Ebbetts Pass Fire District

MINUTES
Board of Directors
September 15, 2026
Approved 10/20/26

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 Vattuone 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, Joan Lark, Andrea Ramirez, Matt O'Donnell, Bryn Buhler, Chuck Hatcher, Will Koelzow, Kyle Salyer, Joe Peters, Ryan Miguel, Alex Stoltman, Simon Defreites.

Public present: Tim Bottomley, Ron Getter, Julie Getter

Others present via Zoom: Erin Felby, Michael Miller

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

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

4. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**
   4.1. Finance Committee (Directors Clemens & Vattuone)
   Chief Johnson explained the financial health of the District. He reported that year-to-date ambulance revenue is 23% of the budgeted amount for the fiscal year.

      4.1.1 Fiscal Year 2026-27 Proposed Final Budget
      Chief Johnson reported that there were no comments received during the 30-day review period.

4.1.2. Resolution No. 2026-8: Approving Final Budget and Appropriations Limit Fiscal Year 2026-27
Mr. Barr made a motion to approve the Final Budget and Appropriations Limit for Fiscal Year 2026-27 as presented Mr. Clemens seconded; motion passed 5-0 (AYES: Barr, Clemens, Dashner, McKinney, Vattuone).

4.2. Personnel/Safety Committee (Directors Clemens & Vattuone)
Chief Johnson stated that Cody Salyer is close in the process of receiving his paramedic accreditation and is completing his internship.

Chief Johnson reported that Brandon Camara is undergoing his background investigation.

4.2.1 Proclamation Presentation to Fire Prevention Office Joan Lark
Chief Johnson read the prepared proclamation. Mr. Vattuone presented the framed original proclamation to Joan Lark.

4.3. Fire Prevention Committee (Directors McKinney & Vattuone)
Mrs. Lark stated that her replacement, Mr. McKeon will be a great fit for the position she noted that he learns quickly and is a great people person.

4.4. Apparatus/Equipment Committee (Directors Clemens & McKinney)
Chief Johnson reported that the new fire engine is on its way from Wisconsin and is expected to arrive at the station on Wednesday September 16, 2026. Staff will conduct a final review of the engine, after which it will be taken to the Pierce dealer in Sacramento for final review and any necessary repairs or adjustments.
Chief Johnson reported that the Jeep Gladiator should be ready to use within the next two weeks after a few minor adjustments.

4.5. Station 3 Construction Committee (Directors Barr & Alternate Clemens)
Chief Johnson stated that geological work for the new Station 3 is being completed during the week of September 14 through September 18, 2026. The District expects to receive the final report of the groundwork within four to six weeks. Capital Project Management recommends posting a Request for Proposals to obtain a detailed survey of the property.

5. Scheduled Items

5.1. Cancer Strong: 5th Annual Car Show Fundraiser
Julie Getter explained that the Cancer Strong fundraiser allows anyone struggling fighting cancer to apply for the program. Seventy percent of the proceeds are given to the picked individual, and thirty percent goes back to the community to help cover costs. Matt O'Donnell stated the individual that was selected this year has various ties throughout Ebbetts Pass Fire District and the community. Denny Clemens made a motion to donate a dinner for four individuals to come to the station and have dinner with the on-duty staff. Mr. Barr seconded; motion passed 5-0 (AYES: Barr, Clemens, Dashner, McKinney, Vattuone).

5.2 Calaveras County- Proposed Funding Reduction to Local Fire Districts:
Chief Johnson reported that each District will receive $56,944 in Transient Occupancy Tax funding for the Fiscal Year 2026-27. He also reported that the Calaveras County Board of Supervisors will continue to pay the dispatch fee from the County's General Funds.

5.3. Golden State Fire Apparatus:
Chief Johnson presented the final invoice, and associated grant funding for the new fire apparatus. The Board discussed the available funding. Mr. Clemens made a motion to pay for the apparatus out of the District's reserve funds. Mr. Barr seconded; motion passed 5-0 (AYES: Barr, Clemens, Dashner, McKinney, Vattuone).

5.4. Policy Review: Policy 6319 Personnel- Position Description:
Chief Johnson reported that there were no comments during the 30-day review period. Mr. Clemens made a motion to approve Policy 6319 as presented. Mr. Barr seconded; motion passed 5-0 (AYES: Barr, Clemens, Dashner, McKinney, Vattuone).

5.5 Braun Northwest: Ambulance Replacement Proposal
Chief Johnson explained that now is the time to begin preparing for the construction of a new ambulance for the District. Bryn Buhler agreed and stated that signing the contract would lock in the price quoted. Mr. Clemens made a motion to sign the contract for construction of a new ambulance. Mr. Barr seconded; motion passed. 5-0 (AYES: Barr, Clemens, Dashner, McKinney, Vattuone).

5.6 Calaveras County Public Health: Group Connections Day
Chief Johnson reported that Calaveras County Public Health will conduct a Group Connections meeting in the Ebbetts Pass Fire District's training room on September 25, 2026. No further action was taken.

5.7. California Department of Health Care Services
Chief Johnson explained that the District's participation in the Ground Emergency Medical Transportation (GEMT) program. He reported that the invoice presented was for administrative costs. No further action taken.

6. **REPORTS**

6.1. Administrative Report
Chief Johnson reported it was Mr. Dashner's birthday the previous week and wished him a happy belated birthday. Chief Johnson introduced the incoming Board of Director Tim Bottomley, who will begin serving in January 2027. Chief Johnson reported that a crew that was assigned to the Colorado Fire has now returned.

6.2. Legislative Report
Chief Johnson reported on Assembly Bill 1383 is progressing through the legislature, the Senate is working toward final approval. He reported that the proposed changes

would affect CalPERS pension calculations for employees covered under PEPRA classification, including a decrease in the age limit from 57 to 55 and an increase in the percentage used in the pension formula from 2.7% to 3.0%.

6.3. Administrative - EMS
Chief Johnson reported that Jim Whitworth is the new Executive Director of the Mountain Counties EMS Agency.

7. COMMENTS, QUESTIONS, CONSIDERATIONS

7.1. Board Members
Mr. Clemens expressed his appreciation for the District's fiscal responsibility and for all District staff members. The Board of Directors and Ebbetts Pass Fire District staff expressed their appreciation to Joan Lark for her years of dedicated service to the District.

7.2. Firefighters Association
Chief Johnson stated that the Firefighters Association did a great job operating the beer booth during the Labor Day weekend. Chief Johnson also expressed his appreciation to Mr. Dashner for his assistance during the Labor Day weekend.
Mr. Dashner expressed his appreciation.

7.3. Employees' Group
Kyle Salyer expressed his gratitude on behalf of Local 3581 and extended a special thank you to Joan Lark for her years of service to the District. Mr. Salyer also thanked the Board of Directors for its continued fiscal responsibility.

7.4. Public Comments
None

8. ADJOURNMENT
Mr. Vattuone made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Barr seconded; motion passed 5-0 (AYES: Barr, Clemens, Dashner, McKinney, Vattuone). The meeting adjourned at 10:21 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Ramirez
District Secretary