



MINUTES

FIRE SERVICE ADVISORY COMMISSION

February 17, 2022

Oconee County Administrative Offices, Council Chambers
415 S. Pine Street, Walhalla, SC 29691

MEMBERS

Commissioner Charlie Vissage, Region 1
Commissioner Tony McAlister, Region 2
Commissioner Austin Grant, Region 3
Commissioner Jamie Brock, Region 4 (Absent)

Commissioner Brandon Burton, Region 5
Scott Krein, OCES Director
Brady Norris, Training Chief
Steven Zahn, Secretary

The Oconee County Fire Service Advisory Commission met at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC with all members and Steven Zahn, Secretary present. Jamie Brock was absent.

Press: Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, notice of the meeting, date, time, place of meeting and agenda were posted on the bulletin board at the County Administrative Offices, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC, and the County Council website [www.oconeesc.com/council]. In addition, it was made available [*upon request*] to the newspapers, radio stations, television stations and concerned citizens.

No members of the media were present.

Call to Order

Chairman Brandon Burton called the meeting to order at 1800.

Approval of Minutes

- Minutes from the January 20, 2022, meeting were unanimously approved after a motion was made by Charlie Vissage & seconded by Tony McAlister after a suggestion by Director Krein to remove Larry Greer's name from the Minutes.

Steven Zahn's Radio Communications Committee Report

- We had a short recent meeting. We need to have all members plus Tilson attend so we can make decisions and make more progress. We're waiting for the frequencies for the Salem water tank repeater.
- Cleveland & Long Creek will get Satellite receivers & towers. Have tower donated by the City of Westminster & working on another. This will allow portable radios will be heard by dispatch & other radios.
- Some areas like the river & Mtn. Rest will only be improved by more use of the mobile repeaters.
- Still working on the channel line-up (Codeplug).
- It appears that all apparatus and members have digital radios. The next thing we will do is make sure the correct cables are installed from mobile repeater to mobile radios.

Director Krein's Report

- This year we'll be holding the line on the budget. May be able to get some to help with the hose, ladder & pump testing.
- At the recent Duke event, some members, who were issued Dosimeters, did not know what to do with them. We need all members of every squad & department to be trained in their use. Please arrange with Scott Smith to get the newest training to your members. 79 people were involved in that event.

A video recording of this meeting is available at www.oconeesc.com. Meetings have been live-streamed beginning January 17, 2017. Brought to you by Your Oconee.

- Insurance fraud arrest of Griffin volunteer Fire Chief for inflation of numbers. The overstatement of numbers of firefighters who responded to a call in order to get a better fire insurance rating. We are doing this but not purposely. Each of our Chiefs is responsible for its accuracy when a report is completed. On the above call from 1/22/22, there were 4 duplicates for which the arrest took place. We have to find a way to stop this from occurring. Go back to your Battalions & discuss ways to get this to stop. Your Chief can go to jail for something he is not purposely doing. Brandon responded that reporting has been a problem since we have gone to ERS. The 21 staff should only be on a 21 report to keep accidental duplication from occurring. Members who stand by at the station cannot be counted as on the call. They are counted as stand-by. Report people as what they are. Not what we want them to be. Proper accountability lets you know what each member is doing.

Brady Norris' Report:

- Air Packs: Lease purchase was approved by County Council. Price sheet sent out with equipment & options. Each department needs to complete one of these by 3/1/22. Options will be billed directly to the department. On 3/31/22 there will be a 10% increase. We are paying \$4775/pack bulk price. Retail is \$8775.
- Third party Pump & Hose Testing: To begin fall of 2022 (22-23 budget year). A list of hose will go out to each dept. to verify quantity for quotes.

Fire Commission Representatives' Reports

- Region 1: Requested an update on brush truck agreement purchases. Being worked on.
- Region 2: Concerned with over use of radios. SK send a reminder to Chiefs to discuss at meetings. Radio training will be done to help with the new dispatching procedure. Radio ID will show. Not a name. The App will show the name that goes with the ID. The Corinth Shiloh 21 truck is temporarily housed at R-4 at night.
- Region 3: Add Radiological training to the Incentive requirements. Incentive Committee will decide.
- Region 4: Absent
- Region 5: Please get price per foot for hose testing to the Chiefs.

Next Meeting

The next Fire Advisory Commissions Meeting will be held on March 17, 2022, beginning at 1800.

Adjourn:

Commission McAlister made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Vissage, and approved unanimously, to adjourn the meeting at 1851.

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