MINUTES

OCONEE COUNTY RESCUE SQUAD ADVISORY COMMISSION

Regular Meeting August 27, 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
Vacant, 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 Chairman Land at 6:00 hours in the Council Chambers, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla.

Commissioners Dean Jackman, Steven Zahn, Amber Olbon, Brady Land, & Deputy Director Mike Carroll were present. A pledge of allegiance was done.

2. Approval of Minutes:

Minutes from July 23, 2026. Edits were presented by Steven Zahn. Notes for radio committee and training were corrected. Motion to approve by Commissioner Olbon and seconded by Commissioner Jackman. The Minutes were accepted by the commissioners by a unanimous vote.

3. Public Comment: None

4. Commission Member Comment: None

5. Committee Reports:

Radio Committee: Commissioner Land reported that the committee met with the Sheriff's Office about new portable radios. The radios will be tested in hard-to-reach areas in the county.

Incentive/Budget Committee: Commissioner Olbon reported that the committee met. It was discussed that FEMA courses may not be required for incentives. Commissioner Zahn stated that the FEMA courses are no longer going to be a requirement, per the fire chiefs' association meeting. Mike Carroll explained current training requirements and said that he would double-check on them.

SOG Committee: Commissioner Olbon questioned whether or not rescue squads need a separate set of bylaws. Commissioner Land stated that department policies need to be equal to or more stringent than the county policy. More stringent policies need to be stated in bylaws, which should be voted prior to their implementation.

Training Committee: Commissioner Jackman stated that there is nothing to report at this time.

6. Deputy Director Carroll's Report:
Response numbers went up for many over the past month.

RedNMX software is having issues displaying old calls and is being worked on. Mike stated that he has most of the rescue squad data already pulled.

Most people have been switched to using Active911. No reported complaints. Once everyone is using Active911, chiefs with administrator accounts will be added. This will hopefully be completed by next week.

Multiple training classes are coming up. The burn center classes were cancelled but will be rescheduled. The tech rescue class is this upcoming weekend. The grain bin storage class has open spots. The initial EMR nighttime class is starting October 2nd a will run through November 21st. The classes will be on Saturday or Sunday two nights per week; Mike will confirm the dates. Upcoming EMR refresher will start on the 18th of December and will finish on the 19th or 20th. The deadline to sign up through the fire portal to take the upcoming EMT refresher is December 4th. Additional upcoming intro tech courses were listed.

New vehicles are being discussed with Motor Pool.

7. Rescue Squad Updates:

Region 1-Squads 1 & 3: R-3: no report. R-1: assisted with the search for an elderly man in the City of Seneca. Assisted with several water rescue calls. Five new members.

Region 2-Squads 2 & 6: R-2: 1 new member. Extensive boat training. Communication issues between PRISMA and dispatch were discussed. R-6: vehicles were discussed.

Region 3-Squads 4 & 5: R-4: attempting to gain new members. R-5: also attempting to gain members. Considering fundraising options.

Region 4-Squad 22: R-4: no report. R-22: new commissioner will start in September.

Region 5-Squads 7 & 8: R-7: multiple calls in the past few months. Recent training was described. 3 new members were voted in. R-8: 2 new members were voted in.

Rescue Squad Chief's elected Commissioners: Upcoming meeting regarding recruitment and retention is being held at Rescue 1 on September 2nd at 6 p.m. Commissioner Olson noted recent changes requiring potential members to attend two meetings and complete part of the initial packet prior to voting.

No Executive Session.

Mike Carroll noted that rescue members and fire are required in the SOG to complete FEMA courses. Undecided whether or not this impacts the current incentive. Commissioner Olson questioned who should have shared this information. It was decided that Director Caudill will be responsible for sharing this information in the future. Commissioner Jackman suggested that the requirements of the incentive should stay the same every year. Commissioner Olson explained the reasoning behind adding the new requirements.

Adjourn: A motion was made to adjourn by Commissioner Jackman & seconded by Commissioner Olbon with a vote to adjourn at 6:30.

Respectfully Submitted:

Alyssa Way
OCES Assistant