

Agenda Item No.:	C
Work Plan:	Agency Administration Work Plan
Topic:	HB 3940 – Reappointments to Emergency Fire Cost Committee
Presentation Title:	Reappointments of current EFCC members
Date Presented to Board:	September 2, 2025
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SUMMARY

The purpose of this agenda item is to recommend the reappointments of four current Emergency Fire Committee (EFCC) members to the new EFCC under House Bill (HB) 3940's effective date of September 27, 2025.

BACKGROUND

With the passage of [HB 3940](#) several Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) have been updated that impact the EFCC. Key components of the house bill are summarized below with emphasis on a deadline related to the appointments:

The State Board of Forestry shall appoint:

- an Emergency Fire Cost Committee for the purpose of carrying out certain provisions of ORS 477 (477.440, 477.445, 477.450, 477.455, 477.460, 477.755, 477.760, 477.770 and 477.775).
- at least one member from each forest region established under ORS 527.640.
- the first five voting members of the Emergency Fire Cost Committee described in ORS 477.440 **on or before December 31, 2025**.
 - One shall serve for a term ending one year after the date of appointment.
 - One shall serve for a term ending two years after the date of appointment.
 - One shall serve for a term ending three years after the date of appointment.
 - Two shall serve for a term ending four years after the date of appointment.

The board may appoint to the committee persons serving on the committee on the effective date of this 2025 Act who qualify under ORS 477.440.

The EFCC shall consist of six members, including one nonvoting representative of the board and five voting members who are appointed by the board as follows:

- Two members who are, or are representatives of, large forest owners whose forestland is being assessed for forest fire protection within a forest protection district.

- One member who is, or is a representative of, a small forest owner whose forestland is being assessed for forest fire protection within a forest protection district.
- One member who is, or is a representative of, an owner of grazing land, as defined in ORS 477.205, whose grazing land is being assessed for forest fire protection within a forest protection district.
- One member appointed at large to represent one of the groups identified above.

Attachment 1 outlines the membership requirements with the proposed recommendations for reappointment. The EFCC chair is coordinating with the Oregon Department of Forestry on outreach to the grazing land owner communities to fill this new and important member of the committee by the next regular board of forestry meeting.

Attachment 2 outlines a brief biography of the four members being recommended for reappointment. The current members are:

Brennan Garrelts. Brennan's first term began in January 2020. Consistent with ORS 477.450, the EFCC elected Brennan as their chairperson at their June 2021 meeting. While serving as the EFCC chairperson, Brennan has represented the committee on multiple policy efforts that include: 2022 Co-chair of ODF's Emergency Fire Funding Task Force which resulted in draft legislative concepts, 2023 represented the EFCC on Senator Steiner's Wildfire & Forestry Workgroup and most recently was a part of the Fire 35 Wildfire Funding Working Group that resulted in the development of HB 3940.

Kathryn VanNatta. Kathryn's first term began in September 2023. Kathryn VanNatta represents all Oregon small forest owners. She is a small forest owner, and she belongs to the Northwest Oregon Forest Protective Association.

John Davis and Eric Kranzush. Both John and Erik's first term began in March 2025, and both also served on the Fire 35 Wildfire Funding Working Group.

RECOMMENDATION

The Department recommends the Board make the following reappointments effective September 27, 2025:

Reappoint Brennan Garrelts and Kathryn VanNatta to the Emergency Fire Cost Committee with terms expiring at the end of September 2029.

Reappoint John Davis to the Emergency Fire Cost Committee with a term expiring at the end of September 2028.

Reappoint Eric Kranzush to the Emergency Fire Cost Committee with a term expiring at the end of September 2026.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Emergency Fire Cost Committee Membership current and proposed
2. Biographies

HB 3940 – EMERGENCY FIRE COST COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP REAPPOINTMENTS
September 27, 2025

	EFCC Member	Region	Landowner	Initial Term	Term
1	Brennan Garrelts	Southern	large forest	4-years	9/27/2025 - 9/30/2029
2	Kathryn VanNatta	Northwest	small forest	4-years	9/27/2025 - 9/30/2029
3	John Davis	Eastern	large forest	3-years	9/27/2025 - 9/30/2028
4	Grazing TBD		grazing	2-years	
5	Eric Kranzush		at large	1-year	9/27/2025 - 9/30/2026
6	Non voting BOF rep				

Current members

Brennan Garrelts, Chair

Southern Region

Coos, Douglas, and Southwest Oregon Forest Protective Associations

Vice President, Lone Rock Resources

Kathryn VanNatta

Northwest Region

Northwest Oregon Forest Protective Association

Small forest landowner, representing all Oregon small woodland landowners.

John Davis

Eastern Region

Klamath-Lake Forest Protective Association

Vice President and General Manager, Mountain West Timberlands, Green Diamond Resource Company

Eric Kranzush

Western Oregon

Coos, DFPA and Western Lane Forest Protective Associations

Oregon Forestry Manager, Roseburg Resources – Western Regional Office

Current members – brief biographies

Brennan Garrelts developed a passion for Oregon's forests early in his youth and spent much of his spare time exploring the public and private forestlands behind his childhood home in Southwest Oregon. In college he sought to continue that passion to a professional career and after receiving his B.A. in Environmental Science from Willamette University, he went on to earn his M.S. in Forest Science from Oregon State University's College of Forestry.

Brennan spent the first decade of his professional career working for the Bureau of Land Management as a forester in northern California and Southwest Oregon. In 2015, he transitioned to the private sector and began working for Lone Rock Resources. Today, Brennan holds the role as Vice-President overseeing Lone Rock's Timber Investments and Partnerships as well as Government Affairs and Policy.

Throughout his forestry career Brennan has consistently sought to grow his professional wildland firefighter experience and qualifications. He has spent 20 seasons fighting wildland fire in various operational positions. He has worked extensively and repeatedly with all three ODF Teams as well as numerous federal teams. Brennan has also served on several commitments, both regionally and national, concerned with wildfire management and mitigation, the Douglas Forest Protective Association's Board of Directors (2017-2025), the legislatively appointed Fire-35, and is the current elected Chair of ODF's Emergency Fire Cost Committee.

Kathryn VanNatta is a board member and budget committee member of the Northwest Oregon Forest Protective Association. She represents a small woodland landowner through Roman V Ranch, LLC (The VanNatta family's forestland) and Tie Cabin Tree Farm. Kathryn is a native fifth-generation Oregonian and a small woodland owner since 1985, residing in Hillsboro. She is a member of the Oregon Small Woodland's Association, Oregon Tree Farm System, and Oregon Farm Bureau Federation. Kathryn is the corporate managing partner of Roman V Ranch, LLC, and manager/owner-in-training of VanNatta Brothers Logging. She also formerly served as a regulatory affairs director and lobbyist for Oregon's pulp and paper industry's association. Most days you can find her teaching sewing, gardening or on the tree farm.

John Davis holds a B.S. in Forestry from Humboldt State University and is a seasoned forestry and timberlands operations professional with over 31 years of experience managing large-scale forest assets across Oregon, Montana, and California. As Vice President and General Manager of Mountain West Timberlands at Green Diamond Resource Company, he oversees 925,000 acres, including 635,000 acres of Eastside forest, ensuring sustainable harvesting, fire mitigation, and financial stewardship. Throughout his career, he has held various leadership roles, directing operations with multimillion-dollar budgets, coordinating fire prevention and suppression efforts, and fostering collaboration between industry stakeholders, regulators, and local communities. In the role in Oregon, he has worked within the complete and coordinated system on a number of large fires and Green Diamond is an active partner in the district level Fire Protective

Associations. His expertise spans strategic planning, budgeting, financial analysis, contract negotiations, and resource management, all while prioritizing safety and environmental responsibility.

With a deep commitment to forestland protection, John has been actively involved in emergency response planning, including wildfire suppression, risk mitigation, policy through participation in two recent workgroups focused on solving for State fire funding, and the national level through National Alliance of Forest Owners effort to develop MOU's with the USFS on both fire suppression and fuel breaks. His experience with long-term harvest forecasting, fire cost management, and investment in fire prevention aligns with the mission of the Emergency Fire Cost Committee (EFCC). As a dedicated representative of an Oregon forestland owner, he is passionate about ensuring equitable fire suppression funding and advancing strategic investments in fire detection and response.

Eric Kranzush currently serves as the Oregon Forestry Manager at Roseburg Resources, where he oversees the reforestation, stand management, and wildfire protection of nearly 400,000 acres of timberlands in Western Oregon. Roseburg Resources actively participates in fire protection within the Coos, Douglas, and Western Lane Forest Protective Associations.

For the past 23-years, Eric worked at Giustina Land & Timber Co, where he held various leadership roles within the Linn Forest Protective Association (LFPA), including multiple terms as President and Vice-President. He chaired the Plans & Studies Committee, overseeing the acquisition, construction, and maintenance of LFPA's motorpool and facilities projects. Eric also developed a robust understanding of local district fire protection budgets and advocated for operational efficiencies in Initial Attack systems.

He has represented LFPA on the Oregon Forest Industries Council Protection Committee and the Oregon Forest Protective Association. Currently, he served on the ODF Headquarters Services Committee and the State Forester's "Fire 35" Committee, seeking durable and equitable funding for ODF's Protection Program.

His advocacy and field experience include testifying on wildfire issues at the State Capitol, serving as a Landowner Representative and Resource Boss on numerous large wildfires, and extensive experience as a Burn Boss in prescribed fire operations. Eric holds a bachelor's degree in Forest Management from Oregon State University and an MBA from the University of Oregon. He is deeply committed to effective fire management and financial stewardship. His extensive experience in forest protection, budget management, and strategic planning aligns well with the responsibilities of the Emergency Fire Cost Committee (EFCC). Eric is eager to contribute to the sustainability and resilience of Oregon's forestlands through his role on the EFCC.

New member

Bobby Corey, of Pendleton, is a 4th generation owner of Cunningham Sheep Company and related entities in northeast Oregon that include cattle, sheep, wheat, timber and hunting enterprises within its business structure. Bobby has served as an Oregon Department of Forestry Budget Committee member in Northeast Oregon since 2013 and has also been a Director of the East Oregon Forest Protection Association. He presently oversees wildland fire operations for Cunningham Sheep Company, working very closely with Oregon Department of Forestry in Northeast Oregon, as well as Rural Fire Departments within Umatilla County. He currently is a Board Member of Cunningham Sheep Company, the Happy Canyon Company, and the Helix School District.

Bobby graduated in 2012 from the University of Idaho with a degree in Agricultural Business. After college, he returned to the family ranch and started a very successful guided hunting business, Hunt Oregon, and still oversees its operations today. Bobby also is a partner in a dryland wheat farm in Helix, OR.