



SOUTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES

Paul A. Cain, President
Oconee County

Timothy C. Winslow
Executive Director

Aug. 4, 2021

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NOTE: Upon request, a photo of SCAC's newly elected president will be provided by e-mail.

Contact: Stuart Morgan
Public Information Director

SCAC ELECTS PRESIDENT, OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL VICE CHAIRMAN PAUL A. CAIN

SCAC ELECTS OTHER OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

SCAC elected officers for 2021–22 and re-elected board members at its 2021 Annual Conference, held July 30 – Aug. 3.

Elected PRESIDENT was Oconee County Council Vice Chairman Paul A. Cain. He succeeds Orangeburg County Council Chairman Johnnie Wright Sr., who served as 2020–21 SCAC President.

“I am deeply honored and grateful to have the opportunity to serve as president of SCAC this year,” said SCAC President Paul A. Cain. “The past 18 months have been the most challenging of my political career, and I’m sure the same goes for my colleagues in South Carolina. Throughout these difficult times, the wonderful people of SCAC have stood beside us and at the ready to assist all counties with scores of novel issues that we have been forced to deal with. I look forward to working with each of you as we continue to build on the solid foundation that has been laid by SCAC.

“Thanks to your support, the hard work of the SCAC staff, and our friends in the General Assembly, we have enjoyed success in driving policy in South Carolina for more than 54 years,” Cain added. “Once again, in order for SCAC to be the most effective advocate for our counties’ interests, we need all hands-on deck to assist with the development of our policy positions. Please do not discount the huge impact that our relationships and positive communication with our legislators can make. Please do take a few minutes to read SCAC’s *Friday Reports* and *Legislative Alerts*, and, when called up, please reach out to our friends in the General Assembly.”

SCAC’s newly elected president offered some advice to anyone who has not been vaccinated.

“I strongly encourage everyone to get vaccinated,” said Cain, noting that he and his wife, Amy, were vaccinated mid-April against COVID-19. “As we see the rise in the highly-contagious Delta variant of the COVID-19, we also see serious illnesses and deaths rise throughout South Carolina. At this point in the pandemic, almost all of the people who are dying are unvaccinated.

“If you don’t want to get vaccinated for your own safety,” he pleaded, “please at least think about your family and friends who would be devastated if you passed away from COVID-19, and get vaccinated for them.”

Cain, who has practiced law since 2011, is managing attorney for the Cain Law Firm LLC (formerly Cain & Williams, Ltd. Co.) in Seneca. He is also co-owner of Magnetic South Brewery, located in Anderson, Clemson and Greenville.

He was first elected to Oconee County Council (District III) in 2014. He served as council vice chair in 2015 and as council chair in 2016, and has served as council vice chair since 2019.

Cain has served on the following Oconee County Council committees: Budget, Finance & Administration (Chair in 2016); Planning & Economic Development (Chair in 2015, and since 2017); and Real Estate, Facilities & Land Management (Chair in 2014).

He received his Bachelor of Science in Retail Management in 2006 from the University of South Carolina in Columbia, and his Juris Doctor in 2010 from the Charleston School of Law

“Paul Cain brings an energetic and intelligent approach to leadership. His enthusiasm is contagious,” said SCAC Executive Director Tim Winslow. “Oconee County has been fortunate to have Paul as a county leader for many years. SCAC staff cannot wait to have Paul lead us into 2022.”

SCAC ELECTS OTHER OFFICERS

SCAC elected other officers as follows: FIRST VICE PRESIDENT—Debra B. Summers, Lexington County Council; SECOND VICE PRESIDENT—Roy Costner III, Pickens County Council Vice Chairman; THIRD VICE PRESIDENT—William E. Robinson, Allendale County Council; SECRETARY—Steve Willis, Lancaster County Administrator; and TREASURER—Belinda D. Copeland, Darlington County.

SCAC ELECTS BOARD MEMBERS

SCAC elected five board members to four-year terms (to expire 2025): Julie J. Armstrong, Charleston County Clerk of Court; Steven J. Brown, Greenwood County Council Chairman; D. Paul Sommerville, Beaufort County Council Vice Chairman; Cecil M. Thornton Jr., Calhoun County Council; and Robert Winkler, York County Council Vice Chairman. SCAC voted for Dwight L. Stewart Jr. (Clarendon County Council Chairman), SCAC’s Immediate Past President for 2020–21, to serve the unexpired term (to expire in 2023) of SCAC Third Vice President William E. Robinson (Allendale County Council).

SCAC, chartered on June 22, 1967, is a nonprofit and nonpartisan organization whose membership includes all 46 counties in South Carolina. Governed by a 29-member board of directors elected each year by county officials at the Association’s annual conference, SCAC is the only organization representing county governments in the state.

The Association provides a number of services, programs, and activities to county governments and their officials, including: research and technical assistance; education and training; legal assistance; policy development, advocacy, and legislative information; publications, including a magazine and newsletter; meetings and conferences; public information, including an annual directory and website; and financial services, including the S.C. Counties Workers’ Compensation Trust and S.C. Counties Property & Liability Trust.

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