



# Minutes

## OCONEE COUNTY RESCUE SQUAD ADVISORY COMMISSION

Regular Meeting Thursday, June 23, 2022

### MEMBERS, RESCUE SQUAD ADVISORY COMMISSION

Kelly McCormick, Tammy Wilbanks,  
Michael Smith, Steven Zahn, Eric Sprogis,  
Keith Wilbanks, Mike Carroll

The Oconee County Rescue Squad Advisory Commission met at 6:00 PM in Council Chambers, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla. Kelly McCormick, Tammy Wilbanks, Eric Sprogis, Steven Zahn, EMS Director Mike Carroll and Oconee County representative were present.

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](http://www.oconeesc.com)]. In addition, it was made available [upon request] to the newspapers, radio stations, television stations and concerned citizens.

**Call to order** – Commissioner Steve Zahn called the meeting to order at 1800 hr.

**Approval of minutes from 05/26/22** – Commissioner McCormick made a motion to approve the May 26, 2022 minutes, seconded by Commissioner Sprogis and approved 4-0.

**Public Comment** – None

### **Chairman Zahn comments**

1. Radio Committee – a) No meeting held. b) Currently waiting for rescue squads and fire departments to answer 2<sup>nd</sup> email request concerning model number, serial number and location of radio. c) Contractor to visit Station 10 for installation of tower. Director Krein was taking care of this. d) Still waiting on FCC to offer another set of frequencies for the Salem water tank repeater.
2. Training Committee – a) Met Tuesday to continue work on document for new members to follow for training and onboarding items. b) Nothing changed with Upstate EMS with new director coming on board. c) Group will continue to work on document to have in place by 2023. d) Mike Carroll will be meeting with the new director to go over items we would like to see.
3. Rescue SOG Committee – Still need to get together with Mike Carroll about a direction for this project.

## **Rescue Squad Updates**

- Region 1 – Squads 1 & 3 / Kelly McCormick
  - 1) Rescue 1
    - a) One vehicle currently at motor pool for repairs, replacement vehicle then went down and they are now in a Crown Vic. Issue with F250 will take longer to fix due to possible wiring issues
    - b) Looking into some grants to aid in purchasing equipment
    - c) Still dealing with the strain of fuel cost
  - 2) Rescue 3
    - a) Currently dealing with lack of coverage for daytime calls
    - b) New member ready to respond
    - c) All vehicles operational
- Region 2 – Squads 2 & 6 / Tammy Wilbanks
  - 1) Rescue 2 –
    - a) Going well at Salem
    - b) Continuing to struggle with daytime coverage but receives help from Station 2, Station 21 and on occasion St 14 daytime person
  - 2) Rescue 6 – Nothing to report
- Region 3 – Squads 4 & 5 / Michael Smith
  - 1) Rescue 4 – No information sent (Mike Carroll offered info that 2 people had joined)
    - a) Rescue 5 – Continue being dispatched to a lot of calls but still short with responding members
- Region 4 – Squad 22 - Erik Sprogis –
  - a) Struggling for volunteers; lost 2 who retired from responding
  - b) New person wanting to take EMR class
  - c) Mike Carroll recently did the Stop the Bleed training for R22
  - d) New radio been installed into response vehicle
- Region 5 - Rescue 7/8 - Steve Zahn
  - a) Calls beginning to pick up
  - b) Still need members to respond to calls and trainings

## **Deputy Chief Mike Carroll's Report**

1. Incentive Period
  - a) Three months are left on this incentive period.
  - b) Criteria are twenty (20) hours of training, current physical, and current certification to include CPR (AHA, ASHI or American Red Cross).
2. Physicals
  - a) This has been a big year for people getting physicals.
  - b) New fiscal year for physicals will start up around the second week in July.
  - c) Upstate Medical will be doing physicals all in one day on Thursdays. North Greenville  
will hold their next one the last week in July.
3. Continuing Education Program (CEP)
  - a) Continuing to work on growing that program
  - b) There has been some good turnout.

- c) Going to be getting out information about the class topic in the future.
  - d) Commissioner Sprogis asked about whether someone needs to be a member of OCES to be able to attend the CEP classes. Mike Carroll stated that one would need to be affiliated with an agency to be covered by Worker's Comp. He will investigate further to be sure.
4. Helicopter Insurance
- a) Departments will need to pay for this out of the money given to them by the county.
  - b) SCFA offers coverage at approximately \$160 per member per year.
  - c) There is also 1Safe. No information given on it.
  - d) Going to ask county to put the \$40/household (cost of what they were paying) in the budget next year and then departments/squads would be responsible for the remaining amount.
  - e) Per Commissioner McCormick, there is legislation that went into effect January 2022 called "The No Surprises Act". It supposedly limits the cost of air transportation for people without insurance. People should not get surprise bills from helicopter companies.
5. Finances
- a) Everyone is doing a good job keeping up with turning in monthly reports.
  - b) Make sure records are kept accurately and receipts for expenditures are in place.
  - c) When necessary to have three bids for an item, vendor or service, make sure all bids are kept on file.
  - d) All squads up to date on receiving their checks.
  - e) Steve Zahn will be assisting Rescue 4 with getting familiar with the financial software.
6. ERS
- a) Commissioner Zahn had a question about fixing something in ERS with a report. He had called the Battalion Chief and was told they could no longer look at a report that Mike Carroll had to do it. Mike will check on this.
  - b) There have been some error messages in the past few days about authorization. Let Mike know of any further issues and he will check on it.

**Executive Session –**

1. A motion was made by Commissioner Zahn to move to Executive Session, seconded by Commissioner Wilbanks. Approved 4-0.
2. A motion was made by Commissioner Sprogis to move out of Executive Session, seconded by Commissioner McCormick. Approved 4-0.
3. No action needed from Executive Session.

A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner McCormick and seconded by Commissioner Sprogis. Approved 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 1845.