

SCAC Hosts Mid-Year Conference, Institute of Government Classes

SCAC hosted its Mid-Year Conference on Wednesday, Feb. 23 at Embassy Suites Hotel in Columbia.

The following members of the S.C. General Assembly provided a legislative update: Sen. Thomas C. Alexander (District 1), President of the S.C. Senate; Sen. Ronnie A. Sabb (District 32); and Rep. Bobby J. Cox (District 21).

Frank A. Rainwater, executive director, S.C. Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office, provided an economic outlook.

Via a live virtual presentation, Matthew D. Chase, NACo CEO/Executive Director, in Washington, D.C., provided an update on ARPA and U.S. Treasury's Final Rule.

Nanette A. Edwards, executive director, and Michael Herzberger, deputy director, S.C. Office of Regulatory Staff, talked about broadband opportunities.

(Continued on next page)



Frank A. Rainwater
Executive Director
S.C. Revenue and
Fiscal Affairs Office



Nanette A. Edwards
Executive Director
S.C. Office of
Regulatory Staff



Michael Herzberger
Deputy Director
S.C. Office of
Regulatory Staff



Paul A. Cain
SCAC President



NACo CEO/Executive Director Matthew Chase, in Washington, D.C., provides a virtual ARPA Update for SCAC's Mid-Year Conference.



SCAC's 2022 Mid-Year Conference, Embassy Suites, Feb. 23

IN THIS ISSUE

P3 SCAC Participates in Launch of MatchBoard on Jan. 24th

P4 Is Your County Ready for GASB-87 and GASB-96?

P5 NEWS BRIEFS

P6 David K. Summers Jr.

PLUS MORE

Legislative Panelists



Participating in the legislative update at SCAC's Mid-Year Conference are (left to right): Sen. Thomas C. Alexander (District 1), President of the S.C. Senate; Sen. Ronnie A. Sabb (District 32); and Rep. Bobby J. Cox (District 21).

County officials met with their legislative delegates at the State House before attending a legislative reception at The Palmetto Club.

Institute of Government

The following Institute of Government classes were held: Thursday, Feb. 24—Building Effective Intergovernmental Relations (Level I); Current Issues Facing County Government: ARPA Funding and County Investments (Level II); Employment Law: What Counteies Need to Know (Level I); Decision Making in a Political Environment (Level II); and Friday, Feb. 25—Measuring and
(Continued on next page)

County Officials Speak and Ask Questions



Among the many county officials who stood to speak and ask questions during SCAC's Mid-Year Conference were (clockwise): Richland County Administrator Leonardo Brown, Williamsburg County Supervisor Tiffany Cooks, Ph.D., Charleston County Clerk of Court Julie Armstrong, and Anderson County Council Member Ray Graham.

Institute of Government Classes



SCAC Executive Director Tim Winslow and other key staff members spoke at the County Chairperson's Workshop. Other instructors (below, left to right) taught classes during the Institute, including: Linda Pearce Edwards, Gignilliat, Savitz & Bettis, LLP; and William



E. Tomes and Jon B. Pierce, Ph.D., Joseph P. Riley Jr. Center for Livable Communities, College of Charleston.



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PO Box 8207
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www.SCCounties.org

(803) 252-7255
Fax: (803) 252-0379

SCAC PRESIDENT
Paul A. Cain
Oconee County
Council Vice Chairman

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Timothy C. Winslow

EDITOR
W. Stuart Morgan III

Reporting County Performance (Level II); and Economic Development (Level II). The association hosted a Council Chairperson's Workshop on Thursday, Feb. 24.

SCAC Participates in Launch of MatchBoard on Jan. 24th

SCAC was pleased to participate in the press conference announcing the launch of MatchBoard on Jan. 24, 2022.

"The South Carolina Association of Counties is glad to be a sponsor of MatchBoard," said SCAC Executive Director Tim Winslow. "This innovative platform transforms the way counties



Tim Winslow
SCAC Executive Director



Connie Portee
Orangeburg County
Clerk to Council

recruit citizens to serve on boards and commissions. MatchBoard streamlines the recruitment, application, and appointment process for county council members, clerks to councils, and citizens alike. The association applauds Beaufort, Jasper, McCormick, and Orangeburg county officials for being early adopters of this program."

Connie Portee, Orangeburg County Clerk to Council, also spoke during the event. SCAC has worked with clerks to councils and staff members of SC Women in Leadership over the past 18 months to develop the system. The digital portal is transforming how citizens engage with their local governments and will make it much easier to apply and be appointed to county boards and commissions.

To learn more about MatchBoard, visit <https://matchboard.tech/>

or contact Emily Bowerman, MatchBoard Director, at emily@scwomenlead.net.

SCAC's 2022 Directory of County Officials

SCAC's 2022 *Directory of County Officials* will be published and distributed in March. So, order a copy if you want to know "Who's Who" in South Carolina county government. Cost: \$25.00 per copy (including tax, postage, shipping and handling). To order a copy, please contact:

**SOUTH CAROLINA
ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES**

PO Box 8207
Columbia, SC 29202-8207

803-252-7255

E-mail: smorgan@scac.sc



MatchBoardSM

SCAC is partnering with South Carolina Women in Leadership on MatchBoard, a new web-based platform through which counties can manage their boards and commissions. This dynamic application will digitize and streamline your boards and commissions management allowing you to post information about boards, recruit diverse qualified applicants, review applications, communicate directly with citizens, and more. Learn more and sign up today at MatchBoard.Tech.

"I think MatchBoard will be a great tool for Orangeburg when trying to recruit qualified applicants for our boards and commissions. It will let citizens know that the appointment process is impartial and not political."

— **Johnny Wright, Orangeburg County Council Chairman**

"Beaufort County currently has 29 agencies, boards, and commissions consisting of 211 members. The clerk's office has the daunting task of keeping up with applications, appointments, reappointments, resignations, rosters, meeting schedules, agendas, and minutes while also serving the needs of the 11-member county council. I am incredibly excited to move away from the antiquated Excel spreadsheet tracking method and into MatchBoard, a program that will streamline the clerk's operations and better serve our agencies, boards, and commissions, while saving us time and creating consistency."

— **Sarah Brock, Beaufort County Clerk to Council**

Is Your County Ready for GASB-87 and GASB-96?

By Daniel Prentice, *Dorchester County Chief Financial Officer*, and Anna Berger, *SCAC Senior Director of Operations*

The **Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB)** establishes accounting reporting standards for state and local governments. South Carolina local governments are required to implement GASB standards. This article briefly highlights two GASB standards counties are required to implement soon.

GASB-87 is the new accounting standard for operational and capital leases that counties must implement in the FY 2022 audit. Under this new model, a governmental lease is more clearly defined as a financing of the right to use an underlying asset. Examples of non-financial assets include buildings, equipment, land, and vehicles. Counties will now be required to: consolidate lease agree-



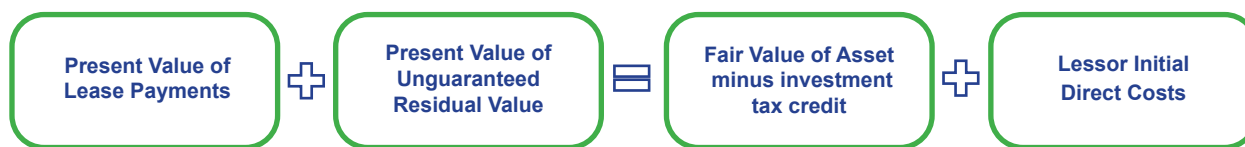
ments; test each lease to determine if it is subject to the reporting requirement; calculate the lease beginning balances and schedules; update financial statements; and report any disclosures. Below are general steps counties should follow when implementing this reporting requirement:

Step 1: Develop an inventory of county leases that fall under GASB's definition. (Below is an example of Dorchester County's initial inventory.)

Project Year	Project Name	Type	Category	Lease Value
2010	Dorchester Trust Foundation	Lease/Contract/Subscription	Lease – Lessee	\$60,000.00
2012	Town of Reevesville-2012	Lease/Contract/Subscription	Lease – Lessee	\$8,000.00
2015	Verizon Wireless	Lease/Contract/Subscription	Lease – Lessee	\$108,000.00
2018	DB Properties	Lease/Contract/Subscription	Lease – Lessee	\$66,600.00
2019	Cedar Square Enterprises	Lease/Contract/Subscription	Lease – Lessee	\$136,800.00
2020	Dominion Energy-Davis Bailey Park	Lease/Contract/Subscription	Lease – Lessee	\$39,868.80
2020	Dominion Energy-Fire	Lease/Contract/Subscription	Lease – Lessee	\$6,247.20

Step 2: Determine how much is due in the upcoming fiscal year versus in sum for the remaining term.

Step 3: Calculate the implicit rate in the lease to determine the lease liability and asset recognized. (Lease Query Blog Example: <https://leasequery.com/blog/gasb-87-interest-rate-implicit-lease/>)



Step 4: Create journal entries to record assets in the county's asset system.

GASB-96 requires counties to inventory and report all subscription-based IT arrangements (SBITAs) beginning with the FY 2023 audit. Examples of SBITAs include your organization's subscription to Microsoft Office 365 or Zoom, cloud service fees for a website, or your phone system such as RingCentral or Microsoft Teams. A key component in determining which arrangements qualify as an SBITA is the element of control. Counties must evaluate each contract to determine if it grants the county control over the underlying IT assets. Below are broad steps a county could follow to implement this new reporting requirement:

Step 1: Identify a SBITA by determining whether a contract conveys control of the right to use underlying IT assets.

Step 2: Determine the length of the subscription term.

Step 3: Measure subscription liability and asset.

Step 4: Determine capitalization of other outlays.

Step 5: Determine amortization.

Implementing each of these GASB standards can take considerable time of finance staff and auditors depending on the number of leases and IT subscriptions. Counties that have not yet begun gathering information for these new requirements should begin immedi-

ately working with finance staff and auditing firms in order to be prepared for the implementation deadlines.

Additional Resources:

GASB-87 https://www.gasb.org/jsp/GASB/Pronouncement_C/GASBSummaryPage&cid=1176169177502

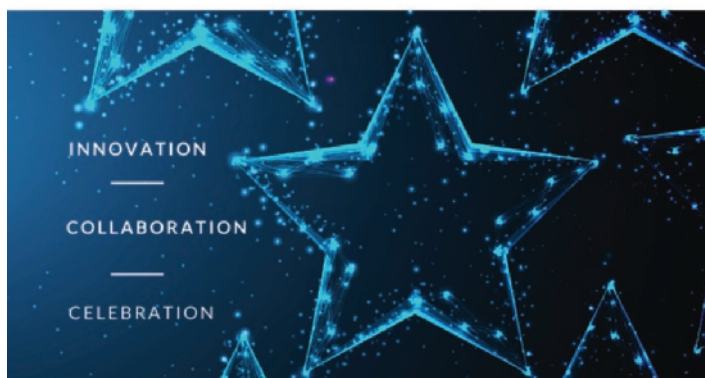
GASB-96 https://www.gasb.org/cs/ContentServer?c=Pro-nouncement_C&cid=1176174709720&d=&page-name=GASB%2FPronouncement_C%2FGASBSummaryPage

GFOA

- *Are We There Yet? Implementing GASB 87 for Existing Lease Contracts* (October 21) <https://www.gfoa.org/materials/are-we-there-yet-gfr10211>
- *Forever Leases* (February 21) <https://www.gfoa.org/materials/gfr-forever-leases-221>

J. Mitchell Graham/Barrett Lawrimore Memorial Awards Call for Entries!

For 50 years, SCAC has recognized innovative and impactful projects submitted by South Carolina's counties for the J. Mitchell Graham/Barrett Lawrimore Memorial Awards Competition. The association is currently accepting applications for the 2022 Awards Competition, and we look forward to learning about this year's projects and innovations!



The J. Mitchell Graham Memorial Award recognizes counties that address community challenges, implement operational improvements, or enhance their citizens' quality of life in a unique way. The Barrett Lawrimore Memorial Regional Cooperation Award highlights the growing need for regional partnerships, strategies, and solutions. Competition for the Regional Cooperation award is open to two or more political subdivisions (counties, cities, districts, or councils of government) that worked together on a project. While state agencies, non-profits, or private companies may be partners, these entities should not be the primary or sole partner in the Regional Cooperation competition.

(See *Call for Entries*, next page)

NEWS BRIEFS

Millage Rate Increase Limitation FY 2022-23 Inflation Component

SCAC has received the SC Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office's (RFAs) memo regarding the FY2022-23 Millage Rate Limitation-Inflation Component. Each county's millage rate increase limit will be based on 4.70 percent, plus any increase in population. RFA will publish the final millage rate increase limitations once the Census Bureau releases the county population estimates by late March. SCAC will forward the final millage rate limitations for FY2022-23 as soon as the information is available.

Legislative Policy Positions for the 2022 Session and Friday Reports Now Available Online

The 2022 legislative session is underway. This year's *Legislative Policy Positions* may be viewed online at sccounties.org/publications/legislative-policy-positions. Additionally, weekly *Friday Reports* updating county officials about current legislation and developments at the State House are available online at www.sccounties.org/friday-reports. County officials should contact SCAC at SCAC@scac.sc to have their emails added to the *Friday Report* distribution list.

SC250 Launches First Grant Program

The SC American Revolution Sestercentennial Commission (SC250) will be issuing a grant to each county in an effort to ensure that all counties across SC have Sestercentennial programming highlighting their unique role in the American Revolution. The \$3,000 non-competitive grants are intended to aid in the formation of a County 250 Committee and kick start the county's efforts. Learn more about the grant program at www.southcarolina250.com/local-county-250-committee.

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Presentations Available Online

Presentations from the Institute of Government for County Officials level II course, Current Issues – American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), are now available as resources on the associations ARPA page at www.sccounties.org/american-rescue-plan-act-arpa.

Local Government ARPA Tracker Launches to Provide Detailed Picture of Investment Priorities

In the 12 months since the passage of the ARPA, local governments have been working to prioritize and invest resources from the act's \$350 billion State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund. To illuminate the many options at communities' disposal, NACo is introducing the Local Government ARPA Investment Tracker, a joint project of NACo, Brookings Metro and the National League of Cities. Access the tracker online at www.naco.org/resources/featured/arpa-investment-tracker.

(See *NEWS BRIEFS*, next page)

Clerks to Council Webinar

SCAC hosted a webinar for county clerks to council in January. The importance of the partnership between SCAC and clerks, and introduction to SCAC to newer clerks, and some changes for 2022 events and registrations were among the topics covered. A webinar recording is available on the Clerk to Council Association page at www.sccounties.org/association-groups/clerks-council.

(Call for Entries ... Continued from previous page)

Timeline of Events

- May 6 – All applications must be submitted online or received at the SCAC office by 5 p.m.
- June 9 – Awards Competition to be held at SCETV in Columbia. Counties will present their projects before a panel of judges, and the competition will be livestreamed.
- Aug. 3 – Winners to be announced and all entries recognized at the association's annual conference banquet.

Change in Rules and Requirements

This year, in recognition of the complexity, duration, and delayed impact of certain projects, the timeframe for eligible projects has increased from one year to two. Projects should have been initiated or completed within the last completed fiscal year (FY 2020-21) or the current fiscal year (FY 2021-22).

To learn more about the J. Mitchell Graham Memorial Award and the Barrett Lawrimore Memorial Regional Cooperation Award, visit the association's website at SCCounties.org/awards. If you have additional questions, please contact Susan Turkopuls at 1-800-922-6081 or sturkopuls@scac.sc.

Most Recent Additions – Level II: Financial Management and Level II: The Property Taxation Process

SCAC has now made **Level II: Financial Management** and **Level II: The Property Taxation Process** Institute classes available online. Upon completion, participants will receive credit in the Institute of Government for County Officials. There is an \$80 registration fee for each course. In order to access the courses on SCAC's Learning Portal, officials will need to first have an account with SCAC. For assistance, please contact Ryan Tooley at rtooley@scac.sc or (803) 252-7255.



David K. Summers Jr.

May 16, 1940 - Feb. 26, 2022

David Keener Summers Jr., 81, of Cameron, S.C.—a public servant, who dedicated his life and contributed so much to SCAC and Calhoun County—died on Feb. 26..

Mr. Summers served as president of the SCAC in 1988. He also served as chairman of the S.C. Workers' Compensation Trust



Mr. David Keener Summers Jr.

and Property & Liability Trust, and as chairman of the Three Rivers Solid Waste Authority Board of Directors. He was elected to Calhoun County Council in 1979, serving as chairman for 41 years.

Mr. Summers was presented the Order of the Palmetto by the late Gov. Carroll A. Campbell in 1991 and received SCAC's President's Cup in 1991, 2004, and 2011.

Graveside services were held on Tuesday, March 1, at Cameron

Memorial Cemetery in Cameron, with the Rev. David Battle and the Rev. James McGee officiating. The family received friends on Monday, Feb. 28, 2022, at the Calhoun County Council Chambers, St. Matthews.

Mr. Summers was predeceased by his wife, Nancy Griffith Summers, and daughters, Kathryn Summers Cherup and Ashley Summers Harvey.

He was born in Orangeburg, on May 16, 1940, son of the late David Keener Summers and Frances Olivia Bardin Summers. Mr. Summers was a 1958 graduate of Cameron High School and a 1962 graduate of the University of South Carolina (USC). He was co-owner of Golden Kernel Pecan Company and a member of the National Pecan Shellers Board of Directors. He served in the U.S. Army Reserve.

Mr. Summers also served as past president of the St. Matthews Rotary Club and Calhoun County Chamber of Commerce. He was a member of the Dantzler Masonic Lodge, Orangeburg Elks Club, Commander of St. Matthew American Legion Post 12 and the Sons of the American Revolution Battle of Eutaw Springs Chapter. He also served on the USC Board of Visitors. He was an active member of Cameron Southern Methodist Church, serving on the Board of Stewards and as a member of the Board of Trustees Church Camp S&M properties.

The family requests that memorials be sent to Cameron Southern Methodist Church, P.O. Box 616, Cameron, S.C. 29030 or Tamasee DAR School, P.O. Box 8, Tamasee, S.C. 29686 or a charity of one's choice.

Online condolences may be expressed at www.dukesharleyfuneralhome.com or <https://www.facebook.com/dukes-Harley-Funeral-Home-and-Crematory-304968586272868>

S.C. Broadband Office Posts Broadband Availability Maps Online, Solicits Public Help to Determine Demand

By Michael Herzberger, GISP, CFM
Deputy Director, S.C. Broadband Office, S.C. Office of Regulatory Staff

The S.C. Broadband Office has designed a website and survey to capture the public's demand for Internet access. The website, www.scdigitaldrive.org, hosts broadband availability maps, data and statistics, and access to free Internet speed tests. The website features a voluntary "I Need Internet" survey (see QR code below) that is accessible by any member of the public who chooses to provide details about their current internet status. Internet Service Providers (ISPs) may view and use information to determine areas throughout the state that have the greatest need for internet services.

As of Sept. 2021, an estimated 221,731 housing units in South Carolina lacked access to the FCC-recommended internet service levels of 25Mbps download / 3Mbps upload speeds.

"The COVID-19 pandemic has certainly shown that the internet has become even more important as an access point for education, telehealth, and staying connected with family members, among many other important services," said Jim Strizinger, Director of the state's Broadband Office, which is housed within the S.C. Office of Regulatory Staff (ORS). "From paying bills to having the ability to work remotely, access to quality internet is crucial to every single resident of South Carolina."

The ORS represents consumers of investor-owned utilities in South Carolina before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (PSC). The PSC is the state agency that sets utilities' rates. The ORS must look at the impact to the consumer and utilities' continued investment in reliable and high-quality services.



**I Need Internet
Survey**



MORE INFORMATION
ORS.SC.GOV/Broadband
SCDigitalDrive.org



**BROADBAND
OFFICE**

S.C. Insurance Trusts Host Annual Membership Meeting

By Robert E. Benfield, ARM, AINS
SCAC Director of Risk Management Services

The S.C. Counties Workers' Compensation Trust and the S.C. Counties Property & Liability Trust held their annual Insurance Trusts Membership Meeting on Jan. 26 & 27 in Myrtle Beach.

The purpose of the meeting, attended by 76 county officials, was to promote risk management education and brief members on the Insurance Trusts. Attendees heard from several speakers on a variety of risk management topics.



Lt. Sean Fay, S.C. Law Enforcement Division Critical Infrastructure Cyber Security Program, provided an overview on cyber security issues impacting county government and available training opportunities to help mitigate these exposures. Les Vandevander, Sumter

County IT Director, spoke about a recent cyber-attack on Sumter County and how they were able to work with various stakeholders to mitigate the impact of the attack. A risk management roundtable discussion was also held. Roundtable panel participants included Lt. Sean Fay; Mark McKinney, Claims Manager, SCCP< Rachael Stephenson, Claims Supervisor, SCCWCT; and Van Henson, SCAC Risk Manager.

On day two, Van Henson; Chris Hinson, Senior Adjuster, SCCP< and Robert Benfield, SCAC Director of Risk Management Services, addressed the critical impact that motor vehicle accidents (MVAs) are having on employee injuries and property and liability claims. They covered the basic components of the Vehicle Accident Mitigation Program and how a Vehicle Accident Review Board with sanctions can help reduce MVAs.

At the conclusion of the meeting, Risk Management Awards were presented to several counties for significant achievements and activities that reduced injuries and mitigated hazards. Additional details, including photos taken at the Membership Meeting, will be published in the upcoming spring edition of the *County Focus Magazine*.

2022 Risk Management Award Winners

Outstanding Safety Achievement Awards

Berkeley County
Colleton County
Dorchester County
Florence County
Georgetown County
Greenwood County
Horry County

(Continued on next page)

Kershaw County
Lancaster County
Richland County

Sustained Excellence in Risk Management Awards

Berkeley County
Horry County
Lancaster County
Spartanburg County

Service Award

Ryan Whitaker – Lancaster County
Terry Booker – Spartanburg County

Property and Liability Trust Lag Time Awards

1st Place – Lancaster County
2nd Place – Saluda County
3rd Place – McCormick County

Workers' Compensation Trust Lag Time Awards

1st Place – Saluda County
2nd Place – Lancaster County
3rd Place – Spartanburg County

Workers' Compensation Best Experience Modifier Awards

1st Place – Spartanburg County
2nd Place – Calhoun County
3rd Place – Abbeville County

We look forward to re-presenting these Risk Management Awards at the member's county council meeting to help promote the good work and dedication of their risk management team.

Identifying Ways to do More with Less: Partnering with the Division of Procurement Services

By Michael Speakmon, CPPO
Team Lead, Goods & Services Contracts, Statewide Contracting Team

What would you say if I told you that there are thousands of products, and many services, available to your organization that have been competed, negotiated, and awarded with competitive pricing and they are all readily available for your use? That is exactly what the Division of Procurement Services is already providing for you and you may not even know it.



The Statewide Contracting teams are part of the Division of Procurement Services (DPS), which is part of the State Fiscal Accountability Authority (SFAA). Our purpose is to establish Statewide Term Contracts (STCs) for goods and services, and information technology (IT goods and services), commonly used by all state agencies and political subdivisions of South Carolina.

The statewide sourcing team is structured into two teams: one for Information Technology and one for Goods and Services. Each team focuses on those supplies and services in their respective areas and solicits and negotiates each contract to ensure we are providing the best possible value to South Carolina entities.

South Carolina state agencies are required, by law, to use our contracts but STCs are available for optional use by all South Carolina political subdivisions including counties, cities, municipalities, libraries, special purpose districts, and school districts. Some political subdivisions make the use of STCs mandatory, but not all political subdivisions follow this approach. You'll want to check with your procurement personnel to see what your local procurement policy is, but whether the policy makes them mandatory or optional, these contracts are still available for your entity's use.

Entities struggle to have enough time, resources, and money to accomplish everything that needs to be done in each day. By utilizing STCs when possible, this frees up time for your staff to be working on other projects. Because our office is establishing contracts for the entire state, we also have more buying power. This leverage of buying power yields greater cost savings for everyone utilizing the contract ... especially those smaller agencies, cities, counties, and municipalities that could never purchase on that level on their own.

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SOCIAL MEDIA



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Association of
Counties



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Follow SCAC on social media to learn what's happening at the State House and how SCAC's programs and services can benefit your county. Share what's happening in your county. Let's promote the many ways our counties are making a positive difference for our citizens across the state.

Some examples of what is currently on STC:

Information Technology—Body cameras (law enforcement), CISCO hardware and software, electronic document management, in-car/in-bus digital recording systems, IT temporary staffing, managed print services, network hardware and firewall, PCs, servers, peripherals, and security software products. A full list of what is available under our IT contracts can be found at this link: <https://procurement.sc.gov/contracts/search?b=9918-0-0>

Good & Services—Asbestos inspection and testing, automotive parts, ballasts & lamps, building inspection services, bulk fuel (B10, biodiesel, diesel), commercial and home appliances, buses (school, ADA, mini), drug & alcohol testing and background screening, LIDAR/RADAR, material, repair and operating (MRO) supplies, various medical supplies and pharmaceuticals, mowing equipment (from weed eaters to 340 PTO HP tractors), police belts & holsters, tasers, temporary personnel staffing (non-IT related) and several classes of vehicles (rental and purchase). A complete list of our goods and services contracts can be found at this link: <https://procurement.sc.gov/contracts/search?b=9919-0-0>

While on many of our contracts the state agencies are the primary customers, meaning they spend the most money, there are other contracts where the political subdivision spending far exceeds what the state agencies are spending. That means that even though political subdivisions are not “required” to use our contracts, they are just as, and sometimes more, important a customer to us and we are actively seeking their input on our existing and future contracts.

We work with all state agencies to ensure we are capturing their needs but gathering information from political subdivisions is more difficult. This is due to the varying procurement systems being used and the lack of usage data readily available to us for reference. We are trying to improve our communications with all South Carolina entities to include political subdivisions so that we can ensure everyone’s needs are being met effectively through our contracts. One of the ways we are doing that is through our monthly newsletter, DisPatcheS. DisPatcheS can be accessed using the following link: <https://www.procurement.sc.gov/dispatches>

We use DisPatcheS to provide updates and important information on what is happening with our contracts, tips and information on using our contracts, which contracts we are currently developing (and REALLY want your input on), and some general information about what is happening in the various markets that can affect availability or delivery of products on contract. We recommend that you have as many of your team as possible added to the newsletter distribution list, and that’s not just limited to your procurement department. We want to communicate with as many people as possible that are actually going to use the items on contract. Get your fleet managers, law enforcement and first responders, IT departments, facility managers, parks and recreation, construction, maintenance, traffic control, and transit personnel signed up to receive it. If you are interested in being added to the distribution list,

send an email to Scott Hawkins, Administrative Support Manager and SCBO Editor at shawkins@mmo.sc.gov and ask him to add you.

We are always looking for new contracting opportunities as well. Some of your needs are similar to state agencies, but you also have many that are unique, and we truly want to capture that and see if we can help. Economies of scale are an excellent way to recognize savings that individual entities cannot achieve on their own. That being said, not all ideas can be turned into a STC, but we are certainly willing to have a conversation and explore almost any opportunity you can think of.

As a starting point, when our office is considering a new contracting opportunity, we need to validate or gather the following information:

- **Continuing Need:** A continued need should exist for the goods or services across multiple entities.
- **Market Stability:** The product should be readily available with stable pricing to be considered for a STC.
- **Level of Competition:** Com-

petition should exist consisting of multiple suppliers being able to provide the good or service.

- **Anticipated Users:** In order to effectively establish contracts, we need to identify users that can potentially assist with specification development and needs assessment.
- **Anticipated Volume:** Our office also needs to understand the anticipated volume of contract usage in both dollars and quantity of items.

Should you have any questions or want to discuss any contract ideas, please contact one of the following. We look forward to partnering with your entity.

Stacy Adams (Director, Statewide Sourcing) at sadams@mmo.sc.gov

Randy Barr (IT Contracts Team Lead) at rbarr@mmo.sc.gov

Michael Speakmon (Goods & Services Contracts Team Lead) at mspeakmon@mmo.sc.gov

Visit our website—www.procurement.sc.gov



Highlights of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) – Final Rule

By John O. Wienges Jr.
SCAC Staff Attorney

On January 6, 2022, the U.S. Department of the Treasury issued the much-anticipated Final Rule for the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) program, enacted as a part of the American Rescue Plan. The SLFRF program delivers \$350 billion to state, local, and tribal governments to support their response to and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. South Carolina counties received approximately \$1 billion that will be directly allocated in two separate tranches.

The Final Rule, which takes effect on April 1, 2022, provides state and local governments with increased flexibility to pursue a wider range of uses, as well as greater simplicity so governments can focus on responding to the crisis in their communities and maximizing the impact of their funds.

The SLFRF Program Final Rule provides additional clarity and flexibility for recipient governments, including:

- First, Treasury has expanded the non-exhaustive list of uses that recipients can use to respond to COVID-19 and its economic impacts—ensuring states and localities can adapt quickly and nimbly to changing public health and economic needs. This includes clarifying that recipients can use funds for certain capital expenditures to respond to public health and economic impacts and making services like childcare, early education, addressing learning loss, and affordable housing development available to all communities impacted by the pandemic.

- Second, Treasury has expanded support for public sector hiring and capacity, which is critical for the economic recovery and in maintaining vital public services for communities.
- Third, Treasury has streamlined options to provide premium pay for essential workers, who bear the greatest health risks because of their service in critical sectors.
- Fourth, Treasury has broadened eligible water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure projects—understanding the unique challenges facing each state and locality in delivering clean water and high-speed broadband to their communities.

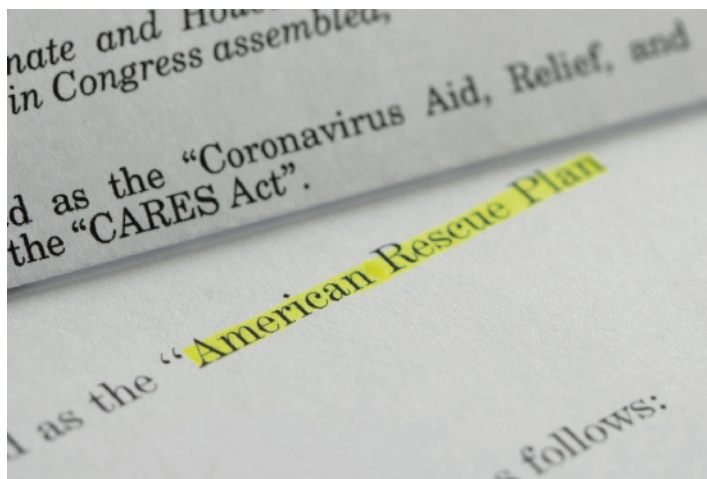
In addition to these expansions mentioned above, perhaps the

most significant change outlined in the Final Rule is an option for counties to elect a “standard allowance” for revenue loss of \$10 million rather than calculating revenue loss through the formula provided in the Interim Final Rule.

This allows counties receiving less than \$10 million to use all of the funds allocated to them through the SLFRF program for general government services, including road and bridge projects, and would significantly simplify reporting

requirements. The Final Rule also improves the revenue loss formula “growth rate” from 4.1 to 5.2 percent as the new standard default allowance for the formula.

For more information regarding the details of the Final Rule, please visit SCAC’s website at www.sccounties.org or contact SCAC staff at (803) 252-7255.



SCAC/NACo Partnership Offers New Online Leadership Academy



SCAC recently announced a new partnership with NACo to build strong county leaders. The NACo High Performance Leadership Academy is an online 12-week program that empowers county government professionals with the leadership skills to deliver results for counties.

The NACo Enterprise Cybersecurity Leadership Academy is similarly structured and geared for county employees dedicated to cybersecurity, IT, and risk management. Through the SCAC/NACo partnership, South Carolina counties are eligible for a registration fee of \$1,545 (instead of the \$2,495 retail price).

For more information about High Performance Leadership Academy, visit: naco.org/resources/education-and-training/naco-high-performance-leadership-academy.



BE REVOLUTIONARY!

1770-1783 | 2020-2033

**YES, THERE WILL BE FIREWORKS,
BUT SO MUCH MORE!**



**YOUR COUNTY 250 COMMITTEE CAN:
TELL YOUR COUNTY'S REVOLUTIONARY ERA STORIES
& SUPPORT HISTORIC TOURISM INFRASTRUCTURE**



Step 1) Make your County 250 Committee official by passing a resolution in support of [County Name] County 250 Committee (see sample resolution at SouthCarolina250.com/local-county-250-committee/).

Best Practices:

- Decide if the county or another agency or non-profit will be "the bank" for the committee. (Please note for SC250 grants Local Governments may designate third-party recipients like non-profit organizations to receive grant money.)
- As the County 250 Committee gathers stakeholders, encourage them to be intentional about inclusion - representing all members of your community.
- Also, encourage the Committee to not just recruit local historians but people from other sectors, too (teachers, tourism/marketing gurus, artists, etc.).



Step 2) Apply for start up funding. All officially recognized County 250 Committees are eligible for a non-competitive \$3000 grant meant to support initial organizational and planning expenses.

Best Practices:

- Learn more and apply at SouthCarolina250.com/County250OrganizingGrants/
- Beyond this organizing grant, six more grant programs are coming soon and will help with everything from museum style panels to site acquisition.



Step 3) Research your Revolutionary Era assets and plan for tourists.

Best Practices:

- There will be an SC250 Grant to assist counties with this study!
- Celebrate your county's specific people, places, principles, and events.



Turning the Tide of the War: SC has over 400+ documented battles, skirmishes, and bloodshed associated with the American Revolution in South Carolina - demonstrating the importance of Southern Campaigns to the founding of our country.



History Means Business: Ninety Six, SC (home to a little under 2000 people) saw over 95,000 visitors at the American Revolution National Park site during 2020. The Liberty Trail (SC Battleground Preservation Trust & American Battlefield Trust) will connect sites such as this one and many more.

For More Info Visit SouthCarolina250.com or Call 803-898-3392.



SOUTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES

1919 Thurmond Mall
PO Box 8207
Columbia, SC 29202-8207

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SCAC's 2022 Conference Calendar

Aug. 1 & 2

Institute of Government

Aug. 3 & 4

Annual Conference, Wild Dunes Resort,
Isle of Palms

Aug. 17

Setoff Debt/GEAR, DoubleTree, Columbia

Oct. 19

Institute of Government

Oct. 20

County Council Coalition, Embassy Suites,
Columbia

Nov. 19

S.C. Local Government Attorney's Institute,
DoubleTree, Columbia

Dec. 1&2

Legislative Conference, AC Hotel, Greenville

Dec. 8

Newly Elected Officials, DoubleTree,
Columbia

NACo's 2022 Conference Calendar



July 21 - 24

Annual Conference, Adams County,
Colorado

SCAC Announces New Location and Schedule for 2022 Annual Conference

The Association's 2022 Annual Conference will be held Aug. 1-4, 2022, at the Wild Dunes Resort on Isle of Palms.



To receive the lowest room rate for county officials, the conference schedule has been modified. County officials will receive conference and hotel registration information, including details on accommodation options, in early spring.

The room block at Wild Dunes will open to county officials after they have registered for the Institute of Government and/or the Annual Conference. The room block will not open before this time.

2022 Annual Conference Schedule

Monday, Aug. 1 — Institute Classes

Tuesday, Aug. 2 — Institute Classes, Committee Meetings, Group Meetings, President's/Corporate Partners' Reception

Wednesday, Aug. 3 — Opening Session, Group Meetings, Caucus Meetings, Workshops, Banquet

Thursday, Aug. 4 — General Session

Information regarding SCAC's future annual conferences is available at SCCounties.org/conferences-and-meetings.

Did You Know?

S.C. State Ethics Commission:

Did you know that in order to file your 2022 Statement of Economic Interests, which is due by March 30, 2022, you will need to migrate your account to the State Ethics Commission's new Accountability Portal at: ethicsfiling.sc.gov/filing/home?

For assistance with migrating your account, please watch this video tutorial: youtube.com/watch?v=qPE2-FHWj7w.



S.C. State Ethics Commission

201 Executive Center Dr., Suite 150

Columbia, S.C. 29210

Office: (803) 253-4192 Fax: (803) 253-7539