



A G E N D A
OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING
Wednesday, March 3, 2010, 6:30 PM
Council Chambers
Oconee County Administrative Offices
415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC

1. Call to Order

2. Discussion & Possible Action Items:

[1] IT / Request approval to apply for the FY 2010 Broadband Technology Opportunities Program

National Telecommunications and Information Administration has announced funds available for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP), established pursuant to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. With this grant, Oconee County would like to provide broadband to support schools, libraries, medical and healthcare providers, city and public safety agencies. The project will also provide access for consumers in unserved areas. Broadband access will help stimulate economic growth and job creation by providing the infrastructure needed to attract high-tech jobs to our area. **The application deadline for this grant is March 15, 2010. Current information indicates that this is a one-time funding opportunity.**

The project size range recommended by the Federal Notice of Funds Available ranges from \$5 million to \$150 million. The county will be required to provide matching funds of at least 20% toward the eligible costs of this project. The matching requirement can be met with both cash and in-kind contributions. The county is not required to have all matching funds in hand at the time it submits the application, but must demonstrate that it will be able to supply the proposed matching funds if the grant is awarded. Staff is in the process of defining the scope of the project and more information regarding the estimated cost will be available at the council meeting. Opportunities for partnering with private industry and other governmental agencies regarding project management and implementation are being explored. County staff is also attempting to identify alternative sources of funding for the local match.

Example:	Total Project	\$5 million
	Federal Grant:	\$4 million
	Local Match:	\$1 million

It is the staff's recommendation that Council approve applying for the FY 2010 Broadband Technology Opportunities Program as outlined above.

3. Executive Session

[for the purpose of discussing a personnel matter]

4. Adjourn

[This agenda is not inclusive of all issues which Council may bring up for discussion at this meeting.]

All other matters originally scheduled for the March 2, 2010 County Council meeting have been deferred to the March 16, 2010 meeting.

Oconee County Council & Committee meeting schedules and agendas are posted at the Oconee County Administration Building and are available on the County Council Website

www.oconeesc.com/council.html

[All upcoming meetings will be held in Council Chambers unless otherwise noted]