



MINUTES

LAW ENFORCEMENT, PUBLIC SAFETY, HEALTH & WELFARE COMMITTEE MEETING

May 19, 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 4:30 p.m. in Council Chambers, located at 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC with all Committee Members [Mr. Hart absent], County Administrator Stewart Jones, Deputy Administrator Phil Shirley, County Attorney Rob Chumley, & Jennifer C. Adams, Clerk to Council, present.

Members of staff present: Commission Vice Chair Steve Zahn / Rescue Squad Advisory Commission, Emergency Services Director Chief Richie Caudill, Commission Vice Chair Larry Wilkerson / Fire Service Advisory Commission

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: None

Call to Order

Mr. Mize called the meeting to order at 4:31 p.m.

Moment of Silence

Mr. Mize asked for a moment of silence.

Invocation

Mr. James gave the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Approval of Minutes

Mr. James made a motion, seconded by Mr. Mize, approved 2 – 0, to approve the February 17, 2026 regular meeting minutes as presented.

Discussion Items

Discussion regarding the Oconee County Noise Ordinance

Mr. Mize provided background information regarding the current Oconee County Noise Ordinance and proposed several revisions that would drop decibel levels during daytime and nighttime hours, along with updates to the distance from where noise levels are measured.

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.

Mr. Jones noted that meetings held with the Sheriff's office and Clemson regarding noise complaints were very productive and added his hopes that the proposed revisions would help to alleviate noise disturbances.

Rescue Squad Advisory Commission Update

Steve Zahn, Rescue Squad Advisory Commission Vice Chair, provided a detailed update to the Committee regarding recent activities, findings, functions and ongoing matters of the Commission [copy of report in backup].

Emergency Services Update – Chief Richie Caudill / Director

Emergency Service Director, Chief Richie Caudill, provided the Committee with a brief update regarding Emergency Services, noting two of the main obstacles at this time are employee retention and radio communications.

Adjourn:

Mr. James made a motion, approved unanimously, to adjourn the meeting at 5:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Jennifer C. Adams
Clerk to Council