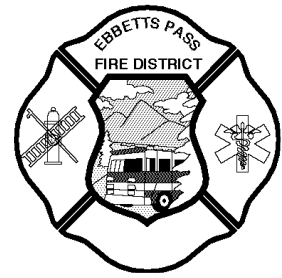


Ebbetts Pass Fire District



MINUTES Board of Directors August 18, 2026 Approved 09/15/26

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, Andrea Ramirez, Aaron Downing, Shea Buhler, Danny Bredbenner, Alex Baker, Eric Griffiths, Cody Salyer, Micah Filev, Preston Barnett

Public present: Forest Meadow Citizen

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: Clemens, Dashner, McKinney, Vattuone, Barr).

4. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- 4.1. Finance Committee (Directors Clemens & Vattuone)
Chief Johnson reviewed the financial information.

- 4.2. Personnel/Safety Committee (Directors Clemens & Barr)
Chief Johnson reported no new injuries. Brandon Camara was offered the open Firefighter-Paramedic position and will be starting around September 2026. Fire Prevention Officer Jim McKeon will be transitioning with Joan until September 2026.

- 4.3. Fire Prevention Committee (Directors McKinney & Vattuone)
Chief Johnson explained Josilyn Layton is investigating a short-term rental ordinance.

- 4.4. Apparatus/Equipment Committee (Directors McKinney & Clemens)
Battalion Chief Downing stated he and a select few of the team members went to Wisconsin for the final inspection of the new fire engine at Pierce's headquarters. The team found an additional 173 items on the fire engine that needed to be addressed prior to the projected delivery date of September 8, 2026. Chief Johnson explained this date is the dealer preparation date, the District should have the engine by the end of September.

- 4.5. Station 3 Construction Committee (Directors Barr & Alternate Clemens)
Chief Johnson noted this topic will be discussed later during the meeting.

5. Scheduled Items

- 5.1. California Public Employees Retirement System
Chief Johnson explained the funding. No further action was taken.
- 5.2. Calaveras County- Proposed Funding Reduction to Local Fire Districts:
Chief Johnson shared an update on the transient occupancy tax. The Calaveras County Board of Supervisors will meet on September 8, 2026. They will present the final budget amounts for the fire districts' transient occupancy tax funds for the fiscal year 2026-27.
- 5.3. Request for Qualifications proposals to conduct geotechnical services:
Jeff Evans and Matthew Estes recommended Geologic to move forward with the geotechnical services needed for the new Station 3 groundwork. Mr. Clemens made a motion to select Geologic for the geotechnical work needed. Mr. McKinney seconded; motion passed 5-0 (AYES: Clemens, Dashner, McKinney, Vattuone, Barr).
- 5.4. Policy 6319: Personnel-Position Description: Paid Battalion Chief:
Chief Johnson stated that the policy updates align with fire marshal requirements. Mr. Barr made a motion to enter thirty-day review. Mr. Dashner seconded; motion passed 5-0 (AYES: Clemens, Dashner, McKinney, Vattuone, Barr).
- 5.4. Forest Meadows Community Syndication Fund, LLC:
Discussion was had no further action was taken.

6. **REPORTS**

- 6.1. Administrative Report
Chief Johnson reported that Caltrans will be cleaning up the dead brush along Highway 4 around August 21, 2026. LAFCO report has been submitted.
- 6.2. Legislative Report
Nothing to report
- 6.3. Administrative - EMS
Chief Johnson explained that Mountain Counties Emergency Medical Services Agency will announce their Executive Director at their next board meeting on Friday August 21, 2026. Chief Johnson has been working with Calaveras County Sheriff Office for the ambulance dispatch renewal. It will be presented at the next board meeting on September 15, 2026.

7. **COMMENTS, QUESTIONS, CONSIDERATIONS**

- 7.1. Board Members
Mr. Clemens stated the top priority of the staff is safety. Mr. McKinney explained he will be retiring in December 2026. He expressed his gratitude for being involved and everything that everyone does. The Ebbetts Pass Fire District staff expressed their appreciation for his dedication and noted that he will be missed.
- 7.2. Firefighters Association
Danny Bredbenner gave an update on the success they had with the burn foundation.
- 7.3. Employees' Group
Shea Buhler stated his appreciation and happy endeavors to Mr. McKinney

7.4. Public Comments

Forest Meadow Citizen expressed concerns about EMS personnel's mental health and asked what resources are available to them. Chief Johnson gave her a list of resources available.

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

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

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Ramirez
District Secretary