Annual Renewal for Microsoft 365 and Email Security Services

Budget year	25-26	26-27	Increase
Sheriff	$13,365.60	$17,520.00	$4,155.00
Communications	$ 4,477.20	$ 4,992.00	$514.80
Animal Control	$ 567.00	$ 756.00	$189.00
Detention	$ 4,587.00	$ 5,928.00	$1,341.00
Total	**$22,996.80**	**$29,196.00**	

These funds are paid for out of Data Processing

Oconee County, South Carolina
Animal Control (110)
2026-2027 Budget

Account Number				Description	FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2026 Budget	FY 2027 Departmental Request
				Total Salary & Fringe	**380,665**	**390,715**	**457,363**	**508,357**	**537,150**	**463,505**
010	110	10710	00000	**Overtime**	31,133	26,780	24,157	17,500	20,000	30,000
				Total Overtime	**31,133**	**26,780**	**24,157**	**17,500**	**20,000**	**30,000**
010	110	30025	00067	**Professional - Spay/Neuter Program**	77,400	80,130	116,400	105,000	105,000	115,000
010	110	30025	00110	**Professional - community Cats Program**	-	-	-	20,000	-	-
010	110	30056	00000	**Data Processing**	575	567	715	1,500	1,500	1,500
010	110	30059	00000	**Copier Click Charges**	1,481	1,668	1,471	1,500	1,500	1,500
010	110	30062	00000	**Medical**	48,290	72,755	109,445	80,000	100,000	115,000
010	110	30084	00000	**Staff Development**	1,740	4,018	6,107	6,000	7,000	8,500
010	110	33022	00000	**Building/Grounds Maintenance**	10,800	13,794	31,164	15,000	23,000	60,000
010	110	34042	00000	**Gas and Fuel Oil**	5,598	7,472	6,101	8,500	7,000	7,000
010	110	34043	00000	**Electricity**	9,926	11,578	13,598	12,000	13,500	14,000
010	110	34044	00000	**Water/Sewer/Garbage**	3,831	3,544	5,539	5,000	5,000	10,000
010	110	40031	00000	**Small Equipment**	8,914	23,475	5,777	7,000	7,000	7,000
010	110	40032	00000	**Operational**	15,665	21,530	15,969	20,000	20,000	25,000
010	110	40034	00000	**Food**	270	17	-	250	300	500
010	110	40045	00000	**Non-Capital IT Eq/Software**	7,729	3,977	2,073	5,000	3,000	3,000
010	110	40065	00000	**Uniforms/Clothing**	5,538	5,797	4,710	7,000	8,000	12,000
010	110	40360	00000	**Pet ID Microchips**	3,763	-	-	-	-	15,000
010	110	60735	00000	**General Gravel Use**	814	-	294	-	-	-
010	110	80110	00000	**Vehicle Maintenance**	5,684	9,383	22,095	12,500	12,500	15,000
010	110	81110	00000	**Gasoline**	18,345	16,037	18,758	19,000	19,000	19,000
				Total Operational	**226,363**	**275,742**	**360,216**	**325,250**	**333,300**	**429,000**
				Total Salary & Fringe + Overtime + Operational	**638,161**	**693,237**	**841,736**	**851,107**	**890,450**	**922,505**

Direct Revenue										
					FY 2022 Actual	**FY 2023 Actual**	**FY 2024 Actual**	**FY 2025 Budget**	**FY 2026 Budget**	**FY 2027 Budget**
010	080	00805	11100	**Dog Adoption Fees**	10,660	4,305	9,863	10,000	-	-
010	080	00805	11101	**Cat Adoption Fees**	18,940	19,525	21,890	21,000	-	-
010	080	00805	11103	**Animal Boarding Fees**	270	250	-	-	-	-
010	080	00805	11106	**Animal Control Miscellaneous**	17,532	14,932	15,407	15,000	15,000	-
				Departmental Direct Revenue	47,402	39,012	47,160	46,000	15,000	-

Positions					
	FY 2022	**FY 2023**	**FY 2024**	**FY 2025**	**FY 2026**	**FY 2027**
Life After Lock-Up	1	1	1	2	2	
Officers	3	3	3	3	3	
General Staff	3	3	3	3	3	
Total Positions	**7**	**7**	**7**	**8**	**8**	

Animal Control (#110)

Animal Control request two of three civilian officers positions get upgraded from a Code Enforcement certified officer to a Class I/III certified deputy. This will create an increase of about $25,000 per personnel in order to cover salaries, retro-fitting vehicles, and provide additional equipment for Class I/III certification.

A certified law enforcement deputy provides broader legal authority, enhanced public safety capability, and greater operational flexibility than a code enforcement–certified officer. While code enforcement certification is valuable for regulatory compliance and can enforce the County's Animal Control Ordinances, it does not provide the comprehensive enforcement authority necessary for complex, high-risk, or criminal matters.

A certified law enforcement deputy has full arrest powers under state statute, can enforce criminal, traffic, and civil violations, can execute warrants and conduct lawful investigations, can detaining individuals when public safety is at risk where as a code enforcement certified officer is limited enforcing only our county ordinances.

Additionally, animal enforcement situations can often escalate unexpectedly (e.g., unsafe environments, illegal activity on property, hostile owners). A certified deputy is trained in defensive tactics and de-escalation, is authorized to carry necessary defensive equipment to include firearms, has advanced situational awareness and use-of-force training, and can immediately address criminal conduct discovered.

Furthermore, certified deputies operate under established law enforcement standards, policies, and training protocols. This reduces liability exposure to both the deputy and Oconee County, ensures compliance with constitutional standards, and provided documented training accountability.

While code enforcement certification is appropriate for regulatory compliance tasks, a certified law enforcement deputy provides significantly greater authority, safety capability, investigative strength, and operational flexibility. For jurisdictions facing complex enforcement challenges, criminal overlap, or safety concerns, the investment in a certified deputy is justified to ensure comprehensive, lawful, and effective enforcement. Therefore, for FY 26-27 Animal Control requests two out of three non-certified positions get upgraded to a certified deputy position for a total cost of approximately $50,000.

010-110-

10710-00000 – OVERTIME ($30,000)

Requesting additional funding to better support call outs for on-call staff, weekend shifts, and increases in pay creating a higher overtime rate for employees.

30025-00067 – SNAC ($115,000)

Requesting additional funding due to OHS concerns with paying any overages that may occur after county funding has been exhausted. Please see the proposal below to help alleviate some of the weight of funding on the county tax payer to assist with providing funding for the SNAC program.

Animal Control proposes taking over issuing all SNAC vouchers for $10 per pet with officer discretion to cap charge at $50 per voucher, to ensure accessibility to low income families with multiple pets. Revenue from SNAC vouchers would then go into a 013 fund for any overages for the current and upcoming fiscal years. Helping to alleviate stress on county provided funding and benefit additional citizens with spay and neuter surgeries for their pet(s).

30065-00000 – DATA PROCESSING

Requesting to keep the same amount of funding for Iron Grid Network (Microsoft 365), game camera data, and to cover an additional expense of phone automation and transcription of voicemails

30059-00000 – COPIER CLICK

30062-00000 – MEDICAL ($115,000)

Requesting additional funding due to rising cost of animal care, vaccines, court case animals that require special attention and many medical visits, and to provide care for additional animals as Oconee is rapidly growing with new housing developments

30084-00000 – STAFF DEVELOPMENT

33022-00000 – BUILDING & GROUND MAINTENANCE ($60,000)

Requesting additional funding to potentially install a diesel "whole home" generator to ensure quality of life for animals at the shelter during severe weather or power failure, or provide a portable kennel to combat kennel crowding, incinerator maintenance, kennel gates in need of replacing, guillotine replacements in kennel runs.

34042-00000 – GAS & FUEL OIL

34043-00000 – ELECTRICITY

Additional unit added creating an additional invoice each month for electric. The request would cover the additional expenditure.

34044-00000 – WATER/SEWER

Requesting additional funding due to current year overages, requested amount for the next fiscal year is based on current spending trends.

40031-00000 – NON-CAPT EQUIPMENT

40032-00000 – OPERATIONAL ($25,000)

Requesting additional funding due to rising feed costs, supplies required for extended stay animal care (puppy pads, grooming, etc.), and to replace worn out and irreparable supplies.

40034-00000 – FOOD ($500)

Requesting funding for AC hosted training and quarterly staff meetings

40045-00000 – NON-CAPT IT/SOFTWARE

40065-00000 – UNIFORMS ($12,000)

Requesting additional funding due to uniform change made by Sheriff Crenshaw, body armor replacements and to provide uniform items for two kennel tech positions (previously clothed by DOC since positions were held by state inmates), and to provide additional uniform allowance for Class I/III certified officers, and allow a 4.5% CPI increase for DesignLab (increase allowed per procurement each fiscal year). This would also allow for the additional officer positions that have been requested to receive their allotted uniform allowances.

Animal Control New Position Justification

When I compare the calls for service numbers for Animal Control over the past four years, I discovered there was a significant increase in their calls for service from 2022 through 2025. In 2022, they ran approximately 2,281 calls for service. In 2023, their calls for service increased approximately 59% as they ran 3,627 calls for service. Between 2023 and 2024, the calls of service stayed approximately the same as they only experienced a 2% increase in calls for service. Again, in 2025 their calls of service only slightly increased by approximately 3% as they ran roughly 3,800 calls for service.

I know the increase in calls for service for 2024 and 2025 both indicate a very small percentage from their previous years; however, when you compare the number of calls for service in 2025 with the number from 2022, you find there has been a very significant increase by approximately 67%.

Not only has their calls for service increased each year from 2022 through 2025, but their number of cases has increased as well. In 2022 Animal Control had approximately 690 officer initiated cases for the year. There was a slight decrease in cases for 2023 with only 590 approximately officer initiated cases. However, in 2024 Animal Control experienced nearly a 94% increase in the number of officer initiated cases from 2023 as they did approximately 1,143. In 2025, Animal Control experienced another increase in officer initiated cases with approximately 1,367 total cases conducted. This was an approximately 20% increase from 2024. When you compare the number of officer initiated case for 2025 to the number of cases from 2022, I found they have experienced a 97% increases in their case load.

As you know, a critical component of law enforcement and animal control is their ability to manage their cases with accurate, detailed, and timely documentation of their investigative efforts and actions. As you can see from the numbers that I have mentioned above, they have experienced a drastic increase in their work load over the past four years related to their calls for service and officer initiated cases.

Additionally, on top of their responsibilities for making sure they are responding to each call for service in a timely manner and maintaining their cases to include all necessary follow up investigations, they also have to perform shelter duties to make sure all the animals are compassionately and responsibly being cared for. This includes after hour on-call status along with weekend and holiday responsibilities where someone has to make sure the kennels are being cleaned and animals being fed.

Furthermore, Animal Control has experienced two very large investigations during the past two years which each case resulted in the seizure of nearly 100 or more animals. This scale of investigation adds a tremendous amount of responsibility to the Animal Control officers as they have to evaluate each individual animal for medical precautions, continue regular evaluations, provide daily care, all while further making sure that they are documenting everything in their investigative case file from the start of the investigation, all the medical and evaluations performed until the case us adjudicated in the court system.

Currently, Animal Control has an Animal Control Director who is responsible for the oversight of the daily operations at the shelter, a Veterinarian Technician who is responsible for daily medical evaluations of the animals, overseeing the manage intake process, etc. and then we have four officers (two certified deputies and two code enforcement officers) who are responsible for the handling all calls for service. We have 4 officers that are handling calls for service across the entire county as well as performing animal control duties within several of the municipalities. When you average the number of calls for service and officer initiated cases by the four officers from 2022 through 2025, you'll find the average calls for service per officers increased from approximately 570 in 2022 to 950 in 2025. For the officer initiated cases, you'll find the average number of cases per officer increased from 173 in 2022 to 342 in 2025.

Therefore, for the reasons I have outlined here, current Animal Control staffing is no longer sufficient to maintain adequate response times and proactive enforcement which also leads to a negative impact of public safety and community expectations.

Furthermore, due to the overwhelming workload demands, high expectations of accountability, and mental well-being strains on our Animal Control officers, Oconee County Animal Control has had eight (8) officers resign from their positions since 2021. We've had an additional two (2) kennel technicians resign with another two (2) kennel technicians having been terminated, for a total turnover of twelve (12) employee's within a five-year period. Each time an employee leaves it not only adds additional stress and responsibilities to each of the remaining officers as they now must pick up the additional workload of being an officer short, but also requires someone having to train a new person once hired. As this may seem small, it is a big factor in turnover and officer moral when it's being seen on a repetitive basis.

Animal Control is not just about pets—it is about public safety, legal compliance, and community well-being. With the steady increase in call volume and service demands, our current staffing model is no longer sustainable. Adding two Animal Control Officers is a responsible investment that protects residents, reduces liability, and ensures we continue providing effective and timely service. The addition of two animal control officers would further increase overall officer mental well-being, moral, and safety within the Animal Control Unit.

The officers at Animal Control are very passionate about their job and the welfare of the animals within our county. The officers may not being dealing with the human aspect of death or injury that deputies assign to road patrol or other units of the Sheriff's Office often experience; however, they are experiencing these same emotions and mental health obstacles but just from a different aspect through their daily experiences with the animals.

Total cost for 2 new positions would be $56,523 per position for a total of $113,046, this includes Fringe.

Oconee County, South Carolina
Communications (104)
2026-2027 Budget

Account Number				Description	FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2026 Budget	FY 2027 Departmental Request
				Total Salary & Fringe	**1,440,331**	**1,606,372**	**1,698,374**	**1,756,654**	**1,878,333**	**2,079,850**
10	104	10710	00000	**Overtime**	118,646	127,146	139,802	110,000	110,000	150,000
				Total Overtime	**118,646**	**127,146**	**139,802**	**110,000**	**110,000**	**150,000**
10	104	30018	00000	**Travel**	763	-	-	-	-	
10	104	30024	00000	**Equipment Maintenance**	64,420	80,519	85,368	85,000	85,000	88,000
10	104	30025	00000	**Professional**	228	466	396	4,000	1,000	1,000
10	104	30041	00000	**Telecommunications**	98,433	102,499	97,091	95,000	98,000	110,000
10	104	30056	00000	**Data Processing**	4,807	7,970	8,447	19,000	30,000	30,000
10	104	30059	00000	**Copier Click Charges**	3,208	3,179	3,426	3,500	3,500	3,500
10	104	30080	00000	**Dues: Organizations**	192	100	104	450	200	200
10	104	30084	00000	**Staff Development**	5,918	5,661	5,859	6,000	6,000	6,000
10	104	33022	00000	**Building/Grounds Maintenance (External Radio Sites)**	1,123	840	1,618	2,000	2,000	2,000
10	104	34042	00000	**Gas and Fuel Oil - Generators**	540	1,417	1,292	1,750	1,750	1,750
10	104	34043	00000	**Electricity - Radio Sites**	6,629	6,798	7,304	7,000	7,500	7,500
10	104	40031	00000	**Small Equipment**	2,902	4,504	3,716	4,000	4,000	4,000
10	104	40032	00000	**Operational**	3,905	3,782	3,940	4,000	4,000	4,000
10	104	40034	00000	**Food**	813	721	1,162	1,000	1,000	1,000
10	104	40045	00000	**IT Replacement EQ/Software**	1,990	4,533	4,406	5,000	4,000	4,000
10	104	40102	00000	**Periodical Subscriptions**	70	-	-	-	-	
				Total Operational	**195,941**	**222,989**	**224,129**	**237,700**	**247,950**	**262,950**
				Total Salary & Fringe + Overtime + Operational	**1,754,918**	**1,956,507**	**2,062,305**	**2,104,354**	**2,236,283**	**2,492,800**

Direct Revenue						
	FY 2022 Actual	**FY 2023 Actual**	**FY 2024 Actual**	**FY 2025 Budget**	**FY 2026 Budget**	**FY 2027 Budget**
	-	-	-	-	-	
Departmental Total Direct Revenue	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**

Positions						
	FY 2022	**FY 2023**	**FY 2024**	**FY 2025**	**FY 2026**	**FY 2027**
Total Full Time Employees	24	25	25	25	25	
Part-Time Employee	1	1	1	1	1	
Total Positions	**25**	**26**	**26**	**26**	**26**	

Communications Budget Justifications 26-27

2 – Fulltime Telecommunicators to work 12:00PM – 12:00 AM in a power shift role. This would help with coverage during the busiest times of the day.

The overtime budget is consistently in the negative each year. Based on historical data, we believe we would need $150,000 to cover overtime for the next budget year.

Equipment Maintenance pays for our yearly microwave communication maintenance. This maintenance increased by approximately $3,000. We have requested for this increase in this budget to match.

We are requesting an increase of $12,000 in our Telecommunications budget and $15,000 initial cost to transition to IP based office phones. AT&T has notified us that in November of 2026, our current copper system will be disconnected.

We are requesting a one time budgeted amount of $110,000 to acquire 200 site licenses for current MS Office productivity software. We are currently still using MS Office 2010. This older software is losing functionality each day. When comparing an Office 365 subscription including Office vs a site license, we would only receive 2 years off 365 as compared to the same price for the site license.

Radio System:

Oconee County needs to look to the future for radio communications. As we grow as a county, public safety radio capacity should grow as well. The county needs to look toward a radio system with the following capacities:

- Fire and Law Enforcement Radios should be combined to the same systems/frequencies – current system is split between VHF and UHF
- Fire Radio capacity should be expanded to 10 "channels"
- Law Enforcement Radios should be expanded to 10 "channels"
- 2 mutual aid channels
- 2 county agency channels
- Multiple redundant backup communications paths should be utilized(fiber, cellular, microwave) to ensure consistent communications during natural disasters
- Frequency survey of the entire county to ensure control points in the most beneficial places

Best estimate of cost for this capability would be approximately 6,000,000 to 7,000,000 dollars over 10 years.

The current microwave communication between radio control points is aging and the equipment used cannot even be purchased any longer. We experience failures in this system during any significant weather events such as high wind, ice, snow, etc. We are requesting a

one time budgeted amount of $150,000 to replace our aging microwave communication system. This system allows redundant communication paths between all of our radio towers for public safety radio communication.

FY 27 Communications Capital Expenditure Requests

One Time Capitol Requests
Landline Phone conversion to IP
$15,000

Sitewide Microsoft Office Cost
$110,000
Microwave Communication
Upgrade
$150,000

New Countywide Radio System
$7,000,000

Oconee County, South Carolina
911 Communications Special Revenue Fund (225)
2025-2026 Budget

Account Number				Description	FY 2021 Actual	FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2026 Departmental Request	2027
Revenues											
225	080	00805	36000	AT&T E-911 Surcharge Taxes	102,077	85,968	70,597	49,395	70,000	60,000	31,200
225	080	00805	31010	Competitive Local Exchange Carrier Taxes	51,809	58,698	59,905	61,669	60,000	60,000	55,000
225	081	00810	19050	State Wireless Funding	147,159	161,974	147,113	160,350	150,000	158,000	176,000
225	081	00810	19070	Budget and Control Board Funding	252,120	345,586	684,388	314,951	350,000	350,000	652,131
				Total Revenues	**552,965**	**650,226**	**962,603**	**586,365**	**630,000**	**628,000**	**914,331**
Expenditures											
225	104	30018	00000	Travel	154	786	4,900	4,732	5,000	5,000	5,000
225	104	30024	00000	Equipment Maintenance	325,215	509,560	269,455	243,792	275,000	275,000	350,000
225	104	30041	00000	Telecommunications	110,000	107,918	148,133	108,171	75,000	75,000	100,000
225	104	30056	00000	Data Processing	23,858	127,738	126,159	135,385	130,000	130,000	150,000
225	104	30084	00000	Staff Development	1,183	3,441	7,064	8,236	7,000	7,000	10,000
225	104	40031	00000	Small Capital	5,542	105,477	27,325	37,722	20,000	20,000	30,000
225	104	40032	00000	Operational	3,374	12,397	17,645	16,711	15,000	15,000	30,000
225	104	40045	00000	Non-Cap IT Eq/Software	3,174	52,167	27,408	9,674	25,000	25,000	50,000
225	104	50840	00000	Equipment, Capital Expenditure	-	87,603	192,322	99,529	300,000	100,000	
225	104	50845	00000	IT Equip, Capital Expenditure	57,523	244	-	38,087	-		150,000
225	104	60083	00000	Grant to Indep Agency	80,545	24,277	19,960	41,025	30,000	30,000	30,000
				Total Expenditures	**610,558**	**1,031,710**	**840,371**	**743,064**	**882,000**	**682,000**	**905,000**
				Change in Fund Balance	**(57,593)**	**(381,484)**	**121,632**	**(156,699)**	**(252,000)**		

Fund 225(911) Budget Justifications 26-27

The 225 Communications fund receives revenue from AT&T E-911 taxes, Local Exchange Carrier taxes and State Wireless telephone funding. The State Budget and Control board will also reimburse the county for qualifying expenses up to an amount of $652,131 for the 2026 year. The 225 Communications fund budget is based off of this revenue and the reimbursement from the state.

Oconee County, South Carolina

Detention Center (106)

2026-2027 Budget

Account Number				Description	FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2026 Budget	FY 2027 Departmental Request
				Total Salary & Fringe	**3,088,820**	**3,114,398**	**3,484,399**	**3,722,388**	**4,070,425**	**4,473,555**
10	106	10710	00000	**Overtime**	117,805	135,474	139,907	100,000	125,000	150,000
				Total Overtime	**117,805**	**135,474**	**139,907**	**100,000**	**125,000**	**150,000**
10	106	30018	00000	**Travel**	-	-	137		-	-
10	106	30024	00000	**Equipment Maintenance**	14,659	13,189	15,247	15,000	15,000	45,000
10	106	30025	00000	**Professional**	758	2,368	1,578	3,000	16,000	23,000
10	106	30028	00000	**State Inmate Stipend**	11,888	13,436	10,792	14,000	14,000	15,000
10	106	30037	00000	**Equipment (Leased or Rented)**	-	-	-	-	-	-
10	106	30056	00000	**Data Processing**	40,151	46,021	52,673	53,000	56,650	62,000
10	106	30059	00000	**Copier Click Charges**	8,431	8,965	7,998	10,000	10,000	10,000
10	106	30062	00000	**Medical**	411,545	421,632	458,978	498,750	711,000	1,306,708
10	106	30080	00000	**Dues: Organizations**	1,200	1,190	1,370	2,000	2,000	2,000
10	106	30084	00000	**Staff Development**	12,381	5,982	5,165	10,000	10,000	10,000
10	106	33022	00000	**Building/Grounds Maintenance**	70,566	175,188	114,397	100,000	115,000	150,000
10	106	34042	00000	**Gas and Fuel Oil**	30,905	37,168	29,296	35,000	30,000	30,000
10	106	34043	00000	**Electricity**	191,424	214,502	225,480	200,000	225,000	225,000
10	106	34044	00000	**Water/Sewer/Garbage**	68,036	88,987	82,928	70,000	82,000	82,000
10	106	40031	00000	**Small Equipment**	32,818	21,247	14,903	27,000	22,000	60,000
10	106	40032	00000	**Operational**	72,470	76,568	73,462	75,000	75,000	115,000
10	106	40033	00000	**Postage**	165	164	111	500	500	500
10	106	40034	00000	**Food**	332,359	352,043	400,575	394,500	450,000	465,613
10	106	40045	00000	**IT Replacement Equipment/Software**	4,532	8,578	14,841	10,000	10,000	21,000
10	106	40065	00000	**Uniforms/Clothing**	39,571	46,931	37,067	45,000	46,800	55,000
10	106	40102	00000	**Periodicals**	-	-	-	100	-	-
10	106	50850	00000	**Capital Expenditures Buildings**	-	-	-	-	-	300,000
10	106	60741	00000	**Juvenile Detention Services (Department of Juvenile Justice)**	13,050	13,250	15,000	17,000	15,000	40,000
				Total Operational	**1,356,909**	**1,547,409**	**1,561,998**	**1,579,850**	**1,905,950**	**3,017,821**
				Total Salary & Fringe + Overtime + Operational	**4,563,534**	**4,797,281**	**5,186,304**	**5,402,238**	**6,101,375**	**7,641,376**

Direct Revenue						
	FY 2022 Actual	**FY 2023 Actual**	**FY 2024 Actual**	**FY 2025 Budget**	**FY 2026 Budget**	**FY 2027 Budget**
	-	-	-	-	-	
Departmental Total Direct Revenue	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**

Positions						
	FY 2022	**FY 2023**	**FY 2024**	**FY 2025**	**FY 2026**	**FY 2027**
General Fund Officers	48	49	49	49	49	
General Fund Regular Staff	2	2	2	2	2	
Grant Funded Officer - Fund 013	-	-	1	1	1	
	50	**51**	**52**	**52**	**52**	

30024-Maintenace on Equipment- We ended up short in this budget code this fiscal year because of unexpected expenses to repair the dishwasher. This year we are requesting more money for this budget code because it includes repairs to all of our older appliances. This budget code also includes yearly maintenance on our camera system. The cost of this is $16,000.00 a year. Yearly fire extinguisher inspections come out of this budget code as well.	$30,910.00	$45,000.00
30025 Professional- The part time Expungment Coordiantor works 12 hours a week. Due to excessive amounts of expungements and the required amount of work to do this job appropriately, we are requesting this position to be bumped up to 15 hours a week. We would need around $21.00 an hour to cover this position. The Temp Serivce StaffMark charges the County to collect and pay for this position. This line item includes notary charges, charges for Psych Evaluations due to Officers training to become dual certified in Class I or III. Currently they are II.	$16,000.00	$23,000.00
30028-Stipend Pay for Trustees-We currently have 6 State Inmates but our goal is to have 10 Trustees.	$14,000.00	$15,000.00
30056-Data Processing-All of these charges increase by certain percentages per year.	$40,740.00	$62,000.00
Data Works- Live scan to book and finger print inmates & staff. This is includes support and maintenance.		
Zuecher/Central Square- Jail Management Program for inmate records		
Guardian RFID- Yearly Maintenance on the Cell Check system.		
Iron Grid- yearly service and maintenance on email software		
30062-Medical- Geneysis-Health Service, will have a yearly increase. As of now we have not received the 2026/2027 cost. Option A- is to keep the same coverage meds cost & ADP overage =$ 20,000.00	$834,000.00	$894,599.43
Option B-Includes 24/7 coverage & the cost of medicine & ADP overage $20,000.00		$1,306,708.05
We also need extra medical funds to pay for State Inmates, dental appointments, Dr's appointments and medicine when needed.		$2,000.00
33022-Maintenace on Bldgs & Grounds-Due to the age of the buildings and equipment, the Sheriff's Office & the Jail repairs are continuously needed. All buildings, grounds, and substations throughout the County come from this budget line item. Also the Sheriffs Office needs additional signage purchased. The name of the Offices and Bureaus have changed. The cost of the signage will run around $7,000.00.	$115,000.00	$150,000.00

40031-Small Equipment- We need to purchase two more sinks for G-pod. The cost of these two sinks will be around $2,500.00 each. A need for more mats as the mats need to replaced and additional ones need to be purchased. The extra mats will run around $10,000.00. We are also in need for a another metal dectector to have down the hall to scan inmates from time to time to check for contraband. The cost of these have not been determined. We are currently getting quotes and it is looking to be around $25,000.00.	**$22,000.00**	**$60,000.00**
40032-Operational-We need to budget more hygiene items for the inmates that is mandated by minimum standards through SC Deptartment of Corrections. The cost for inmate hygiene items have increased. The needs of the Sheriffs office & Jail comes from this budget line item. Items from this budget code include, tissue, paper towels, cleaning supplies, office supplies, gloves, trashbags etc. There have been increases in the cost of each of these items.	**$75,000.00**	**$115,000.00**
40034- Food- We are expecting our food budget to be increased due to our population being much higher this past year. The increased percentage amount for this fiscal year is 3.7%. The amount budgetd for this fiscal year is not going to be enough to cover the whole year cost.	**$450,000.00**	**$465,613.00**
40045-IT & Software-We need to update some computers, equipment, software, and radios to meet the needs of the jail and our offices.	**$10,000.00**	**$21,000.00**
40065-Uniforms- The cost of uniform items and especially shoes have increased. The Design Lab company that won our bid for uniforms increases around 4% to 5% each year. The cost of inmates clothing which comes out of this budget line item have shown an increase as well.	**$45,000.00**	**$55,000.00**
60741-Department of Juvenile Justice-DJJ- Our facility isn't allowed or equiped to hold Juveniles. The cost previously to house a juvenile with DJJ was $50 a day per juvenile. Currently the cost is the $50 per day/per juvenile with additional charges of $125 per day/per juvenile if a juvenile is held over three days. At this current time we are negative in this budget code due to the higher charges being adjusted. We are requesting significant more to offset this increase.	**$15,000.00**	**$40,000.00**

10710-Over Time Salaries- There are times when we need to call in officers when some are out and/or to come in for other duties. Also, the needs for transport have increased and there are times we have to bring in extra staff on their off days to assist in this matter.	**$100,000.00**	**$150,000.00**	
Salaries- for new Staffing needs- We are requesting to add 2 more transport officers due to an increase of transports. There are more inmates being sentenced to Mental Health screenings by Judges. County Inmates require transportation to SCDC after sentencing. All State Trustees and County Inmates have to be transported to outside medical appointments, to include medical specialist offices, dental visits etc., that can not be done in house with our Medical Company.			
We would like to change one of the current Positions to a Sergeant in transport & the other positions to a Corporal. The reason for these being reclassifed is due to the these positions having more reponsibilities. They have to do all of the scheduling and planning out their transports to keep everyone safe and arriving to hearings and appointments in a timely manner. The two new added positions would be Master Deputy Officers of Transport. We are requesting to change our temporary Custodial Position to a permanent full time Custodian II postion. Below in an explanation of the changes and cost we are requesting.			
Master Detention Deputy bump up to a Sergeant of Transport difference in pay would be		$7,284.00	
Master Detention Deputy to be bumped up to a Corporal of Transport difference in pay would be		$4,748.00	
Adding two Master Detention Deputy positions to transport- total including fringe for both positons		$160,000.00	
Adding full time permenant Custodian position with fringe included		$60,000.00	

FY 27 Detention Capital Expenditure Request

$300,000 needed to supplement existing funds to replace roof and gutter system for the Law Enforcement Center.

Oconee County, South Carolina
Sheriff (101)
2026-2027 Budget

Account Number	Description	FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2026 Budget	FY 2027 Departmental Request
10 101 10710 00000	Overtime	332,688	328,586	379,178	300,000	350,000	400,000
10 120 10120 00000	Bailiffs	44,371	48,388	40,540	60,000	60,000	60,000
10 101 10110 00000	Extra Duty Pay	109,363	173,086	149,754	150,000	150,000	150,000
	Total	486,422	550,060	569,472	510,000	560,000	610,000
10 101 30018 00000	Travel	(5,422)	688	238	-	-	1,000
10 101 30024 00000	Equipment Maintenance	3,448	6,454	5,230	9,500	7,500	7,500
10 101 30025 00000	Professional	99,966	117,674	122,496	130,000	120,000	140,000
10 101 30025 00238	Professional K9 (New Line Item)	-	-	-	28,800	20,000	28,800
10 101 30056 00000	Data Processing	85,322	80,241	136,336	215,000	280,000	309,000
10 101 30059 00000	Copier Click Charges	11,403	11,252	11,492	11,000	11,000	11,000
10 101 30062 00000	Medical	3,410	5,265	6,552	7,500	7,500	8,500
10 101 30089 00000	Dues: Organizations	6,416	6,911	6,748	7,500	12,500	13,000
10 101 30084 00000	Staff Development	39,232	40,544	40,741	50,000	50,000	60,000
10 101 33022 00260	Maint. Bldg/Grds-Sheriffs Dept Fire	2,260	-	-	-	-	-
10 101 34043 00000	Electricity	4,057	3,694	4,435	4,200	5,000	5,000
10 101 34044 00000	Water/Sewer/Garbage	501	483	446	600	600	600
10 101 40031 00000	Small Equipment	44,760	53,131	86,484	65,000	75,000	100,000
10 101 40031 00260	Non-Cap Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 101 40032 00000	Operational	41,391	42,891	42,901	50,000	45,000	50,000
10 101 40033 00000	Postage	621	584	196	600	300	600
10 101 40034 00000	Food	2,234	1,974	3,466	4,000	4,000	5,000
10 101 40045 00000	IT Replacement Equipment/Software	26,016	26,794	31,186	35,000	32,000	40,000
10 101 40065 00000	Uniforms/Clothing	138,745	108,293	72,145	112,000	110,000	118,000
10 101 40065 00004	Clothing for Plain Clothes Officers	27,073	26,939	27,760	27,900	27,900	28,800
10 101 40353 00000	Firing Range	60,052	67,361	111,233	90,000	100,000	110,000
10 101 40354 00000	Sub-Station	1,939	17,367	1,137	3,000	2,000	2,000
10 101 60402 00155	DSS Child Support (Federal)	4,537	3,010	2,740	-	-	-
10 101 60444 00000	Helicopter Maintenance	8,586	6,968	15,546	8,500	7,500	7,500
10 101 60736 00000	General Gravel Use	-	291	803	-	-	-
10 101 60101 00000	Vehicle Maintenance	277,328	344,199	368,092	330,000	390,000	390,000
10 101 81101 00000	Gasoline	466,681	443,314	443,061	450,000	435,000	435,000
10 101 82101 00000	Diesel	645	398	229	750	250	500
	Total Operational	1,360,221	1,414,719	1,562,497	1,648,850	1,723,850	1,871,800
	Total Expenditures	1,846,643	1,964,779	2,131,969	2,158,850	2,283,850	2,481,800

	Direct Revenue	FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2026 Budget	FY 2027 Budget
10 60 805 800	Sheriff-Voluntary Extra Duty Pay	142,980	176,512	229,652	185,000	287,000	287,000
10 60 805 10400	Sheriff Civil Fees	7,565	7,435	9,545	8,500	9,750	9,500
10 60 805 10401	Miscellaneous - Sheriff	23,787	2,714	2,293	7,000	3,000	3,000
10 60 805 16024	Litter Fine In Lieu of Pickup	480	480	360	250	400	100
10 61 810 20400	Sheriff Supplement	1,575	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000
10 61 810 60460	Resource Officer Reimbursement	547,458	594,975	698,074	886,896	895,000	895,000
10 82 830 25600	Sheriff Title IVD Service of Process	8,976	-	6,815	9,500	9,000	7,000
	Departmental Total Direct Revenue	732,841	797,116	961,739	1,111,946	1,219,150	1,216,600

Positions	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027
General Fund Officers	89	94	94	94	94	95
School Resources Officers - School District Funded	11	11	11	11	11	11
School Resources Officers - County Funded	6	6	6	6	6	6
General Fund General Staff	9	9	9	9	9	9
School Resources Officers - Grant Funded	1	1	1	1	1	1
Victims Services Employees Fund 210	2	2	2	2	2	2
Bailiffs Employees	1	1	1	0	0	0
Part-Time Employees	8	8	8	8	8	8
Community Policing Officers - Grant Funded	0	0	0	0	0	2
Total Positions	127	132	132	131	131	134

NOTE: CORRECT MODIFIER FOR PROFESSIONAL K9. THIS WAS CHANGED TO 0238 DURING FY 25-26.

SHERIFF'S OFFICE (#101)
FY 2026 – 2027
BUDGET JUSTIFICATIONS FOR REQUESTED INCREASES

010-101-10710-00000: OVERTIME

This line item typically has an overage each year. Based on this trend and the fact that officer salaries were increased during FY 2025-2026 thereby increasing overtime rates, we are requesting an additional $50,000 for this line item. Our total request for Overtime is **$400,000**.

010-101-30018-00000: TRAVEL

We are requesting that this line item be funded this year. Several civilian employees are now attending meetings, classes, etc. that require travel and the use of their personal vehicles. Our total request for Travel is **$1,000.**

010-101-30025-00000: PROFESSIONAL

We are requesting a $20,000 increase for this line item. This request is based on recurring expenditures and the continuing increase in the operational budget for the Anderson-Oconee Regional Forensics Laboratory. Due to the declining balance of our drug accounts, we also need additional funds to support ongoing drug enforcement operations. Our total request for Professional is **$140,000.**

010-101-30025-00238: PROFESSIONAL K9

During FY 25-26, the funding for this line item was cut by $8,800 which will require a budget transfer request. By federal law, we are required to pay our canine handlers for the upkeep of the dogs while off duty. We currently have six (6) canine handlers who receive $400 per month for 12 months. This is the absolute minimum required to fund this line item. Therefore, our total request for Professional K9 is **$28,800.**

010-101-30056-00000: DATA PROCESSING

We are requesting an increase in our Data Processing line item. We are requesting to purchase Time Pilot AI case management/organization software for lead development on criminal cases. The approximate cost for this is $49,000. The remaining amount is sufficient to cover our

recurring expenditures such as PowerDMS, Central Square, Pursuit Alert, etc. and any increases for these services

Year 5 of our body camera contract with Axon will be $119,235. In FY 25-26, we did not receive full reimbursement from the State for our body camera program. Since reimbursement from the State is not guaranteed, we are including this amount in our total request.

Our total request for Data Processing is **$309,000.**

010-101-30062-00000: MEDICAL

We are requesting an increase of $1,000 for this line item. In FY 24-25, we added two (2) canines. However, this line item was not significantly increased while expenditures for vet visits, vaccinations, medications, etc. have increased. Our total request for Medical is **$8,500.**

010-101-30080-00000: DUES: ORGANIZATIONS

We are requesting an additional $500 for this line item. We were given funding last year to help cover dues in the amount of $25 each for every full-time employee (Sheriff, Animal Control, Communications, Detention) to the S.C. Sheriffs' Association which offers a life insurance benefit with membership. We will need additional funding to allow us to pay for the two (2) new Community Policing grant positions, requested ICAC Investigator and also our part-time positions that are eligible for this membership as well. Our total request for Dues is **$13,000.**

010-101-30084-00000: STAFF DEVELOPMENT

An increase of $10,000 is requested for this line item. We feel this request is necessary due to increases in registration fees, travel and lodging costs. This would also help pay for more outside specialized training for our officers. Our total request for Staff Development is **$60,000.**

010-101-40031-00000: SMALL EQUIPMENT

Additional funds are needed in this line item to continue to pay for upgrades for our current SWAT weapons at an approximate cost of $21,000. We also would like to purchase a handheld Raman Analyzer to be used for rapid field identification for explosives, narcotics and other suspicious materials. The cost for this equipment is approximately $43,000. Our total request for Small Equipment is **$100,000.**

010-101-40032-00000: OPERATIONAL

We are requesting that an additional $5,000 be added to our Operational line item. These funds are needed to help purchase the materials needed by our SROs for the LEAD (Law Enforcement Against Drugs and Violence) program that they are teaching in our schools. These additional funds will also help purchase incentive items for the Sheriff's Blue Well initiative for the employees of the OCSO. Our total request for Operational is **$50,000.**

010-101-40033-00000: POSTAGE

Funding was cut for this line item in FY 25-26. We are requesting that the funding be increased by $300. The need and costs for shipping items for repair, etc. have increased. The Sheriff's Office participates in the 1033 program from which we benefit from surplus military equipment, etc. at basically no cost to us other than shipping costs. Additional funding in this line item would help with this cost. Our total request for Postage is **$600.**

010-101-40034-00000: FOOD

Due to the rising costs of food, we need an increase in this line item. These funds are used for events sponsored by the Sheriff's Office such as retirement drop-ins, annual retiree luncheon, training hosted by the Sheriff's Office, etc. These additional funds could also be used to help fund Sheriff Crenshaw's Blue Well initiative for his employees. Our total request for Food is **$5,000.**

010-101-40045-00000: IT REPLACEMENT EQUIPMENT/SOFTWARE

We are requesting an additional $8,000 to be used to upgrade the software on existing computers to Windows 11. Our total request for IT Replacement Equipment/Software is **$40,000.**

010-101-40065-00000: UNIFORMS/CLOTHING

We are requesting additional funding for this line item in the amount of $8,000. Our main uniform vendor, DesignLab, is allowed per the contract to add for a CPI increase each year. Typically, this increase is around 4.5%. The additional funding is also needed for the two new grant-funded Community Policing positions. These funds also help with the costs of bulletproof vests for new officers and to replace expired vests. Our total request for Uniforms/Clothing is **$118,000.**

010-101-40065-00004: CLOTHING FOR PLAIN CLOTHES OFFICERS

We are requesting an additional $900 for this line item to pay the monthly clothing allowance for a new ICAC (Internet Crimes Against Children) Investigator position that is being requested in this budget. Our total request for Clothing for Plain Clothes Officers is **$28,800.**

010-101-40353-00000: FIRING RANGE

We are asking for an increase of $10,000 in the line item due to the rising costs of ammunition. Both training and duty ammunition are purchased from this line item along with other training items and supplies as needed. Funds are also used to make necessary repairs/upgrades to the range due to wear and tear and for officer safety. Our total request for the Firing Range is **$110,000.**

010-101-82101-00000: DIESEL

We are requesting an increase in this line item to help pay for the diesel required for our armored MRAP/SWAT vehicle which is used for special operations. Our total request for Diesel is **$500.**

SHERIFF'S OFFICE (#101)
FY 2026 – 2027
JUSTIFICATIONS FOR NEW POSITION AND POSITION UPGRADE REQUESTS

010-101-10110-00000: ICAC INVESTIGATOR

Sheriff Crenshaw would like to add a new Sergeant position in Investigations. The new position would be an ICAC (Internet Crimes Against Children) Investigator. Due to the increase in the number of children and teenagers using the internet and the ever-increasing number of internet crimes against children, Sheriff Crenshaw feels this position is crucial to help protect the children of Oconee County. The approximate cost for funding this position will be a base salary of $58,882 plus fringe benefits making the total request for the ICAC Investigator **$87,556.**

010-101-10110-00000: SENIOR CORPORAL

We are requesting that a Corporal position in our PACE unit be upgraded to Senior Corporal. This would add another supervisory position to this unit. The total request for the Senior Corporal upgrade is approximately **$3,204.**

Oconee County, South Carolina
Probate Court (502)
2026-2027 Budget

Account Number	Description	FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2026 Budget	FY 2027 Departmental Request
	Total Salary & Fringe	**284,942**	**341,599**	**385,199**	**393,636**	**409,316**	**438,988**
10 502 10710 00000	**Overtime**	90	120	139	500	200	500
	Total Overtime	**90**	**120**	**139**	**500**	**200**	**500**
10 502 30018 00000	**travel**		367	910	500	500	2,000
10 502 30024 00000	**Equipment Maintenance**	3,000	350	-	2,400	-	2,500
10 502 30025 00000	**Professional**	38,197	43,381	33,189	35,000	33,000	35,000
10 502 30025 00000	**Professional - Scanning of 1983 to 2014 Estate Files year 2 of 4**	-	-	-	-	15,500	15,500
10 502 30026 00000	**Court Expenditures**	4,837	10,266	5,437	10,000	10,000	13,000
10 502 30059 00000	**Copier Click Charges**	3,955	3,936	4,274	4,000	4,000	4,300
10 502 30080 00000	**Dues: Organizations**	382	644	1,015	1,500	1,200	1,500
10 502 30084 00000	**Staff Development**	3,047	5,290	5,677	6,000	7,000	8,000
10 502 40031 00000	**Small Equipment**	1,288	9,341	4,489	2,500	2,000	2,500
10 502 40032 00000	**Operational**	6,299	6,136	6,079	10,000	9,000	14,000
10 502 40034 00000	**Food**	40	565	203	600	500	800
10 502 40045 00000	**IT Replacement Equipment/Software**	1,909	1,315	926	1,500	1,000	1,500
10 502 40065 00000	**Clothing/Uniforms**	-	675	813	-	750	1,200
10 502 80502 00000	**Vehicle Maintenance Probate**	119	906	311	800	500	800
10 502 81502 00000	**Gasoline Probate Court**	211	1,024	1,762	1,750	1,750	2,500
	Total Operational	**63,284**	**84,196**	**65,085**	**76,550**	**86,700**	**105,100**
	Total Salary & Fringe + Overtime + Operational	**348,316**	**425,915**	**450,423**	**470,686**	**496,216**	**544,588**

Direct Revenue		**FY 2022 Actual**	**FY 2023 Actual**	**FY 2024 Actual**	**FY 2025 Budget**	**FY 2026 Budget**	**FY 2027 Budget**
10 080 00805 12301	**Probate Judge Estates**	197,607	131,770	149,670	155,000	200,000	185,500
10 080 00805 12302	**Probate Judge Advertising**	140,144	158,100	136,509	150,000	136,000	120,000
10 080 00805 12304	**Probate Judge Marriage Licenses**	9,085	19,852	19,338	21,000	21,000	21,000
10 080 00805 12305	**Probate Judge Returns**	360	120	302	160	200	200
10 080 00805 12306	**Miscellaneous - Probate Judge**	29,992	40,451	72,308	56,000	36,000	13,500
10 080 00805 12307	**Probate Judge Marriage Certificates**	6,417	6,139	7,143	6,500	7,250	7,000
10 080 00805 12308	**Probate Judge Marriage Ceremony**	4,292	4,465	6,857	8,000	8,000	7,500
10 080 00805 22300	**Probate Judge Supplement**	1,575	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,500
	Departmental Total Direct Revenue	**389,472**	**375,897**	**407,127**	**411,660**	**423,450**	**370,200**

Positions	**FY 2022**	**FY 2023**	**FY 2024**	**FY 2025**	**FY 2026**	**FY 2027**
Total Full Time Employees	5	5	5	5	5	6

Requesting the Staffmart position to be full-time. The $35,000 in professional would be moved to salary to offset the cost. The position was full-time until 2017.

Stewart Jones
Oconee County Administrator

Finance Director, TBD

Date: February 23, 2026

Re: Budget Request 2026-2027

Mr. Stewart,

Please see below for the Probate Court Budget increase request and adjustments to the Direct Revenue. I look forward to discussing this with you at your convenience. I am also including a request for additional fess to be collected by the probate court. Please take note that I am basing this year's request from our last year's budget request that was approved by the last administration and not based on what that administrator/finance director removed from the budget to offset the scanning project.

(502) Probate Court Budget requests for 2026-2027

010-502-30084-0000 Staff Development current 7000- request 8000

3 judges receive most of the training. However, we have 6 employees. I need our clerks and case worker to receive additional training. We are having more mandatory training sessions ordered by the Chief Justice that was not included in last year's budget. More training is needed for mental health and guardian and conservatorships.

010-502-30026 Court Expense current $10,000.00- request $13,000

We were originally approved for the $13,000.00 last year. However, $3,000 was taken out of the budget without my knowledge by the prior administrator and finance director. This is verified through emails between finance and myself along with emails containing conversations I had with the prior administrator. They agreed to put it back with contingency but did not. We are having more court hearings and an increase in mental health cases that also require additional hearings.

010-502-40032-0000 Operational current $10,000- request $14,000

This request is to offset a yearly mental health summit that I would like to continue yearly and for the increase of cost in general. Prior to this, the administrator transferred funds form contingency to cover the cost. I am making the request so that we may properly budget for this item. Again, this was approved by the administrator in last year's budget along with the scanning project, however, it was deducted sometime have our budget meeting without my knowledge. Both the administrator and finance director admitted it was a mistake and I would receive the funds from contingency on July 1 but never did.

010-502-81502-0000 Gasoline current 1720- request $2500

The $2,500 was approved last year but removed again. The current amount is not enough to cover the correct cost.

10-502-40065-00000 Clothing/Uniforms – current $0.00-request $1,200

This is another line item that was approved last year, then removed. We did make a clothing purchase this year because we were promised to have these funds back. Most all department have this. This would be $200 per employee.

Additional Request

I am requesting, again, that our current Staffmark position to be a full-time position with the county. This position has been this way since 2007. The person working in this position is doing the same job with no benefits. It has been this way for 18 years. We can use the extra time of a few hours a week. At times, it is a struggle to keep staff up with sickness and vacation. This is needed and the right thing to do. Should this position be approved, the $35,000 from professional would be moved to salaries to help off set the cost. I intend to go before council at some point to make this request. Twice before I was told it should not be an issue and then it does not happen.

Three main goals-

1. Our courtroom is an embarrassment and is truly unsafe. We need to find a way to obtain a safe, secure, and updated courtroom. The current room is lacking in every way possible. It is not safe nor adequate for the work being done. Mental health cases have increased and with these you are always dealing with unknown. Many times, we are also dealing with the unknown with estate issues. As stated previously, we are better now at determining assets in estate cases. Last year we were responsible for over $67 million in assets, making sure heirs received what they were supposed to.

2. Making the Staffmark position full-time. That position was full-time prior to 2007 and part-time since then. After 18 years, it is time. It is only 2 1?2 hours more a week. It is simply not fair to require a person to do the same work for less pay and no benefits.

3. Continue the scanning project over the next 3 years. We have year one completed. My staff are uploading the files into our software system. Our current software providers have failed in many ways to provide the support that was promised. With my staff doing the uploading, it is saving the county $9,000. This project, when completed, will have all files scanned back to 1980. These documents are historical and cannot be removed or destroyed. We do not have a any fire protection for the files. The only way to preserve documents is to have them digitized.

Special note-

The advertising line item as been decreased to reflect a reasonable amount. Also, we have had more small estates which does not require the Notice to Creditor. The advertising amount does not reflect the counties actual generated revenue as it is paid back out to the Journal. Lasty year there was a Bill was passed to increase the Small Estate from $25,000 to $45,000. I requested last year that the advertising be lowered from $150,000 to $120,000 due to projected collections. The prior administrator

changed that amount from $120,000 to $136,000. I wasn't aware of this just like not being aware that my budget was reduced to offset the scanning project.

For direct revenue, I am requesting the following fees to be added.

Adding a fee for all motions filed in the amount of $25.00. This is to include motions for extensions after the first motion for extension. This will help reduce the Motion for Extensions. Most all probate courts have this fee or a similar fee.

Request a fee of $150.00 for any case that is Rule 4 (placed on the inactive docket due to failure of fiduciary obligations of the personal representative in an estate case). This fee is to be paid by the personal representative and not the estate. Most all probate courts have this fee or a similar fee.

For a Rule to Show Cause Hearing fees;

1. $150.00 for failure to appear if properly served.
2. Minimum $150.00 fee if Rule to Show Cause Hearing held because a fiduciary failed to perform duties. Paid by failing party, not the estate.

Should these request not be approved, I would like to have the opportunity to appeal as to the reasons why, in particular, the need to have the StaffMart employee to become full time, addressing the safety and condition of our courtroom.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to make these request.

Respectfully submitted,

Danny Singleton

Oconee County, South Carolina
Solicitor (504)
2026-2027 Budget

Account Number				Description	FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2026 Budget	FY 2027 Departmental Request
				Total Salary & Fringe	**758,382**	**835,906**	**907,712**	**1,082,962**	**1,117,646**	**1,193,013**
10	504	80504	00000	**Vehicle Maintenance**	157	784	32	750	1,000	
10	504	81504	00000	**Gasoline**	3,256	3,027	3,356	3,000	3,000	
				Total Expenditures	**3,413**	**3,811**	**3,388**	**3,750**	**4,000**	**-**
				Total Salary & Fringe + Expenditures	**761,795**	**839,717**	**911,100**	**1,086,712**	**1,121,646**	**1,193,013**

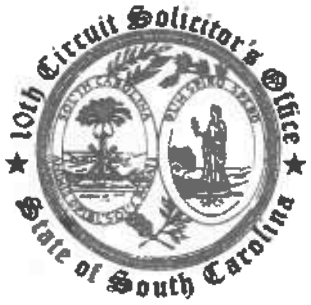
Direct Revenue

					FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2026 Budget	FY 2027 Budget
10	80	805	10504	**Worthless Checks**	2,050	2,009	1,845	2,000	1,800	
10	80	805	16006	**Solicitor's Traffic Education**	153	573	153	500	200	
				Departmental Total Direct Revenue	**2,203**	**2,582**	**1,998**	**2,500**	**2,000**	

Positions

	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027
General Fund Employees	10	10	10	10	10	
General Fund Employees - Reimbursed from Anderson County	2	2	2	2	2	
215 Fund Victim Services Coordinator	1	1	1	1	1	
	13	**13**	**13**	**13**	**13**	

ANDERSON COUNTY COURTHOUSE
P.O. BOX 8002
ANDERSON, SC 29622
TELEPHONE 864-260-4046
FAX 864-260-4187



MICAH E. BLACK
SOLICITOR

OCONEE COUNTY COURTHOUSE
415 SOUTH PINE STREET
WALHALLA, SC 29691
TELEPHONE 864-638-4294
FAX 864-638-4295

February 26, 2026

Dear Administrator Jones and Council Members:

Please accept this request for additional funding for the Oconee Solicitor's Office in the FY27 budget. Please see the explanations below.

Solicitor (504)
FY26-27 Budget Request

I. COUNTY ASSUMPTION OF SUBSIDIZED POSITIONS SERVICING OCONEE COUNTY RESIDENTS:

Twelve professionals serve in the Oconee County Office of the Tenth Circuit Solicitor, comprised of four (4) attorneys, two (2) investigators, two (2) victim advocates, and five (5) administrative staffers. Of those twelve employees, all but two are funded through county appropriations or grant funding:

Employee ID	Last Name	First Name	Slot #	Job Title	Hire Date	Salary	Total w/ Fringe
101106	Freel	Holden	504004	Attorney/Solicitor	2/18/2026	$71,500	$ 108,938
100220	Sanders	Jessica	504006	Investigator - Solicitor	8/1/2022	$57,134	$ 93,914

Funding for these two employees is reimbursed to the county from the general fund of the Tenth Circuit Solicitor's Office, which comes from State funding or from Anderson County funding. Costs for these employees are funded by non-Oconee County sources; however, they perform services exclusively for the citizens of Oconee County. Accordingly, we are requesting Oconee County adopt and add as a recurring appropriation the funding for the two (2) employees servicing Oconee County. By wholly funding these positions, Oconee County will demonstrate it's commitment to supporting their vital work in the criminal justice system. Additionally, it will

reduce the need for county finance officials to process accounting, billing, and re-imbursement for payroll related these employees. The anticipated recurring cost of this appropriation is **$202,852 annually.**

II. INCREASED SALARY FOR NON-ATTORNEY STAFF:

Attorney recruitment and retention has been a focus of the Tenth Circuit Solicitor's Office and the State Prosecution Commission over the past year. A result of that focus has been increased salaries for prosecutors. However, these attorneys depend upon the assistance of the professional staff – paralegals and investigators - that comprise the bulk of the office. These staff members provide invaluable services, including processing incoming warrants, ensuring compliance with discovery requirements, managing court operations, and preparing cases for trial.

Upon reviewing and comparing salaries between offices in the Tenth Circuit, it is apparent the salaries in the Oconee Office lag behind the salaries in Anderson. The average salary for an Investigator in Anderson is slightly over $74,000 dollars annually, compared to an average salary of slightly over $58,000 in Oconee. The average salary for a paralegal in Anderson is just over $63,000 annually, compared to just over $44,000 in Oconee. This means the average non-attorney in Oconee makes roughly three-quarters of what a comparable staffer in Anderson makes:

Position Group	Oconee County Average Salary	Anderson County Average Salary	Oconee Salary Percentage of Anderson Salary
Investigator	$ 58,108	$ 74,582	78%
Paralegal	$ 44,101	$ 63,014	70%

We are requesting Oconee County permanently increase the pay of these vital non-attorney staff across the board. A 25% increase in salary for Investigators will bring them almost in line with their Anderson County counterparts. A 35% increase in salary for Paralegals will bring them almost in line with their Anderson counterparts:

Oconee Salary increase	Position Group	Oconee County Average Salary	Anderson County Average Salary	New Oconee Salary Percentage of Anderson Salary
25% increase	Investigator	$ 72,635	$ 74,582	97%
35% increase	Paralegal	$ 59,537	$ 63,014	94%

Accordingly, we are requesting Oconee County adopt and add as a recurring appropriation the funding for an across the board increase in salary for non-attorney staff working exclusively in the Oconee Office and serving the citizens of Oconee County. By funding this normalization of compensation, Oconee County will demonstrate it's commitment to supporting vital work these professionals provide to the criminal justice system. The anticipated recurring cost of this appropriation is **$136,023 annually:**

Employee ID	Last Name	First Name	Slot #	Job Title	Old Salary	Old Total Fringe and Salary	New Salary	New Salary and Fringe	Increase
vacant	vacant	vacant	504003	Paralegal	$ 39,696	$ 68,690	$ 53,589	$ 86,272	$ 17,582
100769	Pate	Lisa	504005	Senior Administrative Assistant	$ 43,360	$ 73,327	$ 58,537	$ 92,533	$ 19,205
100220	Sanders	Jessica	504006	Investigator - Solicitor	$ 57,134	$ 93,914	$ 71,418	$112,779	$ 18,865
2155	Venneri	Jessica	504008	Diversion Program Coordinator/Paralegal	$ 41,282	$ 72,977	$ 55,730	$ 92,059	$ 19,083
1064	Watkins	Beverly	504009	Office Manager	$ 56,472	$ 89,921	$ 76,238	114,934	$ 25,013
100253	Wiley	Paige	504010	Paralegal	$ 39,696	$ 68,690	$ 53,589	$ 86,272	$ 17,582
100926	Arflin	Mike	504012	Investigator - Solicitor	$ 59,082	$ 93,223	$ 73,852	111,915	$ 18,692
								Total Increase	**$136,023**

. COUNTY FUNDING OF DUI PROSECUTOR

For the past year, we have been using salary allotted for the unfilled Deputy Solicitor position to fund a contract DUI prosecutor. This prosecutor handles DUI cases in summary court in Oconee County, as well as in other jurisdictions in Pickens and Anderson Counties. Having these types of cases contracted out to an experienced prosecutor with subject matter expertise in summary DUI allows us to devote our prosecutorial resources to more serious General Sessions cases. Accordingly, we are requesting Oconee County adopt and add as a recurring appropriation the funding for this contract prosecutor position independent of other unused position funding. The anticipated recurring cost of this appropriation is **$40,000 annually**.

I appreciate your continued support and look forward to working with you during the upcoming budget process.

Sincerely,

Micah E. Black

Tenth Circuit Solicitor's Office

2026-2027 Budget Workshop

Oconee County

Goals

1. Prosecute Bad Guys
2. Modernize Office
3. Recruitment and Retention

Sources of Revenue

- State Funding
  - Mixture of General and Earmarked Funds
    - Most funds have designated use requirements
      - E.G. DUI, DV, Violent Crime prosecution
- County Funding
- Federal Funding
  - Grants

Sources of Revenue

- Court Fees and Surcharges
  - Fluctuates annually based on collections
- Diversion and Treatment Court Fees
  - PTI, AEP, etc…
  - Based on Participation
- Special Revenues
  - Expungements, Forfeitures, etc..

Sources of Revenue

- Court Fees down 9% last year
- Diversion/Treatment down 22% last year
- Special Revenues down 36% last year

Expenses

- Salary and Fringe
- Operational Costs
  - Case Management
  - IT
  - Office Supplies
  - Insurance
  - Fleet
  - Trial Costs
  - Diversion Programs

Prosecute Bad Guys

- Calendar year 2024 – 1 trial
- Calendar 2025 – 5 trials
  - Trials drive the docket
    - more convictions = more guilty pleas
  - Trials require expert witnesses, travel/lodging, and copy/production of exhibits
  - Trials also require Investigators to beat the bushes to locate witnesses / evidence

Prosecute Bad Guys

Oconee County man sentenced to 15 years in prison following a drug investigation

7NEWS WSPA.COM

Live Videos News First Alert Weather Traffic Investigations Palmetto Sports En Español Measles Outbreak

Pennsylvania man sentenced to 40 years for 2023 Oconee County murder

Modernize Office

- Paper files are clunky and slow
- Digital evidence requires storage and accessibility
- Modern software and hardware needed
- Inflation hit IT sector as well

Recruitment and Retention

- Attorney Salaries on Rise
  - Starting Tenth Circuit Solicitor's Office Salary = $71,500
  - Starting Thirteenth Circuit Solicitor's Office Salary = $77,000
- Fringe Costs Increasing
- Law enforcement salaries on rise
  - Plus perks such as special duty and take home vehicles

Recruitment and Retention

- Training and Professional Development Opportunities
- Productivity Incentives

Goal Targeted Funding

- 3% Cost of Living Adjustment (plus fringe)
- County Funding of All Oconee Employees
- Professional Staff Pay Equalization
- Magistrate Court DUI Prosecution
- Allow General Fund to Pay for Non-Payroll Office Functions

Tenth Circuit Solicitor's Office

2026-2027 Budget Workshop

Oconee County

Oconee County, South Carolina
Facilities Maintenance (714)
2026-2027 Budget

Account Number				Description	FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2026 Budget	FY 2027 Departmental Request
				Total Salary & Fringe	**838,963**	**911,223**	**979,272**	**991,506**	**1,043,320**	**1,138,095**
10	714	10710	00000	**Overtime**	1,670	1,261	1,432	1,500	1,750	2,000
				Total Overtime	**1,670**	**1,261**	**1,432**	**1,500**	**1,750**	**2,000**
10	714	30024	00000	**Equipment Maintenance**	659	835	1,445	1,200	1,000	1,000
10	714	30025	00000	**Professional**	8,321	765	465	7,500	1,000	1,000
10	714	30059	00000	**Copier Clicks**	237	266	239	250	300	300
10	714	30084	00000	**Staff Development**	-	-	420	250	250	250
10	714	33022	00000	**Building/Grounds Maintenance**	11,533	8,165	9,963	7,750	8,500	8,500
10	714	33022	00109	**Building Maintenance - Probation and Parole**	1,241	4,088	2,695	5,000	3,000	2,500
10	714	33022	00270	**Building/Grounds - Oakway Intm**	1,659	1,974	5,244	2,000	2,000	1,500
10	714	33022	00402	**Building Maintenance - DSS Building**	19,876	32,651	12,033	10,000	12,000	15,000
10	714	33022	00405	**Buildings/Grounds Rosa Clark**	129	140	211	1,000	500	500
10	714	33022	00407	**Building Maintenance - Lakeview Rest Home**	14,277	7,339	7,047	10,000	8,500	8,500
10	714	33022	00510	**Building Maintenance - Courthouse**	31,875	80,120	79,301	65,000	67,500	72,500
10	714	33022	00703	**Building Maintenance - Walhalla Health Department**	5,604	8,852	10,770	6,000	7,000	6,000
10	714	33022	00716	**Building Maintenance - USDA Building**	723	175	1,544	1,500	1,000	1,000
10	714	33022	00723	**Building Maintenance - Pine Street**	44,706	63,979	32,957	55,000	30,000	25,000
10	714	33022	00729	**Building Maintenance - Brown Building**	2,208	3,574	6,675	3,500	3,000	3,000
10	714	34042	00109	**Gas and Fuel Oil - Probation and Parole**	1,619	1,328	1,240	2,000	1,500	1,750
10	714	34042	00270	**Gas and Fuel Oil - Oakway Intm**	5,771	6,979	5,185	7,250	6,000	6,250
10	714	34042	00410	**Gas and Fuel Oil - Walhalla Health**	157	160	179	200	200	200
10	714	34042	00510	**Gas and Fuel Oil - Courthouse**	29,533	30,942	21,784	33,000	25,000	25,000
10	714	34042	00723	**Gas and Fuel Oil - Pine Street**	2,194	3,209	2,448	3,500	3,000	3,500
10	714	34042	00729	**Gas and Fuel Oil - Brown Building**	1,373	1,940	1,751	2,000	2,000	2,000
10	714	34043	00000	**Electricity - Facilities Maintenance**	721	1,064	798	1,100	1,250	1,250
10	714	34043	00109	**Electricity - Probation and Parole**	4,142	4,602	4,699	5,700	5,000	5,000
10	714	34043	00270	**Electricity - Oakway School**	26,451	27,219	28,929	30,000	17,000	25,000
10	714	34043	00402	**Electricity - DSS Building**	38,178	40,718	44,607	42,000	42,000	42,000
10	714	34043	00403	**Electricity - Walhalla Health Department**	19,449	23,522	14,260	25,500	24,000	15,000
10	714	34043	00409	**Electricity - Foothills Alliance**	970	1,031	1,080	1,350	1,500	1,500
10	714	34043	00510	**Electricity - Courthouse**	66,693	73,156	78,001	76,500	76,000	75,000
10	714	34043	00723	**Electricity - Pine Street**	37,771	39,315	44,949	41,500	45,000	42,000
10	714	34043	00729	**Electricity - Brown Building**	12,959	10,505	10,852	13,500	12,500	11,000
10	714	34044	00000	**Water - Facilities Maintenance**	905	912	827	1,000	1,250	1,750
10	714	34044	00109	**Water - Probation and Parole**	972	1,027	1,362	1,350	1,200	1,200
10	714	34044	00270	**Water - Oakway School**	1,196	1,402	1,294	2,650	-	2,500
10	714	34044	00402	**Water - DSS Building**	3,550	3,945	3,774	4,000	4,500	4,500
10	714	34044	00403	**Water - Walhalla Health Department**	975	862	1,158	1,350	1,500	1,250
10	714	34044	00409	**Water - Foothills Alliance**	659	736	778	1,000	1,200	1,000
10	714	34044	00510	**Water - Courthouse**	3,677	4,635	4,051	4,250	4,500	4,250
10	714	34044	00723	**Water - Pine Street**	2,936	3,263	3,665	3,350	3,600	3,600
10	714	34044	00729	**Water - Brown Building**	1,381	2,002	1,646	1,800	2,000	2,000
10	714	40027	00000	**Safety Equipment**	3,625	3,421	3,841	3,600	3,500	3,500
10	714	40031	00000	**Small Equipment**	8,343	12,806	8,439	10,500	7,500	6,000
10	714	40032	00000	**Operational**	33,368	35,300	36,233	35,500	40,000	40,000
10	714	40034	00000	**Food**	-	-	-	-	500	500
10	714	40065	00000	**Uniforms/Clothing**	4,039	9,875	6,270	6,250	6,500	6,500
10	714	50870	00000	**Vehicles/Equip Capital**	-	-	11,306	-	-	
10	714	50884	00000	**Capital Department Paving**	-	-	30,168	-	-	

Oconee County, South Carolina
Facilities Maintenance (714)
2026-2027 Budget

Account Number	Description	FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2026 Budget	FY 2027 Departmental Request
10 714 80714 00000	**Vehicle Maintenance**	6,204	8,366	8,568	7,500	7,000	6,000
10 714 81714 00000	**Gasoline**	22,968	23,063	20,424	23,000	20,000	20,000
10 714 82714 00000	**Diesel**	-	33		-	-	
	Total Operational	485,825	590,261	575,575	568,150	514,250	507,550
	Total Salary & Fringe + Overtime + Operational	1,326,458	1,502,765	1,556,279	1,561,156	1,559,320	1,647,645

Direct Revenue

	FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2026 Budget	FY 2027 Budget
	-	-	-	-		-
Departmental Total Direct Revenue	-	-	-	-		-

Positions

	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027
Total Full Time Employees	15	15	15	15	15	15
	15	15	15	15	15	

Capital Project Requests—DSS Roof Repairs—See attached proposal from American Renovations dated 2/3/2026 353,000

Proposal

American Renovations, LLC
PO Box 67
17040 South Hwy 11
Fair Play, SC 29643
Office # 864-972-0619
Fax # 888-234-3994

DATE: FEBRUARY 3, 2026
PROJECT MANAGER-GARY CRAWFORD/ROBERT STOREY
STOREY356@GMAIL.COM

ROBERT STOREY
MOBILE# 864-213-7917
americanrenovationssc3@gmail.com

JOB NAME & LOCATION:
DSS OFFICE
ATTN: JASON NEAL
223 N KENNETH ST
WALHALLA, SC 29691

FOR: VERSICO TPO RECOVERING SYSTEM FLAT ROOF SECTION ONLY

TERMS:
Payment Upon Completion

DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
Remove All Debris from Roof Including Existing Pipe Boots	
Install 0.5" 4 x 8 Securock Cover Board with 8 Versico HPVX Screws and 8 Versico HPV Steel Plates per 4 x 8 Board	
Install Versico .060 mil TPO Seam shield White Versiweld with Protective Film 12" on center at Laps	
Install Versico TPO Molded Pipe Flashing White Versiweld at all Pipe Penetrations	
Install Versico Alum Termination Bar around Entire Perimeter 6" on center with HPVX Versico Fasteners	
Remove All Debris and Equipment	

WARRANTY: This roof system warrants a 20-year no dollar limit warranty (NDL). Please see attached warranty sample.	
Job cost	**$366,777.12**
Allowance: Permit	**-5,000.00**
Allowance: Lift (monthly)	**-3,800.00**
Allowance: Repair credit	**-5,900.00**
TOTAL	**$352,777.12**
*This quote is only for the flat roof sections of this building. This does not include any of the shingle roof sections/work that are attached to this building structure.	
*** All Materials & Labor Included.**	
****SC Labor Warranty Laws Apply**	
*****Remit payment to: PO BOX 67 Fair Play, SC 29643**	

***ATTENTION:**

***All materials are owned by American Renovations LLC until invoice is paid in full. 12% interest due every 30 days after completion date of unpaid balances.**

American Renovations LLC warrants to the property owner that the roof installation will be free of defects in workmanship. Should a failure occur due to defects in workmanship that may cause leakage or loss of shingles, American Renovations LLC will repair such problems by supplying labor and materials for up to 3 years.
The warranty items are to be repaired ONLY by American Renovations LLC and the customer must notify American Renovations LLC by calling (855) 200-4245 immediately of discovering the leak or problem with the roof. If these steps are not followed the warranty becomes null and void.

*Cannot be held responsible for any damage caused by house or property not being up to code i.e., any water pipes ran in the attic hit by nail, etc. or anything else not compliant with building codes.
* All Work will meet Manufactures Installation Specs.
* Workers Comp. & General Liability Policy in place.
* A Magnet will be thoroughly rolled during and after the job is complete.
Not Responsible for Leaks Due to Negligence of Maintenance of Roof, i.e.... Cleaning Debris such as Leaves and Limbs from Roof.

WE ARE NOT THE MANUFACTURE of ANY TYPES of MATERIALS & ARE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY Manufactures Material Warranty.

American Renovations Will Not & Can Not Be Held Responsible for Any Damage Caused by:
Acts of God, Hurricanes, Tornados, Microburst, Floods, National Disaster, ETC.
ALL WARRANTIES WILL BE VOIDED

IF CUSTOMER DOESN'T PAY FULL AMOUNT OF CONTRACT, AMERICAN RENOVATIONS IS ENTITLED TO COLLECTION AND ATTORNEY FEES.

_____

To Accept Proposal, Please Sign and Date
Price Good for Thirty Days
BY SIGNING THIS PROPOSAL,
THIS BECOMES A LEGAL BINDING CONTRACT

Oconee County, South Carolina
Vehicle Maintenance (721)
2026-2027 Budget

Account Number				Description	FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2026 Budget	FY 2027 Departmental Request
				Total Salary & Fringe	**884,960**	**859,938**	**841,181**	**931,163**	**1,119,269**	**1,184,418**
10	721	10710	00000	**Overtime**	3,691	6,722	13,212	5,000	7,500	8,000
				Total Overtime	**3,691**	**6,722**	**13,212**	**5,000**	**7,500**	**8,000**
10	721	30024	00000	**Equipment Maintenance**	4,570	9,460	3,574	6,800	7,200	7,400
10	721	30025	00000	**Professional**	7,593	-	-	-	-	
10	721	30056	00000	**Data Processing**	5,890	10,677	16,844	14,000	18,000	18,500
10	721	30059	00000	**Copier Click Charges**	1,445	1,722	1,698	1,500	1,700	1,800
10	721	30080	00000	**Dues: Organizations**	100	300	-	150	200	200
10	721	30084	00000	**Staff Development**	1,965	4,209	1,280	8,500	9,000	9,000
10	721	33022	00000	**Building/Grounds Maintenance**	4,364	5,379	4,343	5,500	4,400	4,600
10	721	34042	00000	**Gas and Fuel Oil**	3,257	4,291	4,042	4,500	4,800	5,000
10	721	34043	00000	**Electricity**	10,236	10,320	10,508	11,500	12,200	12,500
10	721	34044	00000	**Water/Sewer/Garbage**	2,044	2,163	1,923	2,500	2,500	2,600
10	721	40027	00000	**Safety Equipment**	5,016	5,927	5,512	6,500	7,000	7,200
10	721	40031	00000	**Small Equipment**	16,792	24,493	42,556	25,000	43,000	43,000
10	721	40032	00000	**Operational**	8,977	13,912	16,111	14,000	15,000	15,500
10	721	40033	00000	**Postage**	-	-	-	1,100	200	-
10	721	40034	00000	**Food**	374	499	1,005	750	750	750
10	721	40045	00000	**IT Replacement Equipment/Software**	1,122	-	891	2,500	2,700	2,700
10	721	40065	00000	**Uniforms/Clothing**	5,760	6,316	6,253	6,500	6,900	7,100
10	721	80721	00000	**Vehicle Maintenance - Vehicle Maintenance**	7,863	9,655	11,613	10,000	11,000	11,300
10	721	81721	00000	**Gasoline - Vehicle Maintenance**	15,064	16,667	15,922	15,000	16,000	16,500
10	721	82721	00000	**Diesel - Vehicle Maintenance**	650	107	374	500	400	400
				Total Operational Expenditures	**103,082**	**126,099**	**144,649**	**136,800**	**162,950**	**166,050**
				Total Salary & Fringe + Overtime + Operational	**991,733**	**992,759**	**999,042**	**1,072,963**	**1,289,719**	**1,358,468**

Direct Revenue

					FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2026 Budget	FY 2027 Budget
10	80	805	12032	Vehicle Maintenance Labor	-	-	-	-	-	-
				Departmental Total Direct Revenue	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**

Positions

	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027
Total Full Time Employees	14	14	14	14	14	
	14	**14**	**14**	**14**	**14**	

Oconee County, South Carolina
Information Technology (711)
2026-2027 Budget

Account Number				Description	FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2026 Budget	FY 2027 Departmental Request
				Total Salary & Fringe	**568,071**	**646,082**	**667,071**	**640,181**	**711,308**	**751,356**
10	711	30024	00000	**Equipment Maintenance**	79,020	51,156	154,182	177,000	190,000	190,000
10	711	30024	00073	**Equipment Maintenance - GIS**	55,000	55,000	64,038	59,000	60,300	60,300
10	711	30025	00000	**Professional**	7,547	2,227	3,306	12,000	12,000	6,000
10	711	30025	00073	**Professional - GIS**	14,573	11,573	14,073	19,500	19,500	24,500
10	711	30025	00371	**Professional-Website**	24,000	24,000	24,000	24,000	24,000	24,000
10	711	30037	00000	**Equipment - Leased/Rented**	40,630	-	36,197	37,000	37,000	-
10	711	30041	00000	**Telecommunications**	144,550	115,159	106,557	143,000	-	-
10	711	30056	00000	**Data Processing**	58,706	94,150	145,225	95,000	105,000	200,000
10	711	30059	00000	**Copier Click Charges**	345	289	573	350	400	400
10	711	30084	00000	**Staff Development**	750	2,470	2,873	5,000	6,000	6,000
10	711	40031	00000	**Small Equipment**	9,705	41,092	14,045	10,000	11,000	11,000
10	711	40031	00073	**Small Equipment - GIS**	-	-	1,030	1,500	1,500	1,500
10	711	40032	00000	**Operational**	2,943	5,092	6,573	5,500	6,000	6,000
10	711	40045	00000	**IT Replacement EQ/Software (All Dept)**	44,977	56,194	72,870	60,000	64,000	65,000
10	711	80711	00000	**Vehicle Maintenance**	1,740	3,176	3,960	2,000	2,000	2,000
10	711	81711	00000	**Gasoline**	3,987	3,877	3,835	4,000	4,500	4,500
				Total Operational	**488,473**	**465,455**	**653,337**	**654,850**	**543,200**	**601,200**
				Total Salary & Fringe + Operational	**1,056,544**	**1,111,537**	**1,320,408**	**1,295,031**	**1,254,508**	**1,352,556**

Direct Revenue

	FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2026 Budget	FY 2027 Budget
Departmental Total Direct Revenue	-	-	-	-	-	-

Positions

	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027
Total Full Time Employees	6	6	6	6	6	7

IT Overview

Oconee IT takes care of technology needs for most county offices (Pine St, Libraries, Clerk of Court, Magistrates, Emergency Services, VA, Airport, Quarry, Public Works, etc) and limited support to some outside organizations (Solicitors, Public Defenders, Court Administration, etc). This isn't a comprehensive list but a brief overview of the services we provide to our departments.

1. Infrastructure & Connectivity

If it works nobody notices; if it breaks everything stops.

- **Network & Wi-Fi:** The equipment that connects us to each other and the internet.
- **Servers & Storage:** Where we store data and run software. We manage the hardware and coordinate with vendors to keep the department's server software running.
- **Email Systems:** Ensuring county-wide communication is reliable and archived correctly.
- **Phones (VoIP and analog) and eFax:** Managing desk phones, monitoring, and back-end configuration.
- **Public Wi-Fi:** Installed and maintain public access Wi-Fi at the libraries and South Cove Park camping area.

2. End-User Support

This is the most visible part of IT that keeps everyone productive.

- **PC Repair & Replacement:** Managing the lifecycle of hardware from deploying new computers to replacing aging machines.
- **Software Licensing & Installs:** We purchase licenses for software ensuring everyone has the right tools to do their job (like Microsoft Office or Adobe)
- **Onboarding/Offboarding:** Setting up accounts for new hires and revoking access when someone leaves to protect county data.
- **Patch Management:** Nightly updates for software and Windows to reduce vulnerabilities

3. Security

Working behind the scenes to keep us safe.

- **Network Security:** Firewalls and monitoring systems that block hackers and malware from entering the county's network
- **Physical Security:** Manage badge readers, security cameras, etc.
- **Endpoint Security:** Software on PCs to block viruses, monitor system health, and make sure patches are up to date.
- **Cybersecurity Training:** Teaching employees how to spot "phishing" emails and use strong passwords.

4. Strategy & Continuity

Beyond daily fixes, IT plans for the future and for emergencies.

- **Backup & Disaster Recovery:** Maintain copies of all county server data. If a server dies or a building floods, backups ensure the county can be back online as quickly as possible.
- **IT Purchase Evaluation:** Assist with technology purchases to ensure departments get hardware and software that fits their needs and budget.
- **Technology policy:** Set rules to make sure we are operating safely and efficiently
- **County Website:** Design and maintain the website to make our services easy to find, and cut down on foot traffic by making information and forms available to the public.

GIS Challenges

GIS provides mapping and addressing services to all county offices in addition to state and local municipalities, businesses and industry, universities, and the public. GIS is also an integral part of Emergency Services for event response: providing support before, during, and after events.

Addressing is an important GIS function and as the country grows these requests also increase, with new subdivisions playing a big part. This is not merely clerical work; it requires a GIS professional managing the internal database to ensure data accuracy for 911, tax maps, etc. Since 2022 we have added 22 new subdivisions and currently have 23 new subdivisions pending.

Address requests also surged last year. The amount of research time necessary to complete this process can vary and could be up to 45 minutes each. Many projects have had to be scaled back or eliminated to account for the growth in this area.

Year	Address Requests	Daily Avg	% change (year over year)
2020	755	3	
2021	1005	4	+33%
2022	1332	5	+32%
2023	965	4	-27%
2024	913	4	-5%
2025	1471	6	+61%

Projects Scaled Back

State Mandated Next Gen 911
Road Centerline and Address Point Corrections
Drone Maps for Sheriff's Office
Crime Statistics Mapping
Nuclear Siren Binders
Parks and Rec Survey and map update
Special Needs mapping
Hydrant Project
ESN Project
Boundary Expansion Project
Tax Geocoding
County Partners Projects (local municipalities, OJRSA, etc).
Private individual and industry map requests
Economic Alliance Projects

Projects On-Hold

Drone Survey
GIS Webpage
Data Sharing Portal
Data Sharing Agreements, Policies and Guidelines
911 Addressing Policy review and updates
Soil Survey Mapping
Trail Survey and Trail naming
Industry Mapping
Capital Improvement mapping
County Road Atlas

GIS Position Request

Our GIS department currently operates with a single staff member responsible for the entirety of our spatial data, mapping, and 911 addressing. While this individual has maintained high standards, understaffing has resulted in bottlenecks for other departments and inconveniences for the public. I am requesting the hiring of a GIS Specialist to ensure continuity and meet increasing departmental demands.

Currently all institutional knowledge regarding our GIS infrastructure resides with one person. If this employee is unavailable due to illness, vacation, etc., our ability to provide mapping services stops. We would like someone who can share the workload as well as be fully trained as a "backup" for the current GIS Manager.

Also, as building and development has increased, the workload has increased. Relying on a single individual to manage data entry, system maintenance, site visits, custom map requests, and 911 addressing functions has become unsustainable. GIS has had to scale back larger project work to "keep the lights on" and minimize impact to county basic county functions. With an additional staff member, much more work could be done with other departments to fully utilize our GIS system in addition to reduction of turnaround time on day-to-day operations.

Improvements to departmental redundancy, cross-departmental support, and public service are the key goals with this hiring request. I would like to hire someone in the $60,000-$70,000 range to operate as the full equivalent of the GIS Manager.

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ESTATE AUCTION Sat. March 14 at 9:30 AM 158 Tribe Town Rd. Fairfax, SC. Enter at the site on John Flagg. Whole house. Brick ranch 1946, small farm implements, utility trailer, shop equipment, antique stools, power tools/hand tools, hardware tools, bed boxes, lumber, all kinds of clamps, vises, gauges, sockets, wrench, welding equip, etc. Auction is geared! We can't photo everything on the website. Come to auction expecting to see much more! Appealing Consignments! 803-660-0712 www.appealingauction.com

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REPORT YOUR LOST PET to Oconee County Animal Shelter 885-2229 or email info to: oconeeas@oconee.sc.gov
You may include a photo. We will contact you if we find your pet.

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Love, loving dogs & puppies. $85 adoption fee includes spay/neuter, vaccines, microchip. Take a wonderful companion home today! oconeehumane.org Call 885-4719

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Oconee Humane Society offers low-cost spay/neuter vouchers to ALL Oconee County residents. Find out more at oconeehumane.org or call 864-885-4719

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Auction May 24 @ 10:00 AM
Downtown Storage
6 Perry Ave, Seneca SC
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REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

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All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination" based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." The newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

LEGALS

Notice is hereby given that All In Self Storage, 1999 Old Clemson Hwy, Seneca, SC 29672, will put for cash at an ONLINE public auction on Tuesday December 16, 2025 at 11:00 am at StorageTreasures.com.
THIS AUCTION IS NOT IN PERSON. ALL AUCTIONS BUYER'S MUST SIGN UP AND BID ONLINE.
2001 - Signage Video
Contents: Household goods, appliances
1127 - Jane Kussey
Contents: Household goods, furniture

The Oconee County Transportation Commission will hold a special meeting at 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 17, 2026 in Oconee County Council Chambers located at 415 S. Pine St., Walhalla, SC

The Oconee County Budget, Finance and Administration Committee will hold a special meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 7, 2026 in Oconee County Council Chambers, located at 415 S. Pine St., Walhalla, SC

The Oconee County Solid Waste and Administration Committee will hold a special meeting at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, March 11, 2026 in Oconee County Council Chambers, located at 415 S. Pine St. Walhalla, SC.

The Oconee County Real Estate, Facilities and Land Management and the Planning and Economic Development Committee meetings scheduled for 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 7, 2026 have been CANCELLED

NOTICE OF APPLICATION
Notice is hereby given that Mach Family Legacy Parcel LLC intends to apply to the South Carolina Department of Revenue for a licensed/permit that will allow the sale and ON Premise consumption of beer & wine at 3578 Oconee School Rd Seneca, SC 29672.
In order to be considered at the permit hearing, written protest must be postmarked no later than March 9th, 2026. For a protest to be valid, it must be in writing, and should include the following information:
(1) The name, address and telephone number of the person filing the protest
(2) The specific reason why the application should be denied
(3) That the person protesting will be able to attend a hearing at one is requested by the applicant.
(4) That the person protesting resides in the same county where the proposed place of business is located or within two miles of the business and
(5) The name of the applicant and the address of the premises to be licensed. Protests must be mailed to S.C. Department of Revenue, ABL SECTION, P.O. Box 100, Columbia, SC 29214-0017.

Notice is hereby given that Legacy Marietta LLC DBA Bangle Blue #224 intends to apply to the South Carolina Department of Revenue for a license and/or permit that will allow the sale and all package consumption of beer and wine at 3384 W Oak Highway, Westminster, SC 29691. To object to the issuance of this license and/or permit, submit an ABL-30 protest form by March 16th, 2026

U.S. & WORLD BRIEFS

Trump rules out talks absent Iran's 'unconditional surrender' as Israel strikes Lebanon

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — U.S. President Donald Trump appeared Friday to rule out talks with Iran absent its "unconditional surrender." Israeli war planes bombed Beirut and Tehran as Iran launched more retaliatory strikes against Israel and Gulf countries on the seventh day of the war.

The strikes in Lebanon were the heaviest since a 2024 ceasefire ended the last war between Israel and the Iranian-backed Hezbollah militants, who fired rockets at Israel in the opening days of the war now underway. More than 95,000 people have fled Beirut's suburbs and southern Lebanon after sweeping Israeli evacuation warnings.

The U.S. and Israel have battered Iran with strikes, targeting its military capabilities, leadership and nuclear program. The stated goals and timelines for the war have repeatedly shifted, as the U.S. has at times suggested it seeks to topple Iran's government or elevate new leadership from within.

Meanwhile, Russia has provided Iran with information that could help Tehran strike the U.S. military, according to two officials familiar with U.S. intelligence on the matter. Russian President Vladimir Putin had a call Friday with Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian, expressing his condolences over the killing of Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, the Kremlin said.

In other developments, evidence emerged suggesting that an explosion that killed scores of Iranian students at a school was likely caused by U.S. airstrikes that also hit an adjacent compound associated with the regime's Revolutionary Guard.

Russia has provided Iran with information that can help Tehran strike US military, AP sources say

WASHINGTON (AP) — Russia has provided Iran with information that could help Tehran strike American warships, aircraft and other assets in the region, according to two officials familiar with U.S. intelligence on the matter.

The officials, who were not authorized to comment publicly on the sensitive matter and spoke on the condition of anonymity, cautioned that the U.S. intelligence has not uncovered that Russia is directing Iran on what to do with the information as the U.S. and Israel continue their bombardment and Iran fires retaliatory salvos at American assets and allies in the Persian Gulf.

Still, it's the first indication that Moscow has sought to get involved in the war that the U.S. and Israel launched on Iran a week ago. Russia is in the rare club of countries that maintains friendly relations with Tehran, which has faced years of isolation over its nuclear program and its support of proxy groups that have wreaked havoc in the Middle East, including Hezbollah, Hamas and the Houthis.

The White House downplayed reports that Russia was sharing intelligence with Iran about U.S. targets in the region. White House press secretary Karoline Leavitt on Friday told reporters that "it clearly is not making any difference with respect to the military operations in Iran because we are completely decimating them."

Leavitt declined to say if Trump had spoken to Russian President Vladimir Putin about the reported intelligence sharing or whether he believed Russia should face repercussions, saying she would let the president speak to that himself.

Oil surges to its highest price since 2023, and stocks drop after a weak update on the US job market

NEW YORK (AP) — Oil shot to its highest price since 2023 after surging again Friday because of the Iran war, and a weak update on the U.S. job market knocked stocks lower to cap Wall Street's worst week since October.

The S&P 500 dropped 1.3% after a report showed U.S. employers cut more jobs last month than they created and after oil prices spiked above $90 per barrel. The combination of a weak economy and high inflation is a worst-case scenario for investors because the Federal Reserve has no good tool to fix both problems at the same time.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average plunged as many as 945 points before finishing with a loss of 453, or 0.9%, and the Nasdaq composite sank 1.6%.

"You can't sugarcoat this report," according to Brian Jacobsen, chief economic strategist at Annex Wealth Management. "A negative payrolls number combined with a big jump in oil prices will have traders worrying about stagflation risks."

Stagflation is what economists call the miserable mix of a stagnating economy with high inflation, and a separate report released Friday added to the sourness after showing that U.S. retailers made less money in January than economists expected. It raised the disconcerting possibility that spending by U.S. households, the main engine of the economy, may be stretched near its maximum.

The US lost a surprising 92,000 jobs last month as the unemployment rate ticked up to 4.4%

WASHINGTON (AP) — American employers unexpectedly cut 92,000 jobs last month, a sign that the labor market remains under strain. The unemployment rate blipped up to 4.4%.

Hiring deteriorated from January, when companies, nonprofits and government agencies added a healthy 126,000 jobs, the Labor Department reported Friday. Economists had expected 60,000 new jobs in February.

Revisions also cut 69,000 jobs from December and January payrolls.

The surprisingly weak employment picture in February adds to the economic uncertainty over the war with Iran, which has caused oil prices to surge and saddled business and consumers with unforeseen costs.

"The job market is struggling in the face of so many headwinds," said Heather Long, chief economist at Navy Federal Credit Union. "Companies are going to be even more reluctant to hire this spring until the war ends and they can see consumers still spending. It's a tense time for the U.S. economy."

Evidence suggests the deadly blast at an Iranian school was likely a US airstrike

JERUSALEM (AP) — Satellite images, expert analysis, a U.S. official and public information released by the U.S. and Israeli militaries suggest an explosion that killed scores of Iranian students at a school was likely caused by U.S. airstrikes that also hit an adjacent compound associated with the regime's Revolutionary Guard.

The Feb. 28 strike, which had the highest reported civilian death toll since the war began, has come under staunch criticism from the United Nations and human rights monitors. More than 165 people were killed, most of them children, in the blast during school hours at Shajareh Tayyebeh Elementary School, according to Iranian state media.

Satellite images taken Wednesday and reviewed by the The Associated Press show most

SEE U.S. & WORLD BRIEFS, PAGE D6

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HOUSES FOR SALE

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All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitations or discrimination" based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

LEGALS

Public Notice

Linda A. Tray[illegible] the South Carolina Department [illegible] Health and Environmental Control [illegible] Construction in Navigable Waters Permit to remove 177 cubic yards of silt by using an excavator on a barge at the edge of the shoreline and transported by barge to the off-load staging area. The silt will be removed from under and around the privately owned dock located at 122 Fair Haven Ct in Seneca, SC on Lake Keowee. Comments will be received by South Carolina Department of health and Environmental Control at 2600 Bull St, Columbia SC 29201, ATTN: Charles Hightower, Division of Water Quality, until January 23, 2025.

Public Notice

Sharon Swindale has applied to the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control for a Construction in Navigable Waters Permit to remove 256 cubic yards of silt by using an excavator on a barge at the edge of the shoreline and transported by barge to the off-load staging area. The silt will be removed from under and around the privately owned dock located at 13058 Janda Road in Seneca, SC on Lake Keowee. Comments will be received by South Carolina Department of health and Environmental Control at 2600 Bull St, Columbia SC 29201, ATTN: Charles Hightower, Division of Water Quality, until January 23, 2025.

The Oconee County Aeronautics Commission meeting scheduled for Thursday January 29, 2026 has been canceled.

The meeting will instead be held on Tuesday January 27, 2026 at 3:30 pm in the Oconee County Chambers located at 415 S. Pine St, Walhalla, SC.

MEETING NOTICE OF THE PIONEER RURAL WATER DISTRICT

5500 West-Oak Hwy., Westminster, SC
Tuesday January 13, 2026 @ 3:00 pm

Agenda:
Call To Order
Concerns of the District
Limited: 2 citizens per meeting. for 5 minutes,
prior scheduling required.
Agenda & Non Agenda Items: Combined both
are limited to a total of forty (40) minutes, four
(4) minutes per person.
Approval of Minutes
Financial Report / System Report
Treatment Plant PER Discussion
Old Business
New Business
Adjourn

The Oconee County Council will meet in 2026 on the first and third Tuesday of
each month with the following exceptions:

June and November meetings, which will be
only on the third Tuesday of each of these
months: October and December meetings, which will be only on the first Tuesday of each of these
months.

All Council meetings, unless otherwise noted, are held in Council Chambers, Oconee County Administrative Offices, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, South Carolina.
Oconee County Council will also hold a Planning Retreat beginning at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, February 20, 2026 to establish short- and long-term goals. This meeting will be held off-site at Tri-County Technical College, Oconee Campus,
conference room located at 552 Education Way, Westminster, South Carolina.
Oconee County Council will also meet on Tuesday, January 5, 2027 in Council Chambers at which point they will establish their 2027 Council and Committee meeting schedules.
Additional Council meetings, workshops, and/or committee meetings may be added throughout the year as needed.
Oconee County Council Committees will meet in 2026 prior to County Council meetings on the following dates/times in Council Chambers located at 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, South Carolina unless otherwise advertised.
The Law Enforcement, Public Safety, Health, & Welfare Committee at 4:30 p.m. on the following dates: February 17, May 19, July 21, & September 15, 2026.
The Transportation Committee at 4:30 p.m. on the following dates: February 17, May 19, July 21, & September 15, 2026.
The Real Estate, Facilities, & Land Management Committee at 4:30 p.m. on the following dates: April 7, June 16, August 18, & October 06, 2026.
The Planning & Economic Development Committee at 4:30 p.m. on the following dates: April 7, June 16, August 18, & October 06, 2026.
The Budget, Finance, & Administration Committee at 9:00 a.m. on the following dates: Friday, February 20th [Strategic Planning Retreat], Friday, February 27th [Budget Workshop] and 4:30 p.m. on the following dates: March 3, April 21, & May 5, 2026.

The Corinth-Shiloh Fire Commission will meet during 2026 on the third Thursday of each month. All Commission meetings, unless otherwise noted, will be held at the Corinth-Shiloh Fire Department, 940 Old Clemson Highway, Seneca, SC 29672, at 6:00 p.m. in the training room.

The Commission will hold two budget workshops on Tuesday, February 12, and Tuesday, March 6, at 6:00 p.m. at the fire department. The annual budget meeting will be held on Thursday, March 19, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

Additional Commission meetings and/or workshops may be scheduled throughout the year as needed. A monthly schedule is available at the fire department.

Members of the Commission are invited to attend Corinth-Shiloh Volunteer Fire Department meetings, trainings, and community activities. These events will have no Commission agenda items and no Commission action will be taken. The monthly department meeting is held on the first Monday of each month. Training is held on the third Monday of each month, as well as the Saturday following the third Monday. A monthly schedule of activities, including dates and times,
is available at the fire department.

Several fire department ceremonies are planned for 2026, to which the Fire Commission is invited. These events will have no Commission agenda items and no Commission action will be taken. Scheduled events include Meet the Chief on January 15 from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., and
the Transfer of Command on Friday, February 27, at 6:00 p.m. Summer and fall family events, Station Open Houses and other community fire department events, and the annual Christmas dinner has not yet been scheduled. Once
finalized, dates, times, and locations will be available at the fire department. These events will have no Commission agenda items and no Commission action will be taken.

Commission agendas will be available and publicized no later than the day prior to the scheduled meeting and/or workshop at
www.corinthshilohfd.com. All meetings and workshops, with the exception of executive sessions, are open to the public.

CLASSIFIEDS WORK!

Sec. 2-61. - Access to and conduct at county meetings, facilities and property.

(a) *Purpose.* The county council has determined that it is necessary to regulate access to county facilities, grounds and property in order to ensure the safety and security of the public who visit these areas or the county employees who serve them. The conduct of persons who visit county facilities and/or who have contact with county employees must also be regulated to preserve public order, peace and safety. The regulation of access and conduct must be balanced with the right of the public to have reasonable access to public facilities and to receive friendly, professional service from county employees. These regulations apply to all county facilities and meetings, as defined below, for and over which county council exercises control and regulation, and to the extent, only, not pre-empted by state or federal law.

(b) *Definitions.* The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this section, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this subsection, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

Facility means any building, structure, or real property owned, leased, rented, operated or occupied by the county or one of its departments, offices or agencies.

Meeting means any assemblage of persons for the purpose of conducting county governmental business, operations or functions or any assemblage of persons within a county governmental facility. The term "meeting" includes, but is not limited to, county council meetings, county board and committee and staff meetings, trials, hearings and other proceedings conducted in the courts of general sessions and common pleas, family court, master-in-equity, probate court and magistrate's court; and other meetings by entities duly authorized by the county council.

(c) *Prohibited acts.* It shall be unlawful for any person to:

(1) Utter loud, obscene, profane, threatening, disruptive or abusive language or to engage in any disorderly or disruptive conduct that impedes, disrupts or disturbs the orderly proceedings of any meeting, or operations of any department or function of the county government, including, without limitation, speaking when not explicitly recognized and authorized to do so by the presiding official in such meeting.

(2) Bring, carry, or otherwise introduce any firearm, knife with blade longer than two inches or other dangerous weapon, concealed or not concealed, into any facility or meeting. This prohibition does not apply to law enforcement personnel or any other person whose official, governmental duties require them to carry such firearm, knife, or other weapon.

(3) Engage in partisan political activity, including speech, in any meeting not authorized and called for the purpose of partisan political activity and explicitly authorized for such purpose in the facility in which such activity is to be conducted, or refusing to cease such activity when

(d) *Penalty for violation of section.* Any person violating the provisions of this section shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, shall be punished in accordance with section 1-7. In addition, vehicles that are improperly parked on any county property, facility, or other premises may be towed at the owner's expense.

(Ord. No. 2003-04, §§ 1—4, 4-15-2003; Ord. No. 2012-06, § 1, 4-3-2012)