



MINUTES

LAW ENFORCEMENT, PUBLIC SAFETY, HEALTH & WELFARE COMMITTEE MEETING

September 17, 2019

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mr. Wayne McCall, Chairman, District II
Mr. Julian Davis, District IV
Mr. John Elliott, District I

The Law Enforcement, Public Safety, Health & Welfare Committee scheduled at 4:00 PM in Council Chambers, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC with all Committee Members present, County Administrator Amanda F. Brock, County Attorney David Root, and Katie D. Smith, Clerk to Council 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 to the newspapers, radio stations, television stations and concerned citizens.

Members of the press present: Caitlin Herrington / Daily Journal.

Call to Order

Mr. McCall called the meeting to order at 4:15 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Davis made a motion, seconded by Mr. Elliott, approved 3 – 0 to approve the September 3, 2019 minutes as presented.

Discussion Items

Update Regarding Alternative Waste Processing Methods / Recycling

Ms. Brock noted that at the last Law Enforcement, Public Safety, Health & Welfare meeting, the Administrator and staff was directed to research the feasibility of alternative waste recycling including dirty material recovery facility [MRF] and/or incineration process. She further noted that research is continuing and does not have solid information at this time.

Mr. McCall noted the dirty MRF is the way we may need to utilize so the bags can be opened and quit telling people to sort things out.

Mr. Davis noted he has looked over the information that Ms. Brock provided and also looked into not only what is going on in the United States but also in other places that hauled their garbage out in the ocean. Further, the direction that was given to the Administrator needs additional time to gather the information. He also noted a formal presentation to Council would be appropriate but would take time to compile all the information necessary.

Ms. Brock noted by the end of November or beginning of December would be appropriate because a portion of the recommendation to complete the research was to find appropriate land and a cost estimate, timeline for an educational program, and the cost for two separate types of facilities.

The Committee took no action on this matter at this time.

Continued discussion regarding Expansion of General Healthcare in Oconee County

Mr. McCall began the discussion noting it is not the hospital but the billing service that will put a lien on your belongings and will turn you over to a collection agency. Discussion continued.

Ms. Vicki Thompson, Executive Director of The Rosa Clark Medical Clinic, addressed the Committee utilizing a brochure entitled “The Rosa Clark Medical Clinic” [copy filed with backup materials] and gave a brief presentation.

Discussion continued to include but not limited to:

- The Rosa Clark Clinic started in January of 2017 as a federally qualified health center and that is how they started with the first access point grant
- Applied for a new access point grant in the amount of \$650,000 for Walhalla but was not selected for the grant
- Formed in 1982, they have been a free clinic for over 35 years and one of the largest free clinics in the State
- Renovating County building on Oak Street in Seneca to become a dental clinic
- Transportation to and from the Rosa Clark Clinic is an issue
- Oconee County purchased a 20 passenger van that is ADA compliant; using the van as a shuttle on game day Saturday’s at the Airport and is sitting idle the other days of the week
- Citizens could be picked up from the Walhalla area and taken to the Rosa Clark Clinic in Seneca and the van can still be utilized on game day Saturday’s for transportation to and from the Airport to the Clemson games; would not utilize any additional County funds other than the amount of fuel and the position for the driver
- Administrator could complete a pilot project in connection with The Rosa Clark Clinic and access what the need is and bring back to the Committee

Mr. McCall made a motion, seconded by Mr. Davis, approved 3 – 0, to direct the County Administrator to look into the feasibility of hiring a County employee to provide transportation for those in need four days a week to the Rosa Clark Clinic in Seneca and related tasks.

Mr. Hunter Kome, President of GHS’ Oconee Medical Campus, addressed the Committee utilizing handouts [copy filed with backup materials] and gave a brief presentation to include health care system, economic development, renovations and expansions, and joining Prisma Health.

The Committee no action on this matter at this time.

Other Business

Ms. Brock addressed the Committee utilizing a handout [copy filed with backup materials] and noted at the last meeting she was directed by the Committee to research the Veolia Energy Operating Service. Discussion continued to include pulverizing wood and assisted living facilities.

New Business:

None at this meeting.

Adjourn:

Mr. Davis made a motion, approved unanimously, to adjourn the meeting at 5:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Katie D. Smith
Clerk to Council