

9/19/06

**Comments on Oconee Assessments & Re-assessments
Oconee Council meeting 9/19/06 by Ed Little**

When the council chose to re-assess the county over the strong objections of a large part of the community, the cry by the county attorney was that it was "the only fair thing to do". Everyone should pay their fair share of taxes based on the current market value of their property.

One should resign himself to this fair and equitable premise, and just pay up and be done with it.

When I purchased my property 14 years ago, I thought I paid a lot for it ... at least in my pocket. The first re-assessment went up 85%. This one a 100% more ... I'm suddenly one of the rich & famous. After I received my assessment notice, I discovered my land value was now 450,000, but the adjoining 4 very similar lots were valued at 270,000. Since this was an obvious data error I filed an appeal based on that.

A few days later, my neighbors began to receive "Revised" assessment notices which increased their values by an additional 180,000 to 220,000 with less than 90 days to appeal. I was told that the county intended to re-value the entire community. Well, mistakes happen ... maybe it was just us.

I began to look at other nearby communities ... in one, similar lots were in the range of 250,000. I then heard they were going to re-value the adjacent community too, since that was mentioned in someone else's appeal. I looked at another nearby significantly more attractive property and found land values from 220,000 to 350,000. I don't know if they plan to re-value those or not. There are many others. What happened to "fair share"??? Must I review the data and point out all these discrepancies to the appraiser? Isn't that their job?

The appraiser proudly points out that the state review showed 95% compliance. Something's not right here.

I'm told your on line database is only updated every 90 days. That means we have to take their word that they will take care of this fiasco until it is too late to complain. The alternative is to file a FOI and bear the costs for the earlier data. This is unfair to taxpayers who want a fair shake. I ask that you keep the data base updated.

You are planning to set the mil rate tonight. It seems to me that if they do make all these corrections, you will have a very significant surplus from these tax collections. Given your history, I'm certain you'll find a way to spend it.

Thank you for your time.



COMMENTS to County Council September 19, 2006
READ into the record on September 19 and provided in written form to Ms. Nix,
County Council members and Mr. Hendricks.

Dear Ms. Linda Nix, County Council Members and Mr. Hendricks,

Thank you, Mr. Chairman and members of the Council, for allowing the school district to address you this evening. I regret that due to a School Board meeting scheduled for the same time, we are not able to all be here for your Council meeting. I appreciate your providing an audience for Dr. Thorland to reiterate our concerns regarding setting the millage for fiscal year 2007.

As you know, for four years, since 2002-03, County Council has not funded the full amount approved in the ordinance for school operations. In FY 2003, we were shorted \$609,000; in 2004, we were shorted \$1.5 million. In 2005, we were shorted \$892,000 and in 2006, we were shorted over \$1.2 million. This total of \$4.3 million over a four year period means that we have not been able to move forward with the programs and interventions that would have helped our students achieve at a higher level. Each year we were told that the County would have provided full funding for the ordinance passed, but the funds did not come in so you couldn't.

In July, I wrote to Ms. Nix, Mr. Hendricks and each of you as the members of County Council to beg that you approve millage for FY 2007 that will ensure that **you have sufficient revenue to fulfill the county's obligations for the school district budget.** I requested an audience with Council to discuss this challenge but have not been provided that opportunity.

The persistent shortfall in school operations funds have caused Oconee County to be out of compliance with the Education Improvement Act. We did not meet requirements for the amount of support per child per day to be maintained from one year to the next, adjusted for inflation. We did not meet maintenance of effort in FY 2003, FY 2004 and FY 2005. Our county is being audited this year since County Council has not met its obligations for school operations. The State Department of Education's auditors will examine our FY 2007 budget to be sure it is in compliance with the required local effort.

Education is Everybody's Business.

In addition, new state legislation shifting taxes for school operations from property tax to sales tax sets fiscal year 2007 as the base year for funding from the state. If the millage for school operations is set too low, it will be the base for years to come. In other words, Council members, if you severely handicap our school district this year with inadequate funds, you will severely handicap our school district's share of funds from the state for future years.

I remain confident we all have the same goal: a high quality education, delivered in a cost-effective manner, for Oconee County's schoolchildren. To that end, we are again asking respectfully that you approve the millage for school district operations at a level to ensure full funding of the FY 2007 ordinance.

The school district has been thoughtful and considerate in budget requests. We are asking that you thoughtfully set the millage in consideration of meeting the FY 2007 approved ordinance.

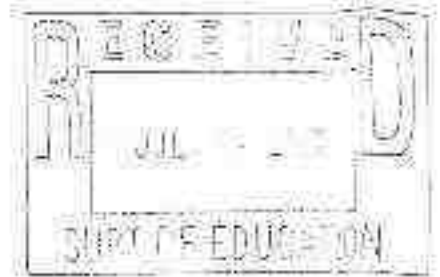
Sincerely,



Valerie Truesdale, Ph. D.
District Superintendent



STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



July 13, 2006

Dr. Valerie Truesdale, Superintendent
Goonce County Schools
Box 649
Wahalla, South Carolina 29681

Dear Dr. Truesdale:

The Office of Finance, District Auditing and Field Services Section recently completed the data input of fiscal information for the 2004-05 school district audit reports. The information was used to prepare the enclosed printout for your school district. The calculations on the printout indicate that your district was not in compliance with the 2004-05 Education Improvement Act (EIA) Maintenance of Local Effort Requirement. You should review the revenue amounts on the enclosed printout and verify the accuracy of the General Fund revenues reported in your audit.

The EIA law stipulates "A school district is eligible for a renewal of the waiver provided the district meets one of the above criteria and the minimum effort requirement of the previous year and at least the minimum required effort of the Education Finance Act."

Also, the EIA law (Section 59-52-2030 of the South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976, as amended) stipulates "A decline in the measured academic achievement of the students must immediately cause the State Board of Education to void all waivers under this section for two consecutive years."

Since your district did not meet the minimum effort requirement of the previous year and reported an improvement rating of "Unsatisfactory" on your annual report card, Goonce County Schools does not qualify for a waiver for 2004-05 and may not seek a waiver for 2005-06. Furthermore, the law states "If the decline in student achievement occurs, the district shall revert to this minimum effort requirement, adjusted for the prior years inflation factor."

As a result of the above, the Department will monitor your 2006-07 budget to determine compliance with your 2006-07 required local effort. Please send a copy of your 2006-07 General Fund budget to: Ms. Melissa Aysen, Audit Supervisor, Office of Finance, District Auditing and Field Services Section, 1475 Senate Street, Room 402, Columbia, SC 29201.

Dr. Glenn T. Lusk, Superior Court
Clerk
Clerk of Court
Jan 13, 2009
Page Two

If you have any questions please call me at 703-754-0170 or Mr. Robert Austin at 703-754-3474.

Respectfully



A. Len Richardson, Director
Office of Finance

A. R. Kelly

Enclosures

cc: District Finance Officer (memo: any)
John K. Dooly
Melissa Austin

SENATE FINANCE VERSION

EIA MAINTENANCE OF REQUIRED LOCAL EFFORT ESTIMATES FOR FY 2006-07
 (Based on Estimates Submitted to S. C. Department of Education by Local School Districts, April 2006)

Actual Required Local Effort will be Determined by AUDITED LOCAL REVENUES
 and Official 135-Day ADM for FY 2006-07

2005-06 EST MAINTENANCE	2006-07 EST PER PUPIL	2006-07 EST. ADM	2006-07 EST. ADM	EST. INT'L
1,0336	10,475	10,475	18,475	2006-07 10-0
555,796,770	55,515.64	55,515.64	57,671,541.47	EIA REPORT



SCHOOL DISTRICT OF OCONEE COUNTY
TAX COLLECTIONS 2001-2006
 July 26, 2006

	District 135- Day ADM	County Budget Ordinance	Audited Tax Collections	Variance to Ordinance	Required Maintenance of Effort	Variance to Maintenance of Effort
FY2000-2001	9,913	36,473,000	37,046,829	573,829	34,306,010	2,740,819
FY2001-2002	10,071	39,543,855	39,800,839	256,984	38,164,411	1,636,428
FY2002-2003	10,096	44,519,100	43,908,708	-609,392	44,612,898	-703,190
FY2003-2004	10,344	47,019,100	45,466,879	-1,552,221	46,429,611	-962,732
FY2004-2005	10,392	47,019,100	46,126,957	-892,143	46,381,374	-234,417
FY2005-2006	10,475	57,039,089	55,796,771	-1,242,318	47,657,793	8,138,978
FY2006-2007	10,475	50,459,900	n/a	n/a	50,233,000	n/a

Note: FY08 tax collections are unaudited. FY07 ADM is projected. MOE based on original FY06 ordinance.

FY07 MOE adjusted for Duke collections

FY08 actual collections	55,796,771
FY08 per pupil	5,327
FY07 inflation factor	1
FY07 projected pupils	10,475
FY07 MOE	57,671,535
FY07 ordinance	50,459,900
Projected variance to MOE	<u>-7,211,635</u>

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY
OCONEE COUNTY, SC

COUNCIL MEETING DATE: 9-19-06
COUNCIL MEETING TIME: 7:00 PM

ITEM TITLE OR DESCRIPTION:

To recommend millage for Oconee County for 2006-2007.

BACKGROUND OR HISTORY:

To be done on an annual basis for county operations, county bonds, school operations and school bonds.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS OR CONCERNS:

N/A

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

To approve the millage in order for tax calculations to be made and tax notices prepared for mailing.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

If millage is not set, there will be no revenue to fund the 2006-2007 county and school budgets.

ATTACHMENTS:

Submitted or Prepared By:


Linda R. Nix
Department Head/Elected Official

Approved for Submittal to Council:


Tom Hendricks, County Administrator

Reviewed By/ Initials:

_____ County Attorney

_____ Finance

_____ Other

C: Clerk to Council



**Oconee County Auditor
Linda R. Nix**

415 S. Pine Street, Walhalla, SC 29691
Telephone 864-638-4158 Fax 864-718-1015

September 19, 2006

Oconee County Council Members
415 South Pine Street
Walhalla, SC 29691

RE: 2006-2007 Tax Levies

Dear Honorable Council Members,

In compliance with the Oconee County Budget Ordinance 2006-15, I recommend the proposed millage for the fiscal year 2006-2007 for the County and School operating budgets of Oconee County.

Also in accordance with 4-15-150 and 59-71-150 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, I have included information regarding the millage that the Treasurer and I have set for County and School Debt Obligation. A breakdown of the levies is provided to you on the attached form.

Although there are as yet still certain manufacturing and utilities for which final confirmation has not been received, we feel that the net assessed values underlying these computations are conservative, and that the budgets will be adequately funded.

I respectfully request that you adopt the millage rates as recommended.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Linda R. Nix".

Linda R. Nix
Oconee County Auditor

Oconee County, South Carolina
Proposed Millage Rates for Fiscal Year 2006 - 2007

	Mills
I. County	
County Operations	64.3
Economic Development	1.0
Bridges/Culverts	1.0
County Bonds	
Court House	1.8
2002 GO Bond	1.6
Total County	69.7
II. School	
School Operations	113
School Bonds	
1998 School	0.9
2001 School	3.0
03 Refunding	3.8
04 Refunding	3.4
2005 School	3.9
2006 School	3.0
Total School	131.0
III. Tri-County Technical College	
Tri County Operations	2.6
Tri County Bonds	0.7
Total Tri County Tech.	3.3
Grand Total Mills	204.0
Property Tax Relief Millage	74.0



**Oconee County Auditor
Linda R. Nix**

415 S. Pine Street, Walhalla, SC 29691
Telephone 864-638-4158 Fax 864-718-1015

September 15, 2006

Oconee County Council Members
415 South Pine Street
Walhalla, SC 29691

RE: Millage for 2006-2007

Dear Honorable Council Members,

Listed Below is a breakout of the projected assessments for Oconee County for 2006-2007 and a comparison of 2005-2006.

	2006-2007 projections	2005-2006 final assessments
Real Estate	260,929,886 (Per Assessor)	183,231,480
Aircraft	306,430 (6.0 rate)	503,200 (10.50 rate)
Boats/Motors	1,928,640	3,200,350
Businesses/DOR Assessed	3,683,400	5,336,970
MFG & FLIGHT	17,397,890	22,999,156
Utilities and Rail Roads	145,595,510	147,122,100
County Assessed Businesses	965,630	1,025,710
Vehicles	34,000,000	35,343,025
Industrial Abatement	43,353,180 (minus from county portion only)	46,701,570 (minus from county portion only)
Tack In	1,876,270	1,876,270
Motor Carrier	1,500,000 (Varies on a yearly basis)	1,806,862

Based on the above assessments as of 9-15-2006 the value of a county mill is \$418,708.00. The value of a school mill is \$459,893.00. Please see the attached worksheet to see the comparison between projected revenue and approved budget for the two fiscal years. Please keep in mind that the final value of a mill includes a 2% reduction for unpaid tax notices and a 3% reduction for appeals resulting from reassessment.

Sincerely,

Linda R. Nix

Linda R. Nix
Oconee County Auditor

cc: Mr. Tom Hendricks, County Administrator
Mrs. Phyllis Lombard, CGFO and Director of Administrative Services
Mr. Brad Norton, County Attorney

Projected Tax Revenue for 2006 - 2007

	Assessed Value	Number of Mills	Revenue Generated	2006-2007 Budget
County Operations	418,708,360	64.3	\$26,922,948	\$26,461,225
Economic Development	418,708,360	1.0	\$418,708	\$406,355
Bridges/Culverts	418,708,360	1.0	\$418,708	\$406,355
County Debt	418,708,360	3.4	<u>\$1,423,608</u>	<u>\$1,344,030</u>
Total County	418,708,360	69.7	\$28,183,973	\$28,617,965
School Operations	459,893,880	113.0	\$51,868,008	\$50,455,900
School Debt	459,893,880	18.0	\$8,278,090	<u>\$7,803,119</u>
Total School	459,893,880	131.0	\$60,246,098	\$58,259,019
TCT Operations	459,893,880	2.6	\$1,185,724	\$1,143,244
TCT Debt	459,893,880	0.7	<u>\$321,928</u>	<u>\$273,790</u>
Total TCT	459,893,880	3.3	\$1,517,652	\$1,417,034
Total School Purposes	459,893,880	134.3	\$61,763,748	\$59,680,053
Total County		204.0		

The above figures are rounded to the nearest tenth.

During the budget process the value of a mill was projected to be \$406,355.00.

Tax Revenue for 2005-2006

	Assessed Value	Number of Mills	Revenue Generated	2005-2006 Budget
County Operations	375,338,003	68.0	\$26,522,984	\$23,791,000
Economic Development	375,338,003	1.0	\$375,338	\$353,900
County Debt	375,338,003	4.0	<u>\$1,501,352</u>	<u>\$1,340,461</u>
Total County	375,338,003	73.0	\$27,024,338	\$25,485,361
School Operations	421,670,954	123.0	\$51,885,527	\$48,805,948
School Debt	421,670,954	18.0	\$7,590,077	<u>\$7,340,284</u>
Total School	421,670,954	141.0	\$59,455,606	\$56,146,232
TCT Operations	421,670,954	2.1	\$885,509	\$823,444
TCT Debt	421,670,954	0.5	<u>\$210,835</u>	<u>\$278,210</u>
Total TCT	421,670,954	2.6	\$1,096,344	\$1,101,654
Total School Purposes	421,670,954	143.6	\$60,551,949	\$57,047,886
Total County		216.6		

The assessed value for county and school includes the 2005 Duke Energy windfall assessment of 36,760,810. It does not include the 2003 and 2004 Duke Energy windfall assessments.

The above figures are rounded to the nearest tenth.

During the 2005-2006 budget process the value of a mill was projected to be \$353,900.00.

Property Tax Relief Millage Calculation

	<u>Tax Year</u>	<u>Tax Year</u>
	2005	2006
RP Legal Resident Assmts- Accts without Homestead	37,984,090	45,754,109
RP Legal Resident Assmts- Accts with Homestead	<u>11,818,550</u>	<u>11,489,781</u>
Total Assessment	49,803,240	57,243,870
Total Assessment	49,803,240	57,243,870
Total Assessment	49,803,240	57,243,870
x Millage Rate	.0850	.0740
Amount of PTR for matching accounts	\$4,233,275	\$4,233,275

New Property Tax Relief Rate = .0740

Shortfall Calculation	
TOTAL property tax relief assessment for current tax year.	57,243,870
X New PTR Tax Rate =	.0740
Total \$\$\$ needed for PTR =	\$4,236,046
Total Expected From State =	\$3,948,128
Shortage =	(\$287,918)

The results of the lower millage rate results less of a discount for the residence/property tax payer. For a \$100,000 home in 2006 the relief will be \$286.20. In 2005 the relief amount was \$340.00.

Property Tax Relief Reimbursement from the state was frozen in 1997, which results in a shortfall for counties. The shortfall in property tax relief has to be covered through additional tax levy or the budgeted amount for the 2006-2007 Oconee County school budget will not be fully funded.

SECTION 12-37-251. Homestead exemption from property taxes levied for school operations other than those levied for bonded indebtedness and lease purchase payments for capital construction.

(A)(1) The Trust Fund for Tax Relief must contain an amount equal to the revenue necessary to fund a property tax exemption of one hundred thousand dollars based on the fair market value of property classified pursuant to Section 12-43-220(c) calculated on the school operating millage imposed for tax year 1995 or the current school operating millage, whichever is lower, excluding taxes levied for bonded indebtedness and payments pursuant to lease purchase agreements for capital construction. The 1995 tax year school operating millage in the current school operating millage, whichever is lower, is the base year millage for purposes of calculating the amount necessary to fund the Trust Fund for Tax Relief in accordance with this section. However, in years in which the values resulting from a countywide reassessment and equalization program are implemented, the base year millage must be adjusted to an equivalent millage rate in the manner that the Department of Revenue shall prescribe. Funds distributed to a taxing district as provided in subsection (b) of this section must be used to provide a uniform property tax exemption for all property in the taxing district which is classified pursuant to Section 12-43-220(c), excluding taxes levied for bonded indebtedness and payments pursuant to lease purchase agreements for capital construction.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, a school district whose operating millage falls below the 1995 school year operating millage may request to receive tax relief based on the 1995 operating millage or equivalent millage rate, if one of the following conditions are met:

(a) the current operating millage per pupil plus the current debt service millage is equal to or less than the total millage per pupil for 1995;

(b) the operating millage per pupil for the 1994 tax year reduced by the amount by which the total millage per pupil for all purposes in the current year exceeds the total millage per pupil for the 1995 tax year but not below the actual operating millage per pupil for the current year.

The Department of Revenue is responsible for certifying that the conditions we met based on the latest completed fiscal year data of the requesting district.

Any funds received by an eligible school district in excess of its current millage under this subsection may be used by the district to pay bonded indebtedness.

(B)(1) School districts must be reimbursed from revenues credited to the Trust Fund for Tax Relief for a fiscal year, in the manner provided in Section 12-37-276, for the revenue lost as a result of the homestead exemption provided in this section. Ninety percent of the reimbursement must be paid in the last quarter of the calendar year or December first. From funds appropriated to the Office of the Comptroller General in the annual general appropriations act, the Comptroller shall make the calculations and distributions required pursuant to this subsection. If amounts received by a school district pursuant to this subsection are insufficient to reimburse fully for the base year operating millage, the local school board, within its authority, shall decide how to make up the shortfall, if necessary. Amounts received by a district in excess of the amount necessary to reimburse the district for the base year operating millage must first be used to reduce any operating millage imposed since the 1995 base year, must next be used for school debt service purposes, and any funds remaining may then be retained by the district.

(2) School districts must be reimbursed on a per capita basis, but a district may not receive as a reimbursement for a fiscal year an amount less than the actual reimbursement amount it received in fiscal year 1998-99. If amounts credited to the Trust Fund for Tax Relief for a fiscal year pursuant to item (1) of this subsection are insufficient to pay the full amount of the reimbursements provided by this item, then all amounts credited to the trust fund for a fiscal year for this reimbursement in excess of the amount of the reimbursements paid pursuant to this section in fiscal year 1998-99 must be allocated only to those districts receiving less than the full per capita reimbursement, and this allocation must be on a per capita basis among only those counties receiving some part of this allocation.

(3) Operating millage levied in a county for alternative schools, career and technology centers, and county boards of education whether or not levied countywide or on a school district by school district basis in a county also is considered school operating millage to which the property tax exemption provided by this section applies. County treasurers shall consider these operating millages in determining revenue lost when making disbursements to school districts from trust funds for tax relief funds under this section.

(C) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, property exempted from property taxation in the manner provided in this section is considered taxable property for purposes of bonded indebtedness pursuant to Sections 14 and 15 of Article X of the Constitution of this State, and for purposes of computing the "index of taxing ability" pursuant to Section 59-20-20(3).

(D) [Blank]

(E) Rollback millage is calculated by dividing the prior year property tax revenues by the adjusted total assessed value applicable in the year the values derived from a countywide equalization and reassessment program are implemented. This amount of assessed value must be adjusted by deducting assessments added for property or improvements not previously taxed, for new construction, and for renovation of existing structures.

(F) The exemption allowed by this section is conditional on full funding of the Education Finance Act and on an appropriation by the General Assembly each year reimbursing school districts an amount equal to the Economic Research Section of the Budget and Control Board estimate of total school tax revenue loss resulting from the exemption in the next fiscal year.

Property Tax Relief (affects School Districts Only)

- Property Tax Relief Millage is also recalculated and "rolled back" in a reassessment year see SC Code of Law 12-37-251 (A1).
- This results in a lower millage rate and less of a discount for the residential property tax payer.
- Even if their tax notice does not increase from the last year, they pay more of it out of their pocket due to the loss of some relief.

Property Tax Relief (affects School Districts Only)

- Reimbursement from the state has NOT increased since 1997. The reimbursement for each school district has been "frozen"
- The shortfall in PFR is covered through additional tax levy...council has no choice but levy it or the school budget will not meet their budget.

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY
OCONEE COUNTY, SC
COUNCIL MEETING DATE: 9/19/06
COUNCIL MEETING TIME: 7:00 pm

ITEM TITLE OR DESCRIPTION:

Mr. Marion Lyles has requested that Ms. Linda Fairchild be placed on the agenda for the purpose of discussing reassessment of properties in Oconee County.

BACKGROUND OR HISTORY:

On June 27th Council adopted on third and final reading an ordinance to go forward with reassessment for tax year ending December 31, 2005 as SC Code of Laws, Section 12-43-217 states "... once every fifth year each county or the State shall appraise and equalize those properties under its jurisdiction. ..." SC Code of Laws, Section 12-43-220 (c)(1) States "The legal residence and not more than five acres contiguous thereto, when owned totally or in part in fee or by life estate and occupied by the owner of the interest, and additional dwellings located on the same property and occupied by immediate family members of the owner of the interest, are taxed on an assessment equal to four percent of the fair market value of the property." SC Code of Laws, Section 12-37-930 states "All property must be valued for taxation at its true value in money which in all cases is the price which the property would bring following reasonable exposure to the market, where both the seller and the buyer are willing, are not acting under compulsion, and are reasonably well informed of the uses and purposes for which it is adapted and for which it is capable of being used."

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS OR CONCERNS:

SC Code of Laws, Section 12-43-215 states: "... When owner occupied residential property assessed pursuant to Section 12-43-220(c) is valued for purpose of ad valorem taxation, the value of the land must be determined on the basis that its highest and best use is for residential purposes. When a property owner or an agent for a property owner appeals the value of a property assessment, the assessor shall consider the appeal and make any adjustments, if warranted, based on the market values of real property as they existed in the year that the equalization and reassessment program was conducted and on which the assessment is based.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff has no recommendation regarding Ms. Fairchild's comments.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

N/A

ATTACHMENTS:

N/A

Submitted or Prepared By:

Opal O. Green

Approved for Submittal to Council:


Tom Hendricks, County Administrator

Reviewed by/initialed:

_____:County Attorney

_____:Finance

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY
OCONEE COUNTY, SC

COUNCIL MEETING DATE: 9/19/06
COUNCIL MEETING TIME: 7:00 pm

ITEM TITLE OR DESCRIPTION:

The Oconee County Sheriff's Department requests approval to apply for the Department of Homeland Security's Commercial Equipment Direct Assistance Program (CEDAP) FY 2006 grant.

BACKGROUND OR HISTORY:

The CEDAP grant is administered by the US Department of Homeland Security. This program supports the efforts of law enforcement and emergency responder agencies by assisting them in acquiring the specialized equipment and training they require to meet their homeland security mission.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS OR CONCERNS:

This grant will be used to acquire law enforcement equipment and technology. The Sheriff's Department will be requesting a Tacsight Thermal Imager.

- Oconee County Sheriff's Department
CEDAP grant = \$12,500.00
There is NO local match required.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Approval of CEDAP grant request in the amount of \$12,500.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

CEDAP grant = \$12,500.00

NO local match required.

ATTACHMENTS:

Submitted or Prepared By:

Veronda Holcombe-Lewis

Reviewed By/ Initials:

PLJ County Attorney

____ Finance

____ Other

C: Clerk to Council

Approved for Submittal to Council:

Tom Hendricks
Tom Hendricks, County Administrator

Veronda Lewis

From: Mike McGowan
Sent: Wednesday, September 06, 2006 3:47 PM
To: Veronda Lewis
Subject: Emailing contentdetail

RESPONDER KNOWLEDGE BASE

MIPT National Memorial Institute
 for the Prevention of Terrorism
 Protecting Terrorism in, Utilizing the Efforts

Logged in as Veronda Lewis [edit user information / change password] Logout

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

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Products

Operational and US&R Equipment \ Search/Surveillance Equipment

Tacsight S1 Thermal Imager for Law Enforcement

 Volant

 **CEDAP Note:** This item is currently being offered as an equipment selection on the CEDAP 2006 Program. The CEDAP configuration includes only the Tacsight Thermal Imager with the following tools/options described below: TACSWITCH, Multiple Channel Wireless Video Transmitter, MOBILELINK, TACSCOPE, TACPORT, RCN17, and T3RETRACT.

Information Provided By: Bullard
Manufacturer: Bullard
Model Number: Tacsight S1
Part Number: TACSIGHT S1

Description:
 TACSIGHT enables law enforcement personnel to see heat signatures of objects, people, and other sources. TACSIGHT detects extremely small differences in temperature, so that officers can distinguish people from their immediate surroundings. Needing no light to operate, TACSIGHT generates high-quality images on the darkest nights, even through smoke and fog. Hence, TACSIGHT presents clear distinctive images in your operations with human form clearly distinguished at 1000 feet.

TACSIGHT is especially well suited for tactical operations in poorly lit conditions. The TACSIGHT thermal imager requires no light. Heat energy is



Tacsight S1 Thermal Imager

[More Pictures Available](#)

K1
 No third
 RKB for
 Applicab
 [030E
 Imagin
 Amplifi
 Related F
 Mobile
 TacSe
 Monoc
 Therm
 TacSig
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 and/or

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY
OCONEE COUNTY, SC

COUNCIL MEETING DATE: 9/19/06
COUNCIL MEETING TIME: 7:00 pm

ITEM TITLE OR DESCRIPTION:

The Oconee County Sheriff's Department requests approval to apply for the PalmettoPride FY 2006 grant.

BACKGROUND OR HISTORY:

The PalmettoPride grant is administered by PalmettoPride of South Carolina, our State's anti-litter organization. This grant supports the efforts of law enforcement in developing successful anti-litter programs.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS OR CONCERNS:

This grant will be used to acquire law enforcement equipment and technology. The Sheriff's Department will be requesting a groundhog camera.

• **Oconee County Sheriff's Department**

PalmettoPride grant - \$5,000.00

There is NO local match required.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Approval of PalmettoPride grant request in the amount of \$5,000.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

PalmettoPride grant - \$5,000.00

NO local match required.

ATTACHMENTS:

Submitted or Prepared By:

Veronda Holcombe-Lewis

Reviewed By/ Initials:

County Attorney

PH Finance

Other

C: Clerk to Council

Approved for Submittal to Council:

Tom Hendricks
Tom Hendricks, County Administrator

WSA-ViB - Video in a box portable surveillance camera recording system

- FCC Approved 2.4 GHz receiver
- High resolution LCD monitor
- Built-in 5600 hour time lapse recorder
- Rugged Pelican Case housing
- Custom made battery charger
- User-friendly operation

The ViB (Video in a Box) is a self contained, portable video surveillance platform that combines all the functions you will ever need in an affordable, easy to deploy package. It is exceptionally functional where "trip-sensors" are impractical to use due to high traffic volume. Using an external 12 volt power source, the system has the ability to record for weeks. Extremely effective too, when covertly installed in a motor vehicle for enforcing not-litter laws along highways, on exit and entry ramps and around trash dumpsters where a high volume of traffic exist. On the outside it's a water-resistant, super tough, look-alike Pelican carrying case. On the inside it's a highly technical work of art. The 960 hour time-lapse video recorder captures crystal clear video footage from a variety of input sources. **NOTE:** Design and specifications may vary from system to system.



The built-in, high gain 2.4GHz FCC approved receiver is ready to receive video from all WSA wireless transmitter/cameras while the 4" Color LCD monitor allows you to view your video in real time and in playback mode.

NOTE: All Guardian 2000 Surveillance System cameras (groundhog units) are interchangeable and compatible with the ViB System.

What exactly is the ViB and how does it work?

The ViB has done for video surveillance what the laptop has done for computers. Its portability allows you to rapidly deploy all types of surveillance cameras. Rather than having to stretch hundreds of feet of cable across rivers, creeks, roads and railroads, and through the forest, the ViB makes it possible to set up video surveillance in very little time.



In this example, The Guardian 2000 Color Zoom camera and a wireless video transmitter is sending a video signal through the air to the ViB system. You would simply connect any compatible camera to the transmitter, direct the camera on any target you wanted to monitor, set up the ViB to record, and then leave. It's that simple!! Return later to view the video you recorded. The camera may also be connected directly to the ViB System for hard-wired operation thus eliminating the need for the wireless transmitter. Numerous government quality wireless transmitters (both indoor and outdoor) and cameras are available. Call our experienced staff for full details.

**AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY
OCONEE COUNTY, SC**

COUNCIL MEETING DATE: 9-19-06
COUNCIL MEETING TIME: 7:00PM

ITEM TITLE OR DESCRIPTION:

PRT requests approval to apply for the South Carolina Parks and Recreation Development Fund (PARD) grant in the amount of \$5,900 for new ADA sidewalks at South Cove and High Falls County Parks.

BACKGROUND OR HISTORY:

The PARD grant program was created in 1987 by the General Assembly of South Carolina, signed by the Governor and took effect July 1, 1987. PARD is intended to be used for permanent improvements to public recreation areas by local government units and the South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation & Tourism. Each application must have an endorsement letter of support from County Council to accompany the grant request.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS OR CONCERNS:

If approved, new ADA accessible sidewalks will be placed at South Cove and High Falls County Parks to facilitate usage of the Park amenities by those with handicaps.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Approval of PARD grant request in the amount of \$5,900.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Budget Analysis

South Cove ADA Accessible Sidewalk	\$2,000
High Falls ADA Accessible Sidewalk	\$1,500
Force Account Labor for Duke Power <i>Required Engineering Costs</i>	\$2,400
TOTAL	\$5,900
PARD AMOUNT (Grantor)	\$4,720
Oconee County Match	\$1,180

Oconee County Match portion will be satisfied by in-kind labor.

ATTACHMENTS:

Submitted or Prepared By:


Veronda Holcombe-Lewis
Department Head/Elected Official

Approved for Submittal to Council:


Tom Hendricks, County Administrator

Reviewed By/ Initials:

_____ County Attorney

 _____ Finance

_____ Other

**AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY
OCONEE COUNTY, SC**

**COUNCIL MEETING DATE: September 19, 2006
COUNCIL MEETING TIME: 7:00 p.m.**

ITEM TITLE OR DESCRIPTION:

Request a change order to the current contract with Kucera International for digital orthophotography to add the task of digitizing parcels and developing land use classifications.

BACKGROUND OR HISTORY:

Geographic Information System (GIS) technology as referred to below refers to the merger of multiple databases and sets of maps and other information from numerous agencies into a single database and set of maps with all information indexed by geographic location based on the map of the County.

Several years ago Council made the decision to move forward with GIS development for the purpose of enabling agencies to operate more efficiently and to provide the tools necessary to handle the challenges presented by the explosive population growth they so accurately anticipated. The primary steps involved with GIS development include:

- Phase I: Hiring GIS personnel and purchasing the required hardware and software. **(Implemented in 2002-03)**
- Phase II: Having new aerial photography flown and delivered in a digital format. Other products include topographical data, building footprints, water bodies, road center lines and the LIDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) that is being used to produce the new county flood plain map. **(Awarded January 2005 – completion scheduled for mid-October 2006)**
- Phase III: Conversion of existing hard copy tax maps to digital maps modified to fit the new aerial photography. **(Requesting change order – for probable completion in July 2007)**
- Phase IV: Replacement of obsolete software used by the Assessor. **(Awarded August 2006 – completion scheduled for July 2007)**

BID SOLICITATION HISTORY:

The original contract with Kucera International for digital orthophotography in the amount of \$276,611 was awarded through the competitive sealed proposals. In June 2005, Council authorized a change order to add impervious surface and hydrographic mapping for \$30,450. This project is virtually complete and all products delivered have been of excellent quality and delivered in a timely manner.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS OR CONCERNS:

Since the county has an immediate need for completion of this GIS project for reasons such as improving the property reappraisal process, having these new digital tax maps available as the CAMA project is completed and the development of land use maps for planning and zoning purposes, the I.T., Assessor, Planning departments are seeking to fast track the completion of the project by requesting a change order to the Kucera contract rather than initiating a separate competitive RFP for this portion of the project. The benefit to the County is that Kucera International is uniquely qualified because they produced the aerial photography upon which the new digital tax maps will be constructed and already have all the data needed to start the project. Furthermore, approximately 3-6 months can be saved by foregoing a separate competitive proposal process.

The Administrator authorized the I.T., Assessor, and Planner to develop a Scope of Work that was presented by the Procurement Office to Kucera International. Kucera has in turn submitted a proposal; a copy of a Bid Tabulation is attached. Staff has discussed with Dr. Lew Lapine and Cindy Massey at the S. C. Geodetic Survey in Columbia the pricing submitted by Kucera. They have confirmed that the prices Kucera has offered the county are within an acceptable range.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION:

County Council authorize the Administration to issue a change order to the County's PO# 42442 for an amount not to exceed \$447,000 to Kucera International, Inc. to amend the original scope of work to include digitizing the tax parcels and developing land use classifications.

Although the Bid Tabulation reflects a grand total of \$434,088.00; this is an estimate based on an approximate number of parcels, and there is a question as to how many COGO techniques and paper check plots may be required. We therefore respectfully request the entire \$447,000 be authorized for this procurement.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

For FY 06-07, County Council approved \$447,000.00(budget code 012-711-82007 & 012-711-82011) for the purchase of Digital Parcels (GIS Mapping Phase III) & Digitize of land use map.

ATTACHMENTS:

- 1. Bid Tabulation Sheet


Submitted or Prepared By:

Approved for Submittal to Council:


Marianne A. Dillard, Procurement Director


Tom Hendricks, County Administrator

Reviewed By/ Initials:


County Attorney
Finance Department(s)

C: Clerk to Council

**Conversion of Tax Parcels from Hard Copy to Digital Format and
 Develop Land Use Classifications**

Approved Budget: Ordinance amount for bid item \$447,000.
 Budget Code 012-711-82007 and 012-711-82611

Bidders		Kucera International Inc.	
Address			
Approx Qty	Description	Unit Price	Extended Price
58,420	Heads Up Digitizing (Best Fit)	4.75	277,495.00
5,080	COGO Technique (8%)	18.90	96,012.00
862	Paper check plots	21.00	18,102.00
862	Deduct for Oconee County plots and final plots being same (-\$9.00)	(9.00)	(7,758.00)
862	Final mylar plots	26.00	22,412.00
63,500	Land use classifications	0.35	22,225.00
			-
	Performance Bond (estimate)		5,600.00
			-
			-
	Completion Date July 1, 2007		-
			-
			-
			-
			-
			-
	Grand Total		434,088.00

**AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY
OCONEE COUNTY, SC**

COUNCIL MEETING DATE: September 19, 2006
COUNCIL MEETING TIME: 7:00 p.m.

ITEM TITLE OR DESCRIPTION:

Bid 06-04, Pumper Truck for Rural Fire

BACKGROUND OR HISTORY:

Keowee Ebenezer has a 1985 Ford F600 Fire Truck that has had numerous mechanical problems. This vehicle is 21 years old and in need of replacement.

BID SOLICITATION HISTORY:

On August 18, 2006, formal sealed bids were opened for this equipment. Seven companies were originally notified of this bid opportunity. Two companies submitted bids.

American LaFrance submitted a bid for an Option (see Bid Tabulation). Upon review of this bid, the Rural Fire Office determined that the Option bid did not meet Oconee County's Minimum Specifications (i.e., aluminum body instead of stainless steel, etc.) and that bid was not considered.

Of the two bids that met the County's specifications, the low bid was received from Sutphen Corporation of Amlin, Ohio (Dickert Marketing of Greer, SC).

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS OR CONCERNS:

We request that the current vehicle be left at the Keowee Ebenezer Fire Department to be used as a reserve or spare truck for ISO reduction purposes.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION:

Award bid #06-04 for the pumper truck for Rural Fire to **Sutphen Corporation of Amlin, Ohio for the amount of \$309,995.25**. Additional funding of \$5,850.25 is needed if all equipment is to be ordered now to meet minimum ISO/NFPA requirements.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

For FY 06-07, County Council approved \$310,000 (budget code 012-102-82012) for the purchase of a pumper truck.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Bid Tabulation

Submitted or Prepared By:


Marianne A. Dillard, Procurement Director

Approved for Submittal to Council:


Tom Hendricks, County Administrator

Reviewed By/ Initials:

n/a County Attorney

 Finance

 Department

C: Clerk to Council

Oconee County
Pumper Apparatus
for Rural Fire

August 19, 2006
2:00 p.m.

Approved Budget Estimate amount for bid item \$310,000.
Budget Code 012-102-52012-40000

I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge
the tabulation of bids to be opened

Richard Dickert
Procurement Director

Bidders	Sutphen Corp.	American LaFrance, LLC	American LaFrance, LLC
Address	Amlin, OH	Piedmont, SC	Piedmont, SC
		Metropolitan	Option 1: Liberty
Pumper Apparatus	377,667.75	293,961.00	249,423.00
Equipment	70,870.00	77,150.00	77,150.00
Travel Allowance	5,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
Performance Bond	1,107.47	500.00	600.00
Delivery to Oconee County add.	2,500.00	included	
SC Sales Tax	300.00	300.00	300.00
Total Bid	386,445.25	374,511.00	329,473.00
Delete Certain Equipment	(45,450.00)		
Total	309,995.25		
Cost of equipment to meet NFP/ISO requirements	5,855.00		
TOTAL COST	315,850.25		
	corrected eq total - removed hydrant wrenches		
Delivery	12 months	210-365 days	210-365 days
Apparatus Name and Model	Sutphen Shield S1 BTS Pumper	American LaFrance	American LaFrance
Chassis Name and Model	Sutphen S Series Custom	Metropolitan	Liberty
Submitted Bid Bond	yes	yes	yes
Acknowledged Addendum 1	yes	yes	yes
Deduct if 25% down payment made within 30 days of contract signing	(4,091.84)		
Engine	2000 Cummins ISE 400 HP engine	Cummins IS- 05 Emissions	
Exceptions	Motorola Radio CD/M 1250 Bid valid 30 days - extended to September 20, 2006. Warranties qualified. Dickert Marketing to provide transportation	Motorola Radio RM1500UHF exceptions listed for a number of items.	Aluminum cab/body (other exceptions) Did not meet specifications

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY
OCONEE COUNTY, SC
COUNTY MEETING DATE: 9/19/06
COUNCIL MEETING TIME: 7:00 pm

ITEM TITLE OR DESCRIPTION:

Rescinding of Ordinance 2004-19, "OCONEE COUNTY EXPOSURE CONTROL PLAN"

BACKGROUND OR HISTORY:

The Oconee County Exposure Control Plan is provided for County employees/volunteers to assist in the elimination or minimization of exposure to blood borne pathogens. Oconee County has been updating this plan every year as an ordinance, however, it needs to be made a part of the policy for Oconee County employees as it has to be updated annually to comply with OSHA standard 29 CFR 1910.1030.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS OR CONCERNS:

The Exposure Control Plan was updated by the former administrator in 2005, therefore the last plan adopted by Council was in 2004.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION:

Staff recommends rescinding Ordinance 2004-19 and making the exposure control plan a part of the policy and procedures manual for County employees. This method will make it possible to update the plan with a one time vote of Council.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

N/A

ATTACHMENTS:

N/A

Submitted or Prepared By:

Opal O. Green
Department Head

Reviewed By/Initials:

____ n/a ____ : County Attorney

____ n/a ____ : Finance

____ n/a ____ : Other

Approved for submittal to Council:


Tom Hendriks, Council Administrator

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY
OCONEE COUNTY, SC

COUNCIL MEETING DATE: 9/19/06
COUNCIL MEETING TIME: 7:00PM

ITEM TITLE OR DESCRIPTION:

Request for District One (1) recreation funds of \$12,500 and 2006-2007 rotating district funds in the amount of \$10,000 to Tamassee Salem Recreation Corporation from account 010-202-30901.

BACKGROUND OR HISTORY:

Money is budgeted for each Council district for youth recreation purposes to eligible organizations. County Council approved the Rotating District Policy on October 18, 2005 whereas each district over a five year cycle will receive the rotating funds once for Capital expenditures. Recreation commission reviewed requests on August 15, 2006 and recommends approval to County Council. As stated in the Approved Distribution Plan of County Funds for Parks and Recreation, County Council must approve requests.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS OR CONCERNS:

Tamassee Salem Recreation Corporation is an eligible organization and this is an eligible request under the Approved Distribution Plan of County Funds for Parks and Recreation. Funds will be used for grading, soil preparation, and construction of fencing on acquired land to prepare site for baseball/soccer fields.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Recommendation for approval of \$22,500 to Tamassee Salem Recreation Corporation from District 1 Recreation Funds line item 010-202-30901.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:


\$22,500 of budgeted funds from PRT line item 010-202-30901.

ATTACHMENTS:

Submitted or Prepared By:

Phil Shirley, PRT Director
Department Head/Elected Official

Approved for Submittal to Council:


Tom Hendricks, County Administrator

Reviewed By/ Initials:

_____ County Attorney

_____ Finance

_____ Other

C: Clerk to Council

WALHALLA RESCUE SQUAD

- ◆ Equipment located in DSS/DHHS building
- ◆ Equipment located in Walhalla Fire Department
- ◆ Partially completed building located on County property at LEC
- ◆ Can not borrow money to complete building because they do not own the property
- ◆ Cost to complete the building \$200k +
- ◆ Rescue squad has \$40k+ in hand

Recommendation: Oconee County Council approve a loan to the Walhalla Rescue Squad to complete the Rescue building that is on County property.

Amount of loan \$175k + or -
Term of loan 15 years

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

1. Public Works Directorate: Request Council approve the removal of the Rock Quarry and Solid Waste Department from Public Works.
2. Fire Tankers and Pumpers update: (attached)

Public Works Director
& County Engineer

Roads

Engineering

Traffic Management

Storm Water
Management

Rock Quarry

Solid Waste & Landfill

Soil & Water
Conservation Liaison

Water & Sewer
Liaison

Tom Hendricks

From: Michael Head
Sent: Thursday, September 14, 2006 10:52 AM
To: Tom Hendricks
Cc: Dewitt D. Mize; Pat Baxter
Subject: Update on CAFS Pumpers & Tankers

Mr. Hendricks:

I would like to take a few minutes of your time to provide you with an update on the progress of the ten CAFS Pumpers and the ten Tankers that are being worked on by Crimson and Freightliner.

(1) CAFS Pumpers: We have 8 out of 10 Pumpers in working order with no complaints. Walhalla Engine 5A is still having electrical problems causing the pump to shut down. We are waiting on David Moose to return to work on this problem; at this time he hasn't been able to give us a definite date and time. Engine 5A Out of Service at this time. West Union Engine 16 has a primer pump leak that still is on the list to be repaired after the issue with Engine 5A has been addressed. The primer pump still works it just takes longer to prime to pump to draft water. Engine 16 is still in service.

(2) Tankers: We have had new front axles installed in tankers from Crossroads, Oakway, and South Union. This has most certainly helped with the handling and braking of the units. We have received very positive feedback from these stations on the handling and overall drivability since this work has taken place. The Fairplay tanker will be back from repairs and in service after lunch tomorrow. The Tanker from Friendship will then be picked up and taken to Jefferson, GA. for repairs. This will leave five more Tankers after that to be repaired. They are the ones from Keowee Ebenezer, West Union, Salem, Mt. Rest, and Longcreek.

Thanks,

Mike Head
Deputy Fire Chief