



# MINUTES FIRE SERVICE ADVISORY COMMISSION

October 19, 2023

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

## **MEMBERS**

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

Commissioner, Region 5 (seat vacant)  
OCES Director, Scott Krein (absent)  
Fire Chief, Chris Smith

The Oconee County Fire Service Advisory Commission met at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC, with four members 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](http://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:**

- Vice Chairman Grant called the meeting to order at 18:00.

## **Approval of Minutes:**

Comm. Brock made a motion to approve meeting minutes from the August and September meetings. Comm. Vissage seconded motion to approve minutes. Members unanimously approved the minutes.

## **Radio Communications Committee Report:**

- Committee has not met since the last commission meeting.
- Radio Communications technician will hopefully be hired soon. Director Krein is working on the job description. This will hopefully happen in the next budget cycle.
- The repeater at Newry Mill is online and working well. We have to complete programming of radios to move forward.
- The advancements at Bad Creek and Keowee Key water tower are still underway.

## **Director Scott Krein's Report:**

- Not present, no report

## **Chief Chris Smith:**

- Awards program reminder – Chiefs and paid staff were emailed on 10/18 reminding everyone that we are accepting nominations for our various awards. Please review the guidelines and nominate your deserving personnel. Nominations may also be made throughout the year for life-saving awards. The awards committee is made up of Chief

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

Smith, Chief Carroll, and one member of the fire commission and rescue commission, and one person selected by Chiefs Smith and Carroll.

- 1% Checks and Signature Forms – Should be able to distribute the checks out in the near future, hopefully next week.

### **Fire Representative Reports:**

- Region 1: Comm Vissage – No report
- Region 2: Comm McAlister – Not present
- Region 3: Comm Grant – Nothing to report
- Region 4: Comm Brock – Asked for an update on 21 staff hiring and staffing. Chief Smith said we have interviewed and offered 5 jobs this week. 5 have accepted. 9 new positions were posted yesterday on 10/19/23 and applications are already coming in. The new pay ranges have been published so we are now competitive with most of our area departments.
- Region 5: Seat Vacant

### **Next Meeting**

- The next Fire Service Advisory Commissions Meeting will be held on November 16th, 2023, beginning at 18:00.

### **Adjourn:**

- A motion to adjourn was made by Comm Vissage and seconded by Commissioner Brock and approved unanimously at 18:09.

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