



MINUTES

OCONEE COUNTY RESCUE SQUAD ADVISORY COMMISSION

Regular Meeting June 25, 2026

MEMBERS

Scott Shear, Region 1, Squads 1 & 3
Dean Jackman, Region 2, Squads 2 & 6
Steven Zahn, Vice Chairman & Secretary, Region 3, Squads 4 & 5
Christy Sabolsky, Region 4, Squad 22
Amber Olbon, Region 5, Squads 7 & 8
Brady Land, Chairman, At Large
Zac Smith, At Large

Other attendees: Deputy Director Mike Carroll

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, and concerned citizens.

1. Call to order: The Oconee County Rescue Squad Advisory Commission was called to order by Vice Chairman Zahn at 1800 hours in the Council Chambers, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla. Commissioners Scott Shear, Dean Jackman, Steven Zahn, Amber Olbon, Christy Sabolsky, & Deputy Director Mike Carroll were present. A pledge of allegiance was done.

2. Approval of Minutes:

Minutes from May 21, 2026. Comm. Sabolsky added to the 5/21/26 Minutes that Mike Carroll was going to add a calendar but the Training Committee hasn't met yet. Motion to approve by Commissioner Zahn and seconded by Commissioner Sabolsky. The Minutes were accepted by the commissioners by a unanimous vote.

3. Public Comment: None

4. Committee Reports:

Radio Committee: Commissioner Zahn reported a meeting coming up on the 30th at 1600 at the EOC. All are invited to attend. A change in the way we are dispatched is coming up in near future. Dispatch on Fire 1 & then get directed to go to another channel for operations. Comm. Shear asked for a report on the condition of the Rescue Repeater. Comm. Zahn reported that it's an old analog system. Comm. Shear responded that it seems like we have lost 25% of our repeaters. Shear added that the Rescue Repeater had a stuck mic recently so that channel

was down for 20-30 minutes. Zahn responded that with the digital channels, Dispatch is supposed to be able to disable units in a case like stuck mics. The Motorola radios do have a feature not allowing transmitting for more than a certain set time limit if it is set up. Zahn added that we (fire, rescue & SO) are looking at other systems to possibly use. The Radio Committee is strongly suggesting that a radio engineering firm, not connected to any radio manufacturer, be hired to do a study & suggest a fix to our county's specific needs. This is up to County Council if they want to go that route.

Incentive/Budget Committee: Commissioner Sabolsky reported that the Committee was supposed to meet tomorrow but that fell through. They are planning to meet soon. She will have an update at the next meeting. She also had a question about those who did not receive lifesaver awards at the Dinner. DD Carroll is looking into this & expects to have information next week. Comm. Zahn added that he hopes that we will get to participate in the budget process this coming year. We have not been permitted to in prior years.

SOG Committee: Comm. Jackman reported that the SOGs are on the last leg of its journey and should be ready for final approval soon. Comm. Olbon suggested a Data Privacy Policy needed to be added to the SOGs. This might be related to personnel files, etc. She will get more information about this for the next meeting. We need to do revisions on a continuing basis. Comm. Zahn added that a meeting of the SOG Committee will be scheduled for next week & hopefully this will be the last time they meet before implementation.

Training Committee: Commissioner Jackman reported that we need to have a quarterly meeting with concerns. He has not heard of any concerns from any squads. Comm. Olbon added that the committees are supposed to meet quarterly and the Training Committee should include Honeycutt. Maybe include the Training Officers of each squad.

5. Deputy Director Carroll's Report:

Run reports are looking great. Several squads have low membership which makes it hard to run calls.

Red MNX: Everybody can have a Home Page for a price TBD.

Comm. Shear asked about Incentive Reports being available for admin. rights personnel.

Comm. Olbon asked about being able to see a member's total certs.

Training:

EMT class ongoing.

EMR class started 2 weeks ago.

EMT class planned for Oct. 2

EMR/EMT monthly training classes available. Will send out info on dates & times. Every squad has a training instructor.

July 27 an EVDT class at HQ begins.

Burn Center training coming up

Tech Rescue in Aug.

Air monitoring

Grain Bin 10th & 14th of Sept.
High Angle Sept 11.
Tech Rescue in August

New Vehicle Updates:

Oakway picks their new truck up this afternoon.

R-4 gets a new F-150 on this Budget tentatively.

6. Rescue Squad Updates:

Region 1-Squads 1 & 3: R-1 has some potential new members. Replacing 1-D. R-3 getting use out of their new Explorer. Had a bad month for running calls. 1 new in EMR class.

Special Projects. Geo marking system in Keowee in works by Duke. Lift-assist at facilities. A nationwide problem.

Region 2-Squads 2 & 6: 9 in VFIS class in Salem went well. 15 in class at HQ. New trailer up & running. R-6 problems with older Gator. Big fire in Salem.

Region 3-Squads 4 & 5: R-4 working on recruitment/fundraising letter. New/used vehicle working fine. R-5 working on recruitment.

Region 4-Squad 22: 13-15 new recruits. Looking for direction re part-time residents as members, etc.

Region 5-Squads 7 & 8: R-8 old rescue truck being prepared for Mtn. Rest station. July 31 county hosting a Family Fun Day at Hi Falls Park from 4-9. Physicals resume July 1. SW class went well. 3 new members. R-7 Equipment changes for efficiency. Cascade hydro tested. Multiple training & fun dives scheduled. Waiting for a response from the County Attorney re a personnel matter. We would like a response before the next R-7/8 meeting.

Comm. Zahn announced that the Secretary position on the Commission is open. Since no one is volunteering, Zahn asked Carroll if we can go outside the Commission for volunteers? He will check.

A motion was made to adjourn by Commissioner Olbon & seconded by Commissioner Shear with a vote to adjourn at 1905.