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SCAC Hosts 2019 Mid-Year Conference

Approximately 175 county officials representing South Carolina's 46 counties attended SCAC's 32nd Annual Mid-Year Conference on February 20 in Columbia. They received a legislative overview of the 2019 Session of the S.C. General Assembly and listened to several speakers address issues affecting state and county governments.



Charles T. Jennings
SCAC President

SCAC President Charles T. Jennings (McCormick County Council Chairman) presided. After the legislative overview and presentations, Jennings explained SCAC's legislative policy process. Josh Rhodes, SCAC's Deputy General Counsel, then provided a legislative update.

A Local Conser-

vation Bank Discussion was held from 1:45 to 2:45 p.m. (See P. 3)

County officials visited the State House from 2 to 5 p.m. and attended SCAC's Legislative Reception at The Palmetto Club in Columbia from 5 to 7 p.m.

Legislators Provide Legislative Overview, Guest Speakers Address Issues

Providing a legislative overview of the 2019 Session of the General Assembly were Sen. Kevin L. Johnson (District 36); Rep. Bruce W. Bannister (District 24) and Rep. J. Todd Rutherford (District 74). (See P. 2)

Guest speakers then addressed issues affecting state and county governments.

Laura Lester of the S.C. Department of Agriculture talked about South Carolina's agricultural impact.

Maceo Nance, Division Director for the Small Business Supplier Outreach and Rural Development Division of the S.C. Department of Commerce, delivered a presentation on taking advantage of opportunity zones.

(Continued on next page)



SCAC's 2019 Mid-Year Conference, Embassy Suites, Columbia, Feb. 20



John Tyler, Director of Housing Initiatives and Innovations for the S.C. State Housing Authority, addressed the state of affordable housing.

(Continued on P. 3)

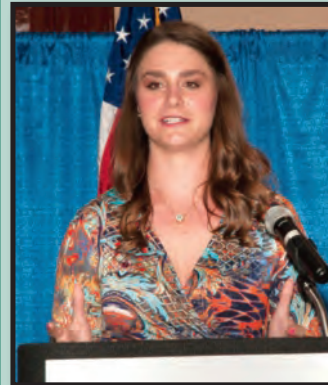


Waymon Mumford, Florence County Council Chairman, prepares to deliver the benediction at the beginning of SCAC's 2019 Mid-Year Conference.



▲ **LEGISLATIVE PANEL DISCUSSION**—(Left to right) Sen. Kevin L. Johnson (District 36), Rep. Bruce W. Bannister (District 24) and Rep. J. Todd Rutherford (District 74) provide a legislative overview of the 2019 Session of the S.C. General Assembly.

Guest Speakers



Laura Lester
S.C. Department of Agriculture



John Tyler
Director of Housing Initiatives and
Innovations
S.C. State Housing Authority



Maceo Nance
Division Director, Small
Business Supplier, Outreach and
Rural Development Division,
S.C. Department of Commerce



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County Officials Voice Concerns, Ask Questions

County officials attending SCAC's 2019 Mid-Year Conference on Feb. 20 had opportunities to voice their concerns and ask questions during and after the legislative panel discussion, and following presentations made by guest speakers. Many county officials, including those shown here, did so.



Beth Carrigg, Lexington County Council Member



Clay Bishop, Hampton County Council Chairman



Willie Owens, Orangeburg County Council Member



Jack Schurilknight, Berkeley County Council Vice Chairman



Julian Burns, Kershaw County Council Chairman



County officials met to discuss local conservation banks during SCAC's 2019 Mid-Year Conference.

PalmettoPride Presents Leaders Against Litter Awards, Recognizes Aiken County

Sarah Lyles, Executive Director of PalmettoPride, the state's anti-litter non-profit organization, presented Leaders Against Litter awards and Companion awards. She also recognized Aiken County for its anti-litter efforts. (See P. 4)

A Local Conservation Bank Discussion was held from 1:45 to 2:45 p.m.

From 5 to 7 p.m., SCAC hosted its annual legislative reception at the Palmetto Club.

The Institute of Government for County Officials was held the next day. (See P. 6)



South Carolina's 2019 Directory of County Officials

Order your copy of South Carolina's 2019 *Directory of County Officials* when it's published in March, and find out "Who's Who" in South Carolina county government.

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PalmettoPride Presents Awards to County Leaders and Employees, Recognizes Aiken County

At SCAC's 2019 Mid-Year Conference on February 20, PalmettoPride presented Leaders Against Litter awards to elected county officials leading efforts to change how their counties address litter by working with administrations, employees and citizens.

"Littering is a societal issue that requires a holistic approach using education enforcement, awareness and pickup to change behavior that creates it," said Sarah Lyles, Executive Director of Palmetto Pride. "Preventing litter cannot happen in a bubble, and one person acting

alone will not make a substantial long-term change.

"We will not change the social norms," she added, "unless we have strong leaders make litter prevention a priority."

Leaders Against Litter awards were presented to:

- Roy Costner, Pickens County County Chairman, who spearheaded the first all-county employee litter pick-up event in South Carolina called the TeamUpandCleanUp Anti-Litter Blitz.
- Janie Cooper-Smith, Orangeburg County Council Member, who spearheaded important changes to county ordinances to improve litter control efforts.



Sarah Lyles (right), Executive Director of PalmettoPride, presents a Leaders Against Litter award to Roy Costner, Pickens County Council Chairman.



PalmettoPride recognized Aiken County for its efforts in addressing litter. Clay Killian, Aiken County Administrator, accepts a Leaders Against Litter award for Aiken County.



Paul D. Sommerville, Beaufort County Council Vice Chairman, received a Leaders Against Litter award. Accepting the award with him are Artrell Horne, Beaufort County Litter Control Supervisor, and David Wilhelm (holding award), Beaufort County Public Works Director.



S.C. Insurance Trusts Hold 2019 Annual Membership Meeting

By John D. Henderson, ARM, ALCM
SCAC Director of Insurance Services

The S.C. Counties Workers' Compensation Trust (SCCWCT) and the S.C. Counties Property & Liability Trust (SCCP<) held its 2019 Insurance Trusts Membership Meeting on January 30 and 31 in Myrtle Beach.

The purpose of the annual meeting, which was attended by 94 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.

This year is the 35th anniversary of the formation of the SCCWCT.

to improve litter control.

Receiving Companion awards were:

- Lisa Bryant, Pickens County Director of Human Resources
- Marie Canty, Orangeburg County Department Manager for Litter Control
- Dave Wilhelm, Beaufort County Director of Public Works

Lyles recognized Aiken County for its efforts in addressing litter. Two of the county's efforts include creating a community service pick-up

model Assign-A-Road and supporting the creation of Keep Aiken County Beautiful.



SCAC President Charles Jennings gives the microphone to Janie Cooper-Smith, Orangeburg County Council Member, so she could speak after receiving a Leaders Against Litter Award from PalmettoPride.

Lang Kelly, Workers' Compensation Claims Manager, introduced Corporal Kimber Gist, Berkeley County Sheriff's Office. Gist, who suffered multiple gunshot wounds while investigating a suspicious vehicle parked behind a store, provided a very moving presentation that detailed her long journey to return to work.

Linda Edwards of Gignilliat Savitz & Bettis, LLP, gave her always popular Employment Law Update.



Corporal Kimber Gist
Berkeley County Sheriff's Office

A roundtable discussion was held on both days that allowed attendees to ask questions on multiple topics of concern for risk managers. Participating on the roundtable panel were: Charles Pinson, Anderson County; Rachel Stephenson, Ariel TPA; and Linda Edwards and Harold Hainey, Chesterfield County. Also presenting were SCAC's Robert Benfield and Van Henson.



S.C. Insurance Trusts' 2019 Annual Membership Meeting, Marriott Grande Dunes, Myrtle Beach, Jan. 30

The final segment was the presentation of risk management awards, listed on this page and the next. Additional details, including photos taken at the Membership Meeting, will be published in the spring edition of *County Focus Magazine* (Vol. 30, No. 1).

2018 Risk Management Award Winners

Outstanding Safety Achievement Awards

Berkeley County
Horry County
Saluda County
Kershaw County
Lancaster County
Oconee County
Spartanburg County

(See S.C. Insurance Trusts, P. 7)



Institute of Government for County Officials

The Institute of Government for County Officials was held on February 21, the day after SCAC's 2019 Annual Mid-Year Conference. The following courses were offered: Building an Effective Team, Public Speaking, Property Taxation and Economic Development. A Council Chairperson's Workshop was also held.



William E. Tones (left), Fellow, Joseph P. Riley Jr. Center for Livable Communities, College of Charleston, observes a break-out group in the building an Effective County Team class.

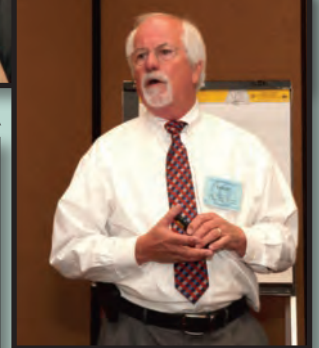
► Amelia F. Ruple, Local Government Training/Research Coordinator, was one of two instructors for the Property Taxation and Economic Development class.



▲ **PANEL DISCUSSION—**Participating in the Council Chairperson's workshop (left to right) are: Joe Branham, Chester County Council Vice Chairman; Steven Brown, Greenwood County Council Chairman; and Johnnie Wright, Orangeburg County Council Chairman.



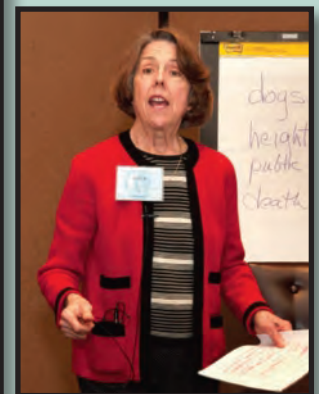
▼ County officials participate in Institute classes ▲



▲ Sandy Houck, Jr., Special Projects Coordinator, S.C. Department of Revenue, was one of two instructors for the Property Taxation and Economic Development class.



John DeLoache, SCAC Senior Staff Attorney, leads part of the discussion during the Chairperson's Workshop.



Sara L. Nalley, Professor Emerita of Communications and Theatre, Columbia College, teaches the Public Speaking class.



S.C. Insurance Trusts ...

(Continued from P. 5)

Sustained Excellence in Risk Management Awards

Berkeley County
Horry County
Lancaster County
Spartanburg County

Service Award

Terry Booker (Spartanburg County)
Ryan Whitaker (Lancaster County)

County governments have long recognized that investment in risk management and safety programs is effective stewardship of taxpayer dollars.



South Carolina Opportunity Zones

Opportunity Zones are a new community development program established as part of the Federal Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017. The program was championed by S.C. Senator Tim Scott.

Congress created the Opportunity Zone program to encourage long-term private investments in low-income communities. The program provides a federal tax incentive for taxpayers who reinvest unrealized capital gains into "Opportunity Funds," which are specialized vehicles dedicated to investing in low-income areas called "Opportunity Zones."

Opportunity Zones were designated by the S.C. Governor in all 46 counties.

Competitive Grant Funding Available to Assist Local Governments

The S.C. Department of Commerce has established the Opportunity Zone Grant Fund under which counties and municipalities may request funding to offset the costs of obtaining an outside vendor to assist in the structuring of a competitive Opportunity Zone Prospectus. The program also allows a third-party vendor to assist the governmental entity in determining the best project to pursue.

Counties and municipalities interested in applying for the grant must complete an application and attach a copy of the proposal from the vendor that the entity would like to employ. The first round of applications was due March 1; however, interested entities may apply for second round funding by April 1 or third round funding by July 1.

Resources:

- More information about South Carolina Opportunity Zones and the Opportunity Zone Grant Fund may be found at www.scopportunityzone.com.
- Additional resources are available from the Council of Development Finance Agencies (<https://www.cdfa.net/cdfa/cdfaweb.nsf/resourcecenters/OZ.html>), the Economic Innovation Group (<https://eig.org/opportunityzones>) and the Urban Institute (<https://www.urban.org>).
- Currently, the U.S. Treasury Department is drafting final regulations to regulate the act. For more information, contact Jeanne Milliken Bonds with the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond (Jeanne.Bonds@rich.frb.org).



Call for Entries

J. Mitchell Graham/Barrett Lawrimore Memorial Awards Competition



CELEBRATING 47 YEARS of *Innovation and Collaboration*

SCAC is currently accepting applications for the 2019 J. Mitchell Graham/Barrett Lawrimore Memorial Awards Competition. For 46 years, our association has recognized innovative projects completed by South Carolina's counties. The awards program accepts applications that address all areas of county government—from simple, unique ideas that maximize limited resources to major collaborative efforts that tackle complex issues.

Counties are invited to submit applications that describe the purpose and significance of their innovative projects. All applications must be submitted online or received at the SCAC Office by 5 p.m. on Friday, June 21. Applicants who meet the deadline and all requirements will be scheduled to present their projects during the awards competition on Sunday, August 4, at SCAC's 52nd Annual Conference beginning at 1:00 p.m.

For more information, please see the 2019 Awards Brochure and the Awards Toolkit available at <http://www.sccounties.org/awards-toolkit>. The toolkit allows counties to submit

(Continued on next page)



their applications online, provides a fillable PDF application, addresses frequently asked questions, and includes examples of

previous projects. If you have additional questions, please contact Anna Berger at 1-800-922-6081 or aberger@scac.sc.



Webinar

May 14
Planning and Zoning Continuing Education Webcast
9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

For more information, please contact Susan Turkopuls, SCAC, at (803) 252-7255 or sturkopuls@scac.sc. Or visit SCAC's website at: <http://www.sccounties.org/education-training>

SCAC's 2018-19 Conference Calendar

Aug. 3 - 4 Aug. 4 - 7	Institute of Government Annual Conference Hilton Head Marriott
Aug. 22	SetOff Debt/GEAR Embassy Suites, Columbia
Sept. 18	Continuing Education Update for Risk Managers Doubletree by Hilton, Columbia
Oct. 23 Oct. 24	Institute of Government County Council Coalition Embassy Suites, Columbia
Nov. 22	Local Government Attorneys' Institute DoubleTree by Hilton, Columbia
Dec. 5 - 7	Legislative Conference Renaissance, Charleston

You can register and pay online for SCAC conferences at www.sccounties.org/meetings.



NACo's 2019 Conference Calendar

July 11 - 15

Annual Conference
Clark County/Las Vegas, Nev.

South Carolina State Ethics Commission: Did You Know?



You Must Have a Campaign Checking Account If ...

Did you know that you must have a campaign checking account if you plan on accepting contributions or paying for expenses associated with your campaign? Section 8-13-1312 of the Ethics Reform Act requires that all expenses paid on behalf of a campaign be drawn from the campaign account and all contributions received by the candidate must be deposited in the campaign account within ten days after receipt.

If you have any questions, please call Sandra Willis, who handles questions related to Campaign Disclosures at the State Ethics Commission, at (803) 253-4192.