

REVIEW MEETING MINUTES  
OCONEE COUNTY PRT COMMISSION  
August 18, 2022  
County Council Chambers 12:00 pm

**Members present were:** Shawn Johnson, Shane Smith, Riley Johnson, Kevin Evans,  
Alex Butterbaugh & Kevin Cope via phone

**Guest present were:** Dari McBride, Gwendolyn McPhail, Lauren Pierce, &  
Mark Thompson

**Also present were:** Phil Shirley, PRT Director, Ken Sloan, Visit Oconee Director &  
Mandy Holbrooks, PRT Secretary

**Call to Order**

**Shawn Johnson** called the meeting to order at **12:00 pm**

**Approval of Minutes**

Motion to accept minutes of **May 5, 2022**, by **Shawn Johnson**  
seconded by **Kevin Evans** Vote was unanimously carried.

**Treasurer's Report**

**Phil Shirley** presented the treasurer's report. Balance as of **August 18, 2022**,  
Local ATAX is **\$414,099.22** and State ATAX is **\$175,333.00**.

**Eligibility Policy**

**Presentation of Grants**

1. City of Seneca – advertising 13<sup>th</sup> annual Half Marathon & 5K - \$15,000.00
2. Devil's Fork State Park – standard site impact pad restoration- \$20,234.81
3. Discover Upcountry Carolina Association – advertising - \$20,000.00
4. Downtown Seneca Merchants Association – advertising - \$1,065.00
5. Eagles Nest Art Center – advertising - \$2,000.00
6. Lake Hartwell Country – advertising - \$10,000.00
7. Main Street Walhalla – organize & implement “Walhalla Wonderland” (events in December 2022) - \$9,000.00
8. Oconee County Chamber of Commerce - staffing for Visitor Information Center \$15,000.00
9. The Foothills Agricultural Resource Marketing Center – installation of safety lighting - \$10,000.00
10. The Foothills Farmstead – rebuild three (3) chimneys of farmhouse - \$4,500.00
11. Upstate Heritage Quilt Trail – promotion of UHQT (rack cards & website) & interpretive signage - \$2,023.00
12. Walhalla Oktoberfest – advertising - \$7,000.00
13. Walhalla Performing Arts Center – advertising fall & winter 2022 season - \$10,000.00

## **Grant Requests Review**

- Upon review of grant it was determined **City of Seneca**, is eligible for **\$15,000.00** for **advertising the annual Half Marathon & 5K**.
- Upon review of grant it was determined **Devils Fork State Park**, is eligible for **\$17,806.63** for **standard site impact pad restoration**.
- Upon review of grant it was determined **Discover Upcountry Carolina Association**, is eligible for **\$20,000.00** for **advertising**.
- Upon review of grant it was determined **Downtown Seneca Merchants Association**, is eligible for **\$1,065.00** for **advertising**.
- Upon review of grant it was determined **Eagles Nest Art Center**, is eligible for **\$2,000.00** for **advertising**.
- Upon review of grant it was determined **Lake Hartwell Country**, is eligible for **\$10,000.00** for **advertising**.
- Upon review of grant it was determined **Main Street Walhalla**, is eligible for **\$6,315.00** for **organizing & implement "Walhalla Wonderland"**.
- Upon review of grant it was determined **Oconee County Chamber of Commerce**, is eligible for **\$15,000.00** for **staffing Visitors Information Center**.
- Upon review of grant it was determined **The Foothills Agricultural Resource Marketing Center**, is eligible for **\$10,000.00** for **installation of safety lighting**.
- Upon review of grant it was determined **The Foothills Farmstead**, is eligible for **\$4,500.00** for **rebuilding three (3) chimneys**.
- Upon review of grant it was determined **Upstate Heritage Quilt Trail**, is eligible for **\$2,023.00** for **promotion of UHQT & interpretive signage**.
- Upon review of grant it was determined **Walhalla Oktoberfest**, is eligible for **\$7,000.00** for **advertising**.
- Upon review of grant it was determined **Walhalla Performing Arts Center**, is eligible for **\$10,000.00** for **advertising**.

## **Action Items 2022**

1. Alexander-Cannon-Hill House Restoration Phase II-\$15,000
2. High Falls Recreation Building Phase I-\$75,000
3. High Falls Tractor replacement-\$47,100
4. Oconee Disc Golf Tournaments-\$5,000
5. Major League Fishing BFL All-American Tournament-Lake Hartwell-Seneca Creek- June 1-3, 2023-up to \$40,000

### Vote on Action Items

- Upon a motion by Shawn Johnson, seconded by Shane Smith and carried, the Committee approved motion to recommend to County Council a grant to Oconee PRT up to \$15,000.00 for Phase II of restoring the Alexander/Cannon/Hill House.  
Vote was unanimously carried.
- Upon a motion by Shawn Johnson, seconded by Kevin Evans and carried, the Committee approved motion to recommend to County Council a grant to Oconee PRT for \$75,000.00 for Phase I of High Falls Recreation Building. Vote was unanimously carried.
- Upon a motion by Shawn Johnson, seconded by Riley Johnson and carried, the Committee approved motion to recommend to County Council a grant to Oconee PRT for \$47,100.00 for High Falls tractor replacement.  
Vote was unanimously carried.
- Upon a motion by Shawn Johnson, seconded by Alex Butterbaugh and carried, the Committee approved motion to recommend to County Council a grant to Oconee PRT for \$5,000.00 for Oconee disc golf tournaments.  
Vote was unanimously carried.
- Upon a motion by Shawn Johnson, seconded by Kevin Evans and carried, the Committee approved motion to recommend to County Council a grant to Oconee PRT up to \$40,000.00 for major league fishing BFL All-American Tournament. Vote was unanimously carried.

### **Projects Update:**

- a. Seneca Creek
- b. Asphalt projects – High Falls & Mullins Ford
- c. South Cove Recreation Building - floor
- d. Alexander Cannon Hill House Restoration
- e. South Union - shoreline
- f. High Falls Point Shelter
- g. High Falls Recreation Building
- h. Chau Ram Maintenance Building
- i. South Cove Tennis/Pickleball parking
- j. Playground upgrades

**Next PRT Commission meeting will be August 25, 2022, in County Council Chambers at 12:00 pm.**

### Adjourn

As there was no further business, Shawn Johnson made a motion, approved unanimously, to adjourn at 1:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

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Phil Shirley  
Director of Parks, Recreation & Tourism