Oconee to act on airport fence

Council could approve $117,350 contract Tuesday

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WALHALLA — Oconee County officials are on the verge of awarding a contract worth more than $117,000 to install security fencing at the Oconee County Regional Airport.

The Oconee County Procurement Office is recommending the contract to A&T Fence Inc. of Lavonia, Ga., pending approval by County Council at its next meeting Tuesday.

The contract is valued at $117,350 and would include installing 7,350-feet of chain link fence and four swing gates around the airport. Both the fence and gates would have three strands of barbed wire.

Contract time will be 90 consecutive calendar days from the date of notice to begin.

Airport Director Kevin Short said the fence is needed to keep deer and other wildlife from darting across the runway and posing safety risks.

The project comes on the heels of the successful completion of eight new T-hangars that had tenants lined up before they were even finished. There is a long list of tenants waiting for any of the 48 T-hangars at the airport to become vacant.



FILE PHOTO

Oconee County Council is poised to vote Tuesday on awarding a $117,350 contract for a fence at the Oconee County Regional Airport.

Future airport projects will be **under the** watch of new engineering consultant W.K. Dickson of Columbia, S.C.

Oconee's previous airport engineering consultant, Talbert & Bright Inc. fell from grace while working on a runway-extension project. One of TBI's engineers, Marty Wynn, was convicted in May of federal fraud charges related **to the** falsifying of **a state permit** needed for **the** runway project.

A multi-million dollar, three-party lawsuit over damages stemming from **the** runway project's delay **is** pending in the Oconee County Courthouse. The lawsuit involves **Oconee,** Talbert **&** Bright and project **contractor** Plateau Excavation Inc.

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