



Minutes

OCONEE COUNTY RESCUE SQUAD ADVISORY COMMISSION Regular Meeting Thursday, November 16, 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, Steven Zahn, Erik Sprogis, and OCES Director Scott Krein 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]. 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 09/22/2022 – Commissioner Sprogis made a motion to approve the September 22, 2022 minutes, seconded by Commissioner McCormick and approved 4-0. There was no meeting in October.

Public Comment – None

Chairman Zahn

1. Training Committee – Commissioner Wilbanks advised that the revised copy has been sent out for review by rescue chiefs and if there are no concerns, is in its final stage before being adopted.
2. Rescue SOG Committee – Commissioner Zahn brought up the SOGs from 2014 and asked if they were still in effect. Director Krein stated that since the merger, those are not in effect and are only being used as a guide right now. Much discussion followed.
3. Voting Procedures – Question about possible discrepancies in voting procedures. Director Krein cleared this up by referring to the ordinance and offering explanation. He also offered that anyone who requested could see the sealed envelopes, which are kept.
4. Medical Call Dispatching - Concerned about priority 1 calls that are going out from EMS that rescue squads are not being sent to. Send a list to Director Krein if you notice this.

Commissioner Comments

- 1) Commissioner McCormick had the following concerns:
 - a) He asked if anyone was having any issues with vehicles serviced at motorpool? Director Krein said a new checklist has been given to them. He listed several concerns that Rescue 1 has encountered.
 - b) Important to Kelly that he does a good job and he questions whether the commission is doing what it is formed to do. He would like to see us do a better job the upcoming year. Information what given on what we have accomplished.
- 2) Commissioner Wilbanks reported on the training document and the items that had been changed. Hours changed in the EMR initial course and two CPR providers were eliminated. The committee is hoping the document will be adopted at the commission's January meeting with an effective date of February 1, 2023.
- 3) Commissioner Zahn had a question about budget for training. He learned that if a squad holds a class, the squad is responsible for paying for books, etc. for the class. If the class is held at OCES, then the county pays for it. The equipment is for the training center (EMT Training Center) and is not allowed to be loaned out.

Rescue Squad Updates

- Region 1 – Squads 1 & 3 / Kelly McCormick
 - 1) Rescue 1
 - a) Able to staff the several events in the community
 - b) Three people finished EMR class and three paramedics have been added to the squad
 - c) Will be assisting with a burn training in Walhalla and the Christmas parade
 - d) Still has one vehicle down which has been sent to dealership, other county vehicle was down for a while
 - 2) Rescue 3
 - a) Both vehicles operational
 - b) Got updated Prisma SOGs
 - c) Wanted a list of officer qualifications
 - d) Open to recruiting new people
- Region 2 – Squads 2 & 6 / Tammy Wilbanks
 - 1) Rescue 2 –
 - a) Busy with events and calls
 - b) Successful fundraiser in October and community events
 - c) Will amount of money for vehicles stay the same each year? Cost was not projected so adjustments will have to be made.
 - 2) Rescue 6 – Nothing to report
- Region 3 – Squads 4 & 5 / Michael Smith
 - 1) Rescue 4 –
 - a) Making strides with more work to do
 - b) Still trying to add new members
 - 2) Rescue 5 –
 - a) Continuing to cover calls when available
 - b) Covered Apple Festival
 - c) Hard to make headway with only four members

- Region 4 – Squad 22 - Erik Sprogis –
 - a) Still struggling for members; former member rejoined; one in recert class
 - b) Sat down with general manager about recruitment idea and he is trying to put out word
 - c) Trying to get an EMR class scheduled for Rescue 22 area in hopes to recruit members
 - d) Some responders were not going enroute on radio thus producing unanswered calls
 - e) Rehab trailer sold to Rescue 1
- Region 5 - Rescue 7/8 - Steve Zahn
 - a) Lots of calls
 - b) Still need members to respond to calls and trainings
 - c) Forty plus members and need to find a way to get them to go to calls

Director Scott Krein’s Report –

- Christmas Dinner and Awards night will be held at Walhalla High School on January 20, 2023 at 6 p.m. Deadline is nearing for count to be sent in.
- Rescue Squad Member of the Year – Need recommendations/write-up from squads by December 16th. We will need a short, executive session in December to vote.
- New vehicles – Two vehicles in the budget, one is forthcoming. Work in progress on the second vehicle. Using the state contract is proving difficult and is a learning process.
- Rescue Squad No Response Update – Increase in number of calls being answered but call volume is increasing. Appreciates all the calls that are being answered. Keep up the good work and keep training up. Question was asked if the county would help fund recruitment and retention drive. We need to get a plan so it can be presented. Discussion on training opportunities.

Executive Session – Not needed

A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner McCormick, seconded by Commissioner Sprogis and approved 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 1905.