



MINUTES FIRE SERVICE ADVISORY COMMISSION

June 16, 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 (Absent)
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.

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 May 19, 2022, meeting were unanimously approved after a motion was made by Charlie Vissage & seconded by Tony McAlister.

Steven Zahn's Radio Communications Committee Report

- We are waiting for the frequencies from the FCC for the Salem water tank repeater.
- Still waiting for a contractor to come to look at the site for the Cleveland FD receiver tower.
- Waiting for most of the fire & rescue Chiefs to respond to my second email regarding information needed about their radio equipment.
- Commissioner Vissage had a question about the cost of the remote receiver equipment for FS-10 & 9. Director Krein responded that the county would pay for the infrastructure & the departments would pay for the remote-receiver (approx.\$2500-3000). If the receiver did not make a real difference, the county would take back the remote receiver and use it somewhere else. That department would not lose money. Krein said he would get with those Chiefs to verify that Agreement.

Director Krein's Report:

- Helicopter Insurance: State Fire Association has a vendor who can offer this insurance for 4 times (\$160/yr vs \$40/yr) as much as we previously paid. If the departments are interested for their members, reach out to the Association. The county will look into that for the future.
- Funding: Just making sure that the departments are using & documenting the money county gives them appropriately. Make sure receipts are saved. Voting on purchases is done. Our Guidance Policy will be sent out again. We're responsible to the public for that money. Financial Reports have to be turned in quarterly to receive Grant checks.

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.

- **Brady Norris' Report:**
- Fire/Rescue Appreciation Day will be this Saturday, 10-2 at HQ, Food at 1130 with games & door prizes.
- ERS will be phased out in 4-5 years. We'll have to decide who we want to go with. We will form a committee to look into this.
- Comm. Burton asked what was the plan was for the \$ that were slated for the Helo insurance?
- Dir. Krein responded that that \$ will go back into the 2.9 rollover \$. A catastrophic fund to use if the need came up like when FS-9 rolled their tanker & insurance did not pay for the entire replacement.

Fire Commission Representatives' Reports

- Region 1: Comm. Vissage had a question about a delay in wrecker arrival to a fatality on Hwy 76. Dir. Krein responded that the driver can request a wrecker service or Rotation is used. The wrecker that showed up was not the next on rotation & could not be used. We, as responders, cannot call a wrecker. SCHP has to do that per their regulations.
Comm. Vissage asked about Station 21 not responding with E-19 to a nearby structure fire when they were at Camp Road. Dir. Krein will look into this to make sure the response plan is appropriate. Chief Norris requested he be sent the info on that call
- Region 2: Comm. McAlister reported that they were having trouble with incident reporting. Dir. Krein responded that the 21 staff cannot enter a call into ERS with incomplete information. If medical treatment was done, the person who did that treatment has to do the CPR portion.
Comm. McAlister wanted to know if anyone can get into ERS to enter a call? Can Brady set up a class on ERS? Dir. Krein responded that the ability to enter reports is still there. The ability to delete reports or change information after the report is closed is no longer there. Brady can do the training.
- Region 3: Absent
- Region 4: Absent
- Region 5: Chairman Burton asked if fire/rescue departments will be receiving fuel supplements as other county departments are receiving? Dir. Krein will look into this.
Chairman Burton asked about a call where the Chief was trying to get further information about the call from Dispatch and had a hard time. Brady need more information about the call so he can look into it.
Another question about the 21 staff responding to certain high acuity calls. Self-dispatching to some calls and being dispatched to others. Dir. Krein responded that the GPS system will correct this by sending the closest unit. We have told our units that if they are close to a call, to respond.
Another question about a cardiac arrest call in which units were responding emergent while a 21 unit was not responding emergent. Brady requested more information about this call so he can look into it. No timeline for the GPS system to go into operation. The EMS GPS system also has issues.
A last question is would it be beneficial for the Battalion Chief to be responsible for structure fire reports re ISO. Brady is looking into this.

Next Meeting

The next Fire Advisory Commissions Meeting will be held on August 18, 2022, beginning at 1800.

Adjourn:

A motion to adjourn was made by Chairman Burton and seconded by Commissioner Vissage and approved unanimously at 1837.

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