

2026

SCAC
Annual
Conference



46
TOGETHER

July 27-30

Wild Dunes Resort

Table of CONTENTS

1	WELCOME FROM THE PRESIDENT
2	2026-27 OFFICERS
3	2026-27 BOARD OF DIRECTORS
4	GENERAL INFORMATION
5	SCHEDULE
10	SPEAKERS
12	CORPORATE PARTNERS
14	MAP

All event information in this booklet is as of June 17, 2026. For the latest information and for full details, please use the SCAC conference app.

WELCOME FROM THE PRESIDENT



Mary D. Anderson SCAC President Chesterfield County

Welcome to the 2026 South Carolina Association of Counties Annual Conference. Thank you for taking time from your busy schedules to join us on the Isle of Palms for a few days of learning, connection and collaboration.

This conference is one of our most valuable opportunities as county leaders to come together—rural and urban, large and small—to share ideas and strengthen relationships. Each of our counties is strong on its own, but we are even stronger when we are woven together with a shared purpose.

Over the next several days, I encourage you to take full advantage of all the conference has to offer. From Institute of Government courses to workshops and committee meetings, these sessions are designed to provide practical tools and fresh perspectives you can bring back to your communities. You will also have opportunities to engage with statewide leaders, recognize the achievements of your peers and celebrate the progress we continue to make together as counties.

This year, we are especially excited to expand our educational offerings with new Advanced Level Certification courses—an important step in developing experienced, forward-thinking county leadership. As the challenges facing local government evolve, so must we.

Just as important as the sessions are the conversations in between. Whether during receptions or informal gatherings, I hope you will connect with colleagues, exchange ideas and build relationships that strengthen your work long after this week ends.

SCAC is your Association, and its strength comes from your participation. When we listen, learn and work together, we create a fabric of leadership and collaboration that supports all 46 counties and the people we serve.

Thank you for your commitment to county government. It is an honor to serve alongside you.

Sincerely,
Mary D. Anderson

2025-26 OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Mary D. Anderson

Chesterfield County Council Chairwoman

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

C. David Chinnis

Dorchester County Council Chairman

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

Cecil M. Thornton Jr.

Calhoun County Council Vice Chairman

THIRD VICE PRESIDENT

W. Brian Carnes

Lancaster County Council Chairman

SECRETARY

Charles T. Edens

Sumter County Council

TREASURER

Julie J. Armstrong

Charleston County Clerk of Court

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

William E. Robinson

Allendale County Council Chairman

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Terms Expire 2029

Larry Haynes, Bamberg County Council Vice Chairman
Theo Lane, Greenwood County Council Chairman
Jesica Mackey, Richland County Council Chairwoman
Jason P. Phillips, Anderson County Treasurer
Lynn Sturkie, Lexington County Administrator

Terms Expire 2028

John Q. Atkinson Jr., Marion County Council Vice Chairman
Alphonso Bradley, Florence County Council
Joseph F. Passiment, Beaufort County Council
Timothy F. Spencer, Cherokee County Council Chairman
Johnnie Wright Sr., Orangeburg County Council Chairman

Terms Expire 2027

Benton Blount, Greenville County Council Chairman
Cam Crawford, Horry County Council
Tim Harper, Dillon County Administrator
Brown Patterson, Laurens County Council
Phillp M. Taylor Sr., Colleton County Council

Terms Expire 2026

Daniel Alexander, Barnwell County Council
Charles T. Jennings, McCormick County Council Vice Chairman
Sammie Tucker Jr., Kershaw County Council

SC Counties Insurance Trusts Chairman

Cecil M. Thornton Jr., Calhoun County Council Vice Chairman

NACo Board Representative

Waymon Mumford, Florence County Council

GENERAL INFORMATION

APP

The SCAC event app contains the information published in this program, as well as any updated information. Download it from the App Store or Google Play by searching for “SC Counties.” Or scan the QR code below. Visit the registration desk to get assistance with the conference app.

App Store



Google Play



REGISTRATION

Institute of Government and conference participants are required to register at SCAC’s registration desk in the Palms Foyer of the SGP Conference Center. Pick up your registration packet, including your badge at the registration desk.

Name badges are required at all SCAC events and meetings.

Participants may register at the following times:

- **Monday, July 27** – 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- **Tuesday, July 28** – 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- **Wednesday, July 29** – 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

INCLUDED FOOD AND BEVERAGES

The **Institute of Government** registration fee covers the cost of coffee/beverage breaks (Monday morning/afternoon and Tuesday morning) and a boxed lunch (Monday) for **Institute participants only**.

For delegates, the registration fee for the **Annual Conference** covers the cost of coffee/beverage breaks in the Exhibit Hall (Tuesday afternoon/Wednesday morning and afternoon), breakfast and a boxed lunch (Wednesday). For delegates and their guest, the fee includes the Welcome Reception (Tuesday) and Closing Reception (Wednesday).

All registered participants and guests must wear a name badge during all Annual Conference and Institute of Government events and food/beverage functions.

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Institute of Government

MONDAY
07.27

- 9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.** **Registration Open**
Palms Foyer, SGP Conference Center
- 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.** **Level I: County Government Finance [R]**
Osprey 1-4, Sweetgrass Inn
- Level I: Developing Successful Intergovernmental Relations [E]**
Palmetto Hall, behind the SGP Conference Center
- Level II: Economic Development**
Palms 1-5, SGP Conference Center
- 1 p.m.** **Institute of Government Graduation Photos (for those not present 7/29)**
Palms 6-8, SGP Conference Center
- 1 – 2 p.m.** **Boxed Lunches (Institute Registrants Only - Ticket Required)**
Palms 6-8, SGP Conference Center
- 1 – 5 p.m.** **Exhibit Area Open**
Palms Foyer + Tides Ballroom, SGP Conference Center
- 2 – 5 p.m.** **Level I: The Policy Role of Council [R]**
Palms 1-5, SGP Conference Center
- Advanced: AI Considerations for Your County**
Osprey 1-4, Sweetgrass Inn



TUESDAY
07.28

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Institute of Government/Conference

- 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.** **Registration Open**
Palms Foyer, SGP Conference Center
- 8 a.m.** **Worship Service**
Indigo Room, Sweetgrass Inn (6th floor)
- 8:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.** **Exhibit Area Open**
Palms Foyer + Tides Ballroom, SGP Conference Center
- 9 – 11 a.m.** **Advanced: Advocacy Tools & Tips**
Osprey 1-4, Sweetgrass Inn
- 9 a.m. – Noon** **Level I: Strategic Governance [E]**
Palms 1-5, SGP Conference Center
- Level II: Employment Law: What Counties Should Know**
Palmetto Hall, behind the SGP Conference Center
- 9:15 a.m.** **Constitution, Resolutions and Bylaws Committee Meeting** (see next page)
Boardroom, Boardwalk Inn
- 9:30 a.m.** **Nominating Committee Meeting** (see next page)
Club Room, Boardwalk Inn



(Continued on pg. 8)

Constitution, Resolutions and Bylaws Committee Meeting

Resolutions approved by this committee will be submitted for the approval of the membership at the general session on Wednesday, July 29.

SCAC considers resolutions dealing with all matters that affect county government and the Association. Proposed resolutions should be presented in writing to the committee chairman prior to or at the July 28 meeting.

- **Chairman – Charles T. Edens**
Sumter County Council
- **Daniel Alexander**
Barnwell County Council
- **W. Brian Carnes**
Lancaster County Council Chairman
- **Phillip M. Taylor Sr.**
Colleton County Council
- **Sammie Tucker Jr.**
Kershaw County Council

Nominating Committee Meeting

Nominations will be accepted for SCAC's 2026-27 slate of officers and board members at this meeting. Following the submission of nominations, the committee will meet and issue a report, which will be posted at the SCAC registration desk.

Nominations may also be accepted from the floor during Wednesday's general session, immediately before the election by the membership.

- **Chairman – William E. Robinson**
Allendale County Council Chairman
- **John Q. Atkinson Jr.**
Marion County Council Vice Chairman
- **Joseph F. Passiment**
Beaufort County Council
- **Brown Patterson**
Laurens County Council
- **Jason Phillips**
Anderson County Treasurer

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Institute of Government/Conference

- 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.** **Rural Caucus Meeting**
Palms 4-8, SGP Conference Center
- Urban Caucus Meeting**
Palms 1-3, SGP Conference Center
- 1:30 – 5 p.m.** **Clerks to Councils Meeting**
Palmetto Hall, behind the SGP Conference Center
- Councils of Governments Meeting**
Avocet Boardroom, Sweetgrass Inn
- 2:30 p.m.** **At The Movies Snack Break**
Tides Ballroom, SGP Conference Center
- 2:45 – 3:45 p.m.** **County Managers, Administrators & Supervisors Meeting**
Palms 4-8, SGP Conference Center
- 3 – 5 p.m.** **South Carolina Coalition of Black County Officials Meeting**
Club Room, Boardwalk Inn
- 6 – 7 p.m.** **Welcome Reception**
Osprey Ballroom, Sweetgrass Inn
- Reception sponsored by
 The Electric Cooperatives of South Carolina
- Table Sponsors**
Osprey Foyer, Sweetgrass Inn

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Conference

WEDNESDAY
07.29

- 8:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.** **Registration Open**
Palms Foyer, SGP Conference Center
- 8:30 – 10 a.m.** **Legislative Power Hour & Breakfast**
Osprey Ballroom, Sweetgrass Inn
- Table Sponsors**
Osprey Foyer, Sweetgrass Inn
- 10 a.m. – Noon** **Exhibit Area Open**
Palms Foyer + Tides Ballroom, SGP Conference Center
- 10:30 a.m. – Noon** **General Session**
Palms Ballroom, SGP Conference Center
- Noon** **Institute of Government Graduation Photos**
Palms Ballroom, SGP Conference Center
- 12:15 – 1:15 p.m.** **Workshop: Federal & State Legislative Lightning Round with Boxed Lunches (Conference Registrants Only)**
Palmetto Hall, behind the SGP Conference Center
- Lunches sponsored by
 National Association of Counties (NACo)
- 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.** **Workshop: The Cost of Litter: Economic Impacts and County Solutions**
Palms 1-3, SGP Conference Center
- Workshop: County Leadership for Conservation and Stewardship**
Palms 4-5, SGP Conference Center
- Workshop: Understanding Your State Retirement Benefits**
Palms 6-8, SGP Conference Center
- 6:30 – 10 p.m.** **Closing Reception**
Osprey Ballroom + Patio, Sweetgrass Inn

SPEAKERS



The Honorable George Dunlap NACo President

George Dunlap was elected NACo President in July and is currently serving on the Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners, where he has served as chairman for the last 6 terms.

A retired law enforcement officer of 27 years, he also served in the military for 13 years. A former Charlotte-Mecklenburgh School Board member for 13 years, George is a lifelong public servant. He also held various roles at the local and national levels in service to his community. He is a former chairman of Mecklenburg County's Effective and Efficient Government Committee, a member of the Public Safety Committee, a member of the Economic Development Committee, and as the liaison to the Mecklenburg County Fire Commission.

George was previously appointed by the N.C. governor to serve on the N.C. Criminal Justice Training and Standards Commission. He is a member of the Board of Directors for the N.C. Association of County Commissioners, N.C. Sheriffs Education and Training Standards Commission, Smart Start Board of Directors, and a Fellow on the Broad Institute of Governance. George received his master's degree in public administration and his Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.



Nataly Kogan Entrepreneur/Artist/Author

Nataly Kogan is an entrepreneur, artist and expert on change and reinvention. She is the creator of REINVENT•ABILITY™, a framework that helps leaders shift from resisting change to using it as their catalyst. She built a career spanning McKinsey, Microsoft, venture capital, and five tech startups.

At the peak of her success, Nataly burned out, which became the catalyst for the REINVENT•ABILITY™ Framework she now brings to leaders and organizations navigating change. Her work has been featured in The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, Harvard Business Review, and Forbes. She is the best-selling author of “Happier Now,” “The Awesome Human Project,” and “The Awesome Human Journal,” and hosts the “Dare Yourself” podcast.

CORPORATE PARTNERS

Our thanks to the following corporate partners for their generous support of the Association at the Annual Conference and throughout the year. Their support allows us to provide a quality conference program for our county officials with minimal impact on county expenditures.

*Visit these Corporate Partners and connect with the NACo representative in the Exhibit Hall.

**Visit these Corporate Partners during the Welcome Reception and Legislative Power Hour and Breakfast.

PLATINUM



Alliance Consulting
Engineers, Inc.*



Actions Speak Louder
Dominion Energy
South Carolina*



GovDeals*

GOLD



Data Network
Solutions*



ECS Southeast*



The Electric
Cooperatives of South
Carolina



First Citizens Bank*



Gov World Auctions*



Luck Ecosystems*



Strata Clean Energy**



Empowering people who serve the public*

Tyler Technologies,
Inc.*

CORPORATE PARTNERS

SILVER

Ajax Building*
AmeriPro Health*
Burr & Forman LLP
Cumming Group
Davis & Floyd
Keck & Wood, Inc.*
Moseley*
PUBLIQ Software*

RX180*
South Carolina Power Team
SSOE, Inc.*
Stewart-Cooper-Newell Architects, P.A.*
Thompson Turner Construction*
Tremco Roofing and Building
Maintenance*

BRONZE

AT&T
Brightly Software**
Corporate Pharmacy Services**
Craig Gaulden Davis | PBK*
Edcon, Inc.**
Edmunds GovTech*
Fleettalk By Rock Communications*
Good Earth Tools*
Goodwyn Mills and Cawood*
Greene Finney Cauley, LLP*
Harris*
M. B. Kahn Construction*
McMillan Pazdan Smith Architecture*
Motorola Solutions*
PalmettoPride
Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein LLP

Paymentus*
Pierce Group Benefits
Pope Flynn
Santee Cooper
Schneider Electric
Schneider Geospatial*
Segra*
South Carolina Counties Workers'
Compensation and Property & Liability
Trusts*
South Carolina Water Utilities
Stantec
Thomas & Hutton
Transportation Technology Transfer
Service/Clemson University*
Wood Law Group, LLC

Special Thanks:

Welcome Reception Sponsor — The Electric Cooperatives of South Carolina

Name Badge Lanyard Sponsor — Davis & Floyd

Wednesday Boxed Lunch Sponsor — NACo

Tabletop Sponsors

Brightly Software
Corporate Pharmacy Services
Edcon, Inc.
Strata Clean Energy

RESORT MAP

Palmetto Hall

Standalone Meeting Space

SGP Conference Center:

Meeting Spaces:

- Palms Ballroom
- Tides Ballroom



Valet only

The Sweetgrass Inn

Accommodations

Meeting Spaces:

- Osprey Ballroom
- Avocet Boardroom
- Indigo Room & Rooftop

Pools (2)

Destination Spa

Dining:

- The Laughing Gull
- The Oystercatcher Restaurant & Bar
- The Nest Rooftop Bar



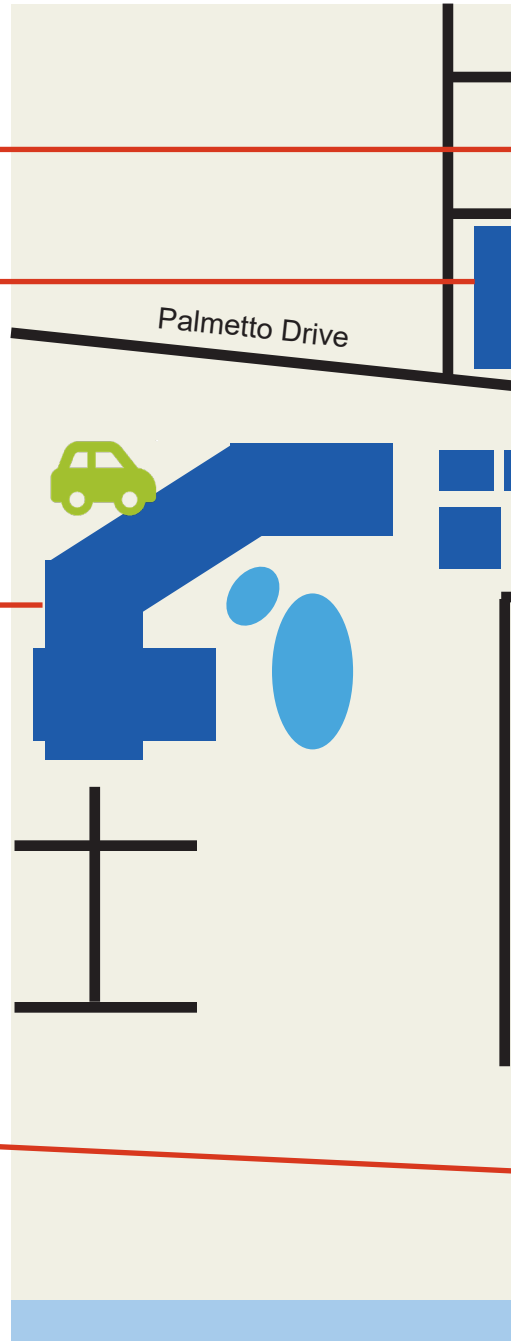
Valet only

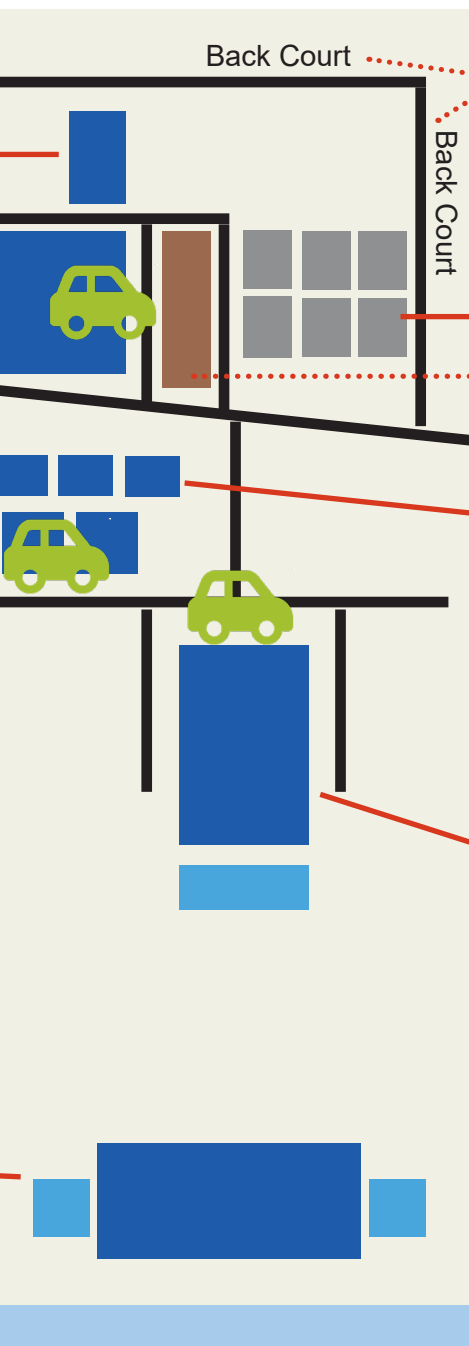
The Grand Pavilion

Pools (2)

Dining:

- Beachside Burgers & Bar





Back Court

Back Court



Limited self-parking (Back Ct.)

Tennis Courts



Limited self-parking (brick lot)

The Residences at Sweetgrass

Accommodations

Dining:

- Hudson's Market & Cafe
- Coastal Crust
- Sweet Shoppe



Valet only

Boardwalk Inn

Accommodations

Meeting Spaces:

- Club Room
- Boardroom

Adult-Only Pool

Dining:

- Coastal Provisions



Valet only

*Map not to scale



ALLIANCE
CONSULTING ENGINEERS

20 YEARS
OF EXCELLENCE

Learn more at www.allianceCE.com.

- Industrial Park Master Planning & Design
- Water & Wastewater Planning & Design
- Solid Waste Management
- Stormwater Management
- Recreational Facilities
- Fire Stations
- Courthouses
- Administrative Buildings
- Roadway Design
- Railway Design
- Grant Application
- Construction Management

Bluffton, SC
Charleston, SC
Charlotte, NC
Columbia, SC
Greenville, SC





SOUTH CAROLINA
SC100
ONE HUNDRED

ENR Southeast
TOP
100 FIRM



**THE MORE ENERGY YOU NEED, THE MORE
YOU NEED AN ENERGY COMPANY LIKE US.**



Actions Speak Louder

EconomicDevelopment.DominionEnergy.com

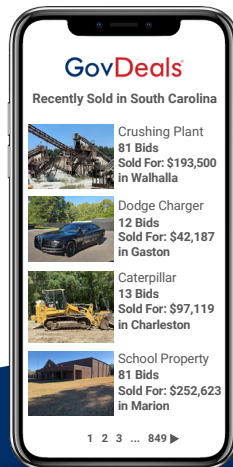
GovDeals®

Profitable Solutions for Surplus

- Online auction environment with 12-months easily accessible results
- Robust reporting and a continuous audit trail accessible in perpetuity
- Consultation services for online auction best practices and strategies

Discover the GovDeals Difference Today!

Contact Sales Support To Learn More:
1-866-377-1494 | salesupport@govdeals.com
govdeals.com/become-a-seller





SOUTH CAROLINA
ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES



Join Us Next Year!

July 26-29, 2027