



**MINUTES  
ORANGEBURG COUNTY COUNCIL  
PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE  
October 3, 2016  
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING  
4:30 P.M.**



**Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, the news media was notified and notice was posted on the bulletin board 24 hours prior to the meeting.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

**Willie B. Owens  
Johnny Ravenell  
Harry F. Wimberly  
Heyward H. Livingston  
Johnnie Wright, Sr.  
Janie Cooper-Smith**

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

**Jerrod Anderson, Attorney  
Connie Portee, Clerk to Council**

**CALL TO ORDER**

**Willie B. Owens, Chairman**

**Chairman Willie B. Owens called to order a special session of the Orangeburg County Public Health and Safety Committee on October 3, 2016, at 4:45 p.m.**

**MOMENT OF SILENCE**

**Moment of silence observed**

**1. INFORMATION ON A COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCIL**

**Chairman Willie B. Owens yielded to Attorney Jerrod Anderson. Attorney Anderson advised he was asked to seek a frame work by which the County could look at certain issues that needed to be considered in the formation of their Human Relations Council. Anderson County has done an excellent job and has an excellent legacy in establishing a Human Relations Council, a philanthropy drive, and using a system to seek members of the Council that would best service their needs, to their County, and their size County. With that example, this would be a great resource for this committee to consider in meeting the customs and the needs in having persons that would represent a cross session of who could pour into and enrich the committee to help promote the motion statement of the committee. One of the big questions was what kind of system was used to appoint the members. What we will have**

to consider is, what type of pool the committee would want. You would probably want a large committee, large in prospective of the needs of this County and then who would have the authority to appoint but you want to have enough for a quorum, you want to have enough so the person you appoint will step up and do what you ask in their way. You may need to establish terms to turn them over, let them go, or seek other appointments because they're not fulfilling the mission that they are called to do. Anderson County has devised a great frame work and this is a copy of their ordinance of issues to consider, why it was created, the purpose and objectives and of course we need to be specific for Orangeburg County according to our culture, membership, terms of office, what do you do when there are vacancies, are there any compensation, voting the election of officers, duty-what are their authority or what's their job, executive committees, meetings and operations. These are all consideration we should way in forming what you believe would be good to serve the purpose that this committee is being created for. This information is given only to get us talking.

Chairman Willie Owens thanked Attorney Jerrod Anderson for the information he had provided.

Chairman Willie Owens asked the committee is they had any suggestions.

Councilman Harry Wimberly advised he liked the concept of involving the Towns, it's kind of like the Penny Money. Let every Town have a representative, that maybe a big size board but to get anything done we have to involve these Towns. We could set a member from each Council District then it's basically Council but if we involve the municipalities then we are going to get the whole County involved. This committee needs to be an active committee and if we don't involve people and spread the word, it won't happen.

Vice Chairwoman Cooper-Smith advised since Orangeburg had so many municipalities we could just look at the County seat and on the East, West, South, North of Orangeburg County and get the largest of those Counties because if we involved all those sixteen (16) municipalities and you get the districts and whomever that's going to be quite a mirage of people.

Councilman Harry Wimberly advised we have to intermingle this committee with all race and ethnicity.

Chairman Willie Owens asked, how many members are on Anderson County Human Relations Council?

Attorney Jerrod Anderson advised they had twenty-nine (29) members.

Chairman Willie Owens advised once we get the names there should be at least two (2) thru four (4) year terms for Council members to serve.

Councilman Harry Wimberly advised put half on for two (2) years and the other half on four (4) years, it would be a staggered terms.

Councilman Harry Wimberly advised Anderson County is twice as big as Orangeburg County so if they got twenty-nine (29) we need sixteen (16).

Chairman Willie Owens advised if each Council member appoint one that would be seven (7) which would leave eight (8) more members to be appointed but we would need to decide on the interest groups we want them to be appointed from.

Councilman Harry Wimberly advised if we go with fifteen (15) but the County should always carry the majority.

Vice Chairwoman Cooper-Smith advised we should get someone from the clergy, public health, and law enforcement, those are just three categories.

Councilman Harry Wimberly advised we need to set a number, the different towns we have in Orangeburg by groups are:

North	Bowman	Santee
Norway	Branchville	Eutawville
Springfield	Jamison	Vance
Neeses	Cordova	Holly Hill
Livingston	Rowesville	Elloree
Cope	Orangeburg	

Councilman Harry Wimberly advised we don't appoint them we would get the recommendation from the Towns. Those Towns would have to meet and select a person. We could split it up in districts. We need four (4) district with Orangeburg being so big it would need to be in a district by itself.

<u>One District</u>	<u>Two District</u>	<u>Three District</u>	<u>Four District</u>
Orangeburg	North	Bowman	Santee
	Norway	Branchville	Eutawville
	Springfield	Cordova	Vance
	Neeses	Jamison	Holly Hill
	Livingston	Rowesville	Elloree
	Cope		

Councilman Harry Wimberly advised we have five (5), five (5), and six (6). That's seventeen (17) municipalities.

Chairman Willie Owens advised that's four (4) groups, how many should we get from reach group?

Councilman Harry Wimberly advised that would be two (2) from each district group. If we going to have two (2) coming from each District which make eight (8). Council needs to have nine (9). One (1) appointed by council

Chairman Willie Owens advised we will appoint a member by each Council member and then two (2) members At-Large.

**Councilman Harry Wimberly advised the two (2) member's At-Large, one (1) of them should be outside the City limits because the City has two.**

**Attorney Jerrod Anderson summarized, the total number will be seventeen (17), County Council is going to appoint one (1) that makes seven (7) and then two (2) At-Large, and then District One, Two, Three, and Four will have two (2) each that will be eight (8).**

**Attorney Jerrod Anderson asked in these areas will you consult someone and then County Council will nominate those individuals?**

**Councilman Harry Wimberly advised the Districts will nominate their person we have no control over that, whomever they appoint is their business but we need to have an outline on ethics and religion.**

**Chairman Willie Owens advised we would ask them to consider these areas: ethics, religion, and gender, region of origin, culture, and age if they want to. It's a lot of facts they could consider.**

**Councilman Harry Wimberly advised to make it simple the seven (7) from the Council will be appointed for two (2) years and the others would be appointed for four (4) years. So in two (2) years reappoint or appoint.**

**Vice Chairwoman Cooper-Smith asked, we are going to have seven (7) people for two (2) years and then ten (10) people for four (4) years?**

**Councilman Harry Wimberly advised and in two (2) years those seven (7) would be reappointed for four (4) years, then we would have seven (7) and ten (10) on staggered terms.**

**Chairman Willie Owens advised that would be good because County Council meets more than the Committee would and it would be easy for us to reappoint people.**

**Councilman Harry Wimberly advised we could reappoint all nine (9) of our members if we want to and the others would stay on for four (4) and after we appoint them the first time for two (2) years the next term would be four (4) years.**

**Attorney Jerrod Anderson summarized, the Council will nominate seven (7) they will serve two (2) year terms. We have establish four (4) districts and we have numerator those Cities in those four (4) Districts and they will nominate two (2) persons for each District for four (4) year terms, two (2) are At-Large and they or outside the City Limits, then the City of Orangeburg will have two (2) so that would make the seventeen (17).**

**Councilman Johnny Ravenell asked, where would they host their meetings and how often will they meet?**

**Councilman Harry Wimberly advised they would meet quarterly but we should have them meet once a month until it is establish.**

**Chairman Willie Owens asked the Committee if they agreed with the Human Relations Council meeting once a month until they are established and then they would meet quarterly.**

**Councilman Harry Wimberly advised those two (2) At-Large from the County maybe we should have one (1) from South Carolina State University and the other one (1) from Claflin University.**

**Chairman Willie Owens advised it's good to have an institution representative.**

**Vice Chairwoman Cooper-Smith advised we do have Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College.**

**Councilman Harry Wimberly advised we may have to add another one but those positions should be filled by the Student Body President.**

**Vice Chairwoman Cooper-Smith advised that would be great.**

**Councilman Harry Wimberly advised so instead of the County having two (2) At-Large we will have three (3) At-Large. One (1) being the president of the student body from Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College, One (1) the president of the student body from Claflin University and One (1) from South Carolina State University.**

**Councilman Johnny Ravenell asked, what about when the student graduate?**

**Councilman Harry Wimberly advised most institutions change Student Body Presidents every year. So we would have to appoint that person. Whomever is the Student Body President, they will serve for that one (1) year and that would involve every school of higher learning.**

**Vice Chairwoman Cooper-Smith advised and that would get the age group we need.**

**Chairman Willie Owens advised if the Student Body President does not want to participate it would be up to the President of the University or College to appoint a designee.**

**Attorney Jerrod Anderson asked, that the Student Body President term would be for one (1) year?**

**Chairman Willie Owens advised yes there term would be for one (1) year because they're only going to be Student Body President for one (1) year.**

**Chairman Willie Owens thanked everyone for their participation and asked if anyone had any more suggestions, before he would obtain a motion for adjournment.**

**Councilman Harry Wimberly asked, we have only establish our membership but not adopted a policy?**

**Chairman Willie Owens advised no we have not adopted a policy yet.**

**2. VOTE FOR ADJOURNMENT**

**Chairman Willie Owens asked for a motion for adjournment. Vice Chairwoman Cooper-Smith motioned that Orangeburg County Council Public Health and Safety Committee of October 3, 2016 be adjourned. Motion carried (3-0-0-0).**

**3. ADJOURNMENT**

**Meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.**



**Connie N. Portee  
Clerk to Council**



**Willie B. Owens  
Chairman Public Health & Safety  
Committee**