

Oconee County tracks Tyler's Bars company from digital records.

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WALHALLA — Oconee County is keeping a paper trail of all property assessment adjustments made by Tyler Technologies Inc. during the appeals process.

County Administrator Scott Moulder said this week that he wants the Assessor's Office to review any adjustments made by Tyler, which was paid \$1.8 million to handle the countywide reassessment.

Moulder said Tyler is no longer being allowed to have access to the reassessment data filed digitally in the county's system.

"The information in the computer is basically locked,"

Moulder said. "We have taken the data file from Tyler and put it into the county's system ... We are not allowing Tyler any longer to digitally access the data because it is now the official record."

Moulder made his comments after a resident complained at this week's County Council meeting about the appeals process.

The property owner said he had to fill out a form in triplicate for each of the five property assessments he was appealing. He said Tyler puts the forms in an envelope and sends them to the county.

"It seems you couldn't have picked a more inefficient process ..." the taxpayer complained.



"That's a 1970s and '80s process," Moulder explained the redundancy.

"We've asked that anything done from an adjustment standpoint be documented in paper and presented to the Assessor's Office," Moulder said. "I rec-

adjustments keeps paper trail

ognize that, in today's digital world, paper may not be the most seamless and efficient process, but it's one that helps to verify and guarantee there's a documented record that could be documented back to the Tyler group ...

"We would prefer that Tyler not get into the system and make direct adjustments," Moulder added. "We want those to be reviewed and performed by the assessor's staff."

The county's decision to block Tyler's access to the reassessment data comes as more complaints surface this week from taxpayers questioning their reassessment notices and tax bills.

Moulder encouraged property

owners who are not satisfied with their reassessment to go through the process that begins with setting up an appointment with Tyler.

The number to call is (864) 718-1424.

"We still want to stress that the public and citizens go through that Tyler process," Moulder said. "We really want to make sure they do that."

Following the initial process with Tyler, property owners could go to the county for further assistance, if needed, Moulder said.

The head of Tyler's temporary office in Walhalla could not be reached for comment Friday.