



MINUTES

LAW ENFORCEMENT, PUBLIC SAFETY, HEALTH & WELFARE COMMITTEE MEETING

February 17, 2026

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mr. Don Mize, Chair, District III

Mr. Thomas James, District IV

Mr. Glen Hart, District V

The Law Enforcement, Public Safety, Health & Welfare Committee met at p.m. in Council Chambers, located at 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC with all Committee Members, County Administrator Stewart Jones, County Attorney David Root, & Jennifer C. Adams, Clerk to Council, present.

Members of staff present: Sheriff Mike Crenshaw, Mr. Swain Still / Solid Waste and Recycling Director, Chief Travis Collins / Fire Service Advisory Commission Chair

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: Dick Mangrum / WGOG 101.7

Call to Order

Mr. Mize called the meeting to order at 4:34 p.m.

Moment of Silence

Mr. Mize asked for a moment of silence.

Invocation

Mr. David Root, County Council Chaplain, gave the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. James led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Hart made a motion, seconded by Mr. James, approved 3 – 0, to approve the June 3, 2025 special meeting minutes as presented.

Discussion Items

Law Enforcement Update – Sheriff Mike Crenshaw

Sheriff Crenshaw addressed the Committee and provided updates related fraternity parties happening within the County, noting the Sheriff's office has been working with Clemson University staff to educate them on the details of the Oconee County Noise Ordinance. He also stated that the Sheriff's office has seen a reduction in the size and scale of these gatherings and citizen complaints have gone down.

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

Sheriff Crenshaw then provided an update to the Commission related to section 287g of the Immigration and Nationality Act and noted that the message from the Sheriff's office is that if you are in Oconee County and wanted by the Federal Government, it would be best to leave now because at some point in time your luck will run out and you will be arrested.

Sheriff Crenshaw shared that since 2025, twenty-six (26) wanted individuals were removed from Oconee County after being arrested.

Discussion regarding the Oconee County Animal Control Act

Mr. Mize provided brief background information related to a citizen complaint regarding "animals that need to be restrained" as it relates to cats, to which County Attorney, Mr. David Root, noted to best address this issue, clarification within the current ordinance was needed as to which animals need to be restrained.

Mr. Mize stated that the Committee would work with Mr. Root to review and revise the current ordinance to help provide clarification related to restraint regulations involving cats.

Solid Waste Update – Mr. Swain Still / Solid Waste and Recycling Director

Mr. Swain Still addressed the Committee utilizing a power point presentation [copy in backup] and provided an extended overview of current operations and needs within the Solid Waste Department.

Fire Service Advisory Commission Update – Commission Chair Chief Collins

Commission Chair, Chief Travis Collins, provided an update to the Committee regarding the Oconee County Fire Service Advisory Committee and the top 5 priorities that resulted from their January 10, 2026 Workshop.

1. 40-Hour Daytime Fire Station Staffing
2. Reinstatement of the Fire Fighter Training Program at the Hamilton Career Center.
3. Request to view expenditure reports from all fire stations that receive County funding.
4. Clarification on weight limits of bridges throughout the County.
5. Request for a FDID number for the Holly Springs Fire Department so that they may qualify for outside grant funding.

Chief Collins provided answers to all Committee members inquiries and noted that the current Fire Service Advisory Commission is pro-volunteer and is focusing on growth in the volunteer system.

Adjourn:

Mr. Hart made a motion, approved unanimously, to adjourn the meeting at 5:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Jennifer C. Adams
Clerk to Council

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