

- February 01 Attended the Oconee County Infrastructure Advisory Commission meeting.
- February 02 Participated in AdvanceSC Board of Directors Tele-conference.
- February 03 Meeting with Project Sunshine management team, legal counsel and EDC Project and Marketing Manager.
- February 06 Education Foundation of Oconee County fund raiser planning committee meeting regarding the 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament.
- Meeting with the Human Resource Director.
- February 07 FY 2012-2013 Budget proposal review with staff.
- Attended the Oconee County Council meeting. Agenda item: Mountain Lakes Business Development Center update.
- February 08 Attended meeting of the Oconee County AgriBusiness collaborative planning committee held at the Westminster Library.
- Participated in the WorkLink Workforce-Education Committee meeting held at BorgWarner.
- February 09 Attended the Oconee Alliance monthly meeting.
- Meeting with retiree who recently re-located to Oconee County and is interested in involvement with Oconee County Industrial Group and/or MLBDC.
- February 10 Office visit with representatives of the YMCA Project.
- Hosted Stakeholders meeting involved with the Golden Corner Commerce Park Master Plan being designed by Seamon Whiteside & Associates. Meeting held at the Blue Ridge Electric Cooperative Oconee facility.
- February 9-10 (Staff Training) Project and Marketing Manager attended the SC Institute, Session I, held in Mount Pleasant, SC.
- February 13 Meeting to review activities with member of County Council.
- Participated in the Mountain Lakes Business Development Center Board of Directors meeting held at the EDC.
- Attended the Education Foundation Fund Raising Committee meeting.
- February 14 Attended the OA-SHRM (Oconee Area-Society of Human Resource Managers) monthly meeting held at OMC, Seneca.

## February 2012-Directors Report

- February 14 Meeting with former Oconee County resident planning to return to area and relocate business.
- February 15 Working with Oconee County Map Room designing industrial park planning maps.
- Attended the Upstate SC Alliance Local Developers meeting held at the Alliance office in Greenville, SC.
- Meeting with the Economic Development Commission Chairman for pre-meeting planning session.
- February 16 Meeting with members of the MLBDC Board of Directors to review activities.
- Participated in interview process for EDC Directors position.
- Meeting with representative of URS engineering firm and PRT Director for input to planning of the Echo Hill Industrial Park.
- February 17 Economic Development Commission meeting.
- EDC Directors position interview session.
- Staff attended the monthly OCIG meeting hosted by BorgWarner.
- February 20 Oconee County offices closed in observance of Presidents' Day.
- February 21 Attended Business-Education Partnership meeting.
- Working with Project Move. Showed client the shell building and provided information on other buildings and sites along with a PowerPoint presentation.
- Meeting with member of the Education Foundation and Clemson Outdoor Lab Board member.
- Attended the MGT Salary and Compensation Study introductory meeting at the Administrator's office.
- Attended the County Council meeting. Agenda Item: Change order for URS to furnishing engineering and development direction for Echo Hills.
- February 22 Attended the 2012 workforce Development Partnership Symposium held at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center.
- February 23 Office meeting with local developer interested in I-85 property and potential project.

- February 24 Meeting with representative of the Clemson Marina Revitalization Project.
- Attended the unveiling of the Rosenwald School Placement in the National Register of Historical Places and Third African American S.C. Historical Marker in Oconee County event held at the Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, Westminster, SC.
- February 27 Working on compiling data and financial information regarding Project Sunshine.
- Office meeting with representative of the Blue Ridge Electric Cooperative involved with industrial park development.
- Meeting with UNC Statistician regarding IT strategic Review for Oconee County.
- February 28 Meeting with management team of Project Move along with representatives from Tri-County Technical College, ReadySC Program, SC Department of Commerce and commercial/Industrial building contractor.
- February 29 Attended the Upstate SC alliance, First Quarter Meeting, Lewis Gossett, President & CEO, SC Manufacturers Alliance, guest speaker. Meeting held at the Embassy Suites, Greenville, SC.

*James*

James W. Alexander  
Director



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Oconee County Assistant Administrator for Emergency and External Services, Glenn Breed at 864-916-7561

## OCONEE COUNTY HIRES ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

T. Scott Moulder  
Administrator  
Oconee County  
Administrative Offices  
415 South Pine Street  
Walhalla, SC 29691

Phone: 864-638-4245  
Fax: 864-638-4246

E-mail:  
[smoulder@oconeesc.com](mailto:smoulder@oconeesc.com)

### COUNCIL

Paul Corbett  
District I

Wayne McCall  
District II

Archie Barron  
District III

Joel Thrift  
District IV  
Chairman

Reginald T. Dexter  
District V

**WALHALLA** - Oconee County is excited to announce the hiring of our new Economic Development Director, Mr. Richard Blackwell, former Vice-President of the Upstate Alliance.

At the Alliance, Blackwell was responsible for: fundraising, contributor services, event planning, public affairs, media relations, liaison to the Upstate local developers, management of the business development process and all forms of communications. Blackwell has worked in politics, government relations and local economic development since 1998.

Blackwell holds a Masters in Public Administration from the University of South Carolina and a B.A degree in Political Science / Public Relations also from the University of South Carolina.

He has finished the Basic Economic Development Course through Georgia Tech, received a Certificate in Non-Profit Management from Duke University, is a graduate of two Leadership Programs and was selected as one of the "Best & Brightest" in Greenville in 2008.

He is a participant in the South Carolina Economic Developers Association's Advanced Symposium. Upon successful completion of The Symposium later this year, he will have earned the "SC Certified Economic Developer" (SCCED) certification.

Blackwell's appointment follows current Economic Development Director Jim Alexander's retirement announcement from last fall. Alexander is slated to retire this June.

"We are extremely excited to welcome Richard to our team," County Administrator Scott Moulder said Friday. "I think Richard's unique skillsets and training will be a great asset to our County."

Mr. Blackwell is slated to begin in early April.

#####





Richard K. Blackwell  
Director  
Oconee County  
Economic Development Commission  
April 2, 2012