Administrator search down to the wire

Coto, Moulder the frontrunners

BY CARLOS GALARZA
THE JOURNAL

WALHALLA — The Oconee County Council is capping tonight's meeting with an executive session that could conclude with a decision on who the next county administrator will be.



Coto



Moulder

Sources close to the selection process indicate that the council has narrowed the field of four finalists to a race between Cynthia Coto and Scott Moulder.

The council instructed The Mercer Group, a private consulting firm hired by the county to help with the search for an administrator, to approach the two frontrunners for additional information.

Mercer also was to broach the topic of the salary expectations.

If both candidates agree in principle with compensation parameters presented by Mercer, then the council would have to decide in executive session which of the two they prefer.

Council held face-to-face interviews with each of the four finalists during the first week of the month. Each candidate spent a day in Oconee, interviewing in both the morning and afternoon.

The afternoon interviews included the participation of a select group of citizens, who had the opportunity to ask questions of the candidates.

In between the two interview sessions, candidates had a chance to meet and speak to department heads, followed by a tour of the county and lunch at South Cove Park.

Sources said Coto, a veteran county administrator in Central Florida, and Moulder, who has been Abbeville County administrator since 2006, impressed with their track records and fiery can-do attitudes.

Other highlights on tonight's council agenda include public hearings on several ordinances, including the controversial special revenue bond for the HighPointe/Pointe West project near Lake Hartwell on the border with Pickens County.

Oconee County Public Library officials are scheduled to present their plan to finance a $9.1 million Seneca branch using

IF YOU GO

What: Oconee County Council meeting
When: 6 tonight
Where: Council Chambers, 415 S. Pine St., Walhalla

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