov regarding financing possibilities for the replacement station.

5. Scheduled Items

5.1. International Association of Fire Fighters Health & Wellness Trust: 2026 Rates
Chief Johnson reported the medical insurance premium rates had been included for 2026 for the Board's information.

5.2. EMS/MC: Government Shutdown Continues - Medicare Ambulance Add-On Payments
Chief Johnson noted the information was received from our current billing provider, Emergency Medical Services/Management Consultants (formerly Wittman Enterprises) and was included for the Board's information. He added that staff would continue watching as the process continues.

5.3. Calaveras Co. Recorder's Office: Request for Certificate of Acceptance for Road Use Agreement
Chief Johnson reported the Recorder's Office wanted an acceptance letter from the Board of Directors to record with the documents regarding the purchase of the land parcels near Forest Meadows because we are a political entity. Mr. Clemens made a motion to accept the requirements of the Recorder and instructed Chief Johnson to prepare the documentation and submit it to the Recorder. Mr. Barr seconded; motion passed 5-0 (AYES: Barr, Clemens, Dashner, McKinney, Vattuone).

5.4. CDHCS: GEMT Cost Report Review Fiscal Period Ended June 30, 2022
Chief Johnson noted the next-to-final DHCS audit of the GEMT submittals had been completed and again there was an amount determined to have been overpaid by DHCS which was to be returned. Staff would prepare the refund in November.

5.5. CDHCS: Intergovernmental Transfer Voluntary Rate Range Program Service Year 2024
Chief Johnson reported the latest information on the IGT program had been included for the Board's information. He added that $152,038 would be paid to later receive approximately $250,000 in revenue.

6. **REPORTS**

6.1. Administrative Report
Chief Johnson reported that dooryard burning with permit was again being allowed within the District and that Big Trees State Park had plans for a controlled burn. He noted Station 1 winter readiness would soon be underway and the Calaveras Fire Chiefs JPA representatives would be meeting with the County Auditor in December.

6.2. Legislative Report
Chief Johnson reminded everyone about the upcoming Proposition 50 election and also noted there was legislative activity regarding AB569 which may enable PEPRA persons to have the employer pay a portion of the employee's portion of retirement.

6.3. Administrative - EMS
Chief Johnson reported the transition to the Image Trend reporting system was underway.

7. COMMENTS, QUESTIONS, CONSIDERATIONS

7.1. Board Members
Mr. McKinney encouraged everyone to keep up the outstanding work that is already going on within the District.

7.2. Firefighters Association
Alex Baker reported that Association personnel had helped the Arnold Angels with a mini beer booth and had contributed $900 towards their fundraiser. He also noted the invites for the Awards Dinner would be going out shortly.

7.3. Employees' Group
None

7.4. Public Comments
None

8. ADJOURNMENT
Mr. Dashner declared the meeting adjourned. 10:12 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Howard
District Secretary