



# MINUTES FIRE SERVICE ADVISORY COMMISSION

November 21, 2024

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

## **MEMBERS**

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

Commissioner Terry Sanford, Region 5  
OCES Director, Scott Krein  
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 4 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:**

- Commissioner Sanford called the meeting to order at 18:00.

## **Approval of Minutes:**

- Minutes for the November 21, 2024 commission meeting were emailed out.
- Motion to approve minutes by Commissioner McAlister
- Seconded by Commissioner Grant
  - Minutes approved unanimously

## **Radio Committee Report:**

- No update.
- Per Chief Smith, if anyone is having radio issues, please reach out to Aaron and he will come out on a meeting night and try to help with programming.

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

- Not present, no report

## **Chief Chris Smith:**

- 2025 Fire Service Advisory Commission Meeting Dates
  - Proposed 2025 Meeting dates are: February 20<sup>th</sup>, March 20<sup>th</sup>, April 17<sup>th</sup>, May 15<sup>th</sup>, June 19<sup>th</sup>, July 17<sup>th</sup>, August 21<sup>st</sup>, September 18<sup>th</sup>, October 16<sup>th</sup>, November 20<sup>th</sup>, December 18<sup>th</sup>, and January 15<sup>th</sup> 2026.
    - Motion to approve the 2025 meeting schedule as presented by Commissioner Grant. Seconded by Commissioner Blackwell.
- Election Results:

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.

- Region 1's seat which was vacated by Will Bates mid-term. Bruce Blackwell from Holly Springs was elected to finish out this term through the remainder of 2025. Another election will be held at the end of this year for this seat.
- Region 2 had one nonminee, which was Tony McAlister
- Region 4 had two nominees. Three of the departments have voted, the final department will vote on Monday. The commissioner for Region 4 will be announced next month.
- The commission will reappoint and re-vote on chairman and vice chair after all seats are filled.
- SC State Firefighter's Association 1% Forms. Some forms are due by the end of this month. An email was sent out to the chiefs this week. One is the annual accounting form and board of trustees form. If you have not done your 1% budget, you need to complete your budget before you start spending.
- Awards dinner will be Friday, February the 28<sup>th</sup> at Walhalla High School at 6:00pm. The awards committee will meet next week to review the nominations that have been received so far. County fire typically pays for any members who received an incentive check to attend.
- Awards committee: Tony was our appointee for the 2024 awards committee. We will need to appoint a representative for 2025 to serve on the awards committee. Tony McAlister nominated Commissioner Bruce Blackwell to serve as the representative. Second by Terry Sanford. Motion approved unanimously.

### **Fire Representative Reports:**

- Region 1: Commissioner Blackwell – Station 24 is getting staffed now while the bridge is being rebuilt. The medical response to the area is very delayed since the ambulance is coming from Westminster.
- Region 2: Commissioner McAlister –
  - Nothing to report
- Region 3: Commissioner Grant –
  - Nothing to Report
- Region 4: Commissioner Brock - Absent
- Region 5: Commissioner Sanford –
  - Nothing to report

### **Next Meeting**

- The next Fire Service Advisory Commission Meeting will be held on February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025, beginning at 18:00.

### **Adjourn:**

- A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner McAlister and seconded by Commissioner Sanford and approved unanimously at 18:11

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