Oconee to post funded, unspent projects online, Moulder says

BY CARLOS GALARZA
THE JOURNAL

SENECA — Oconee County taxpayers may soon see for themselves exactly how much of their money has been squirreled away for capital projects over the years.

County Administrator Scott Moulder promised to put online a list of the capital projects taxpayers have funded over the years that have yet to be completed.

Moulder told a gathering of the Mountain Lakes Community Association on Monday night that he would get the information out but did not provide details.

MLCA invited Moulder to be the guest speaker at its general membership meeting at the Seneca Presbyterian Church.


Moulder

At the conclusion of his talk about community involvement, Moulder opened the floor to questions.

One attendee asked Moulder about newspaper reports of the county collecting more money from taxpayers in excess of needs.

The person wanted to know how much money the county really has.

Moulder said that looking at the county's financial statements he could say unequivocally that it does not have $50 million to spend on anything it wants.

He said there is about $9 million to $10 million unreserved in the General Fund, which he called the main source of people's taxes.

Moulder said most of the county's money sits in the Capital Projects Fund. He said that money has been earmarked and approved for a specific use by Oconee County Council over the years.

Moulder gave as an example the Strawberry Farm Road Convenience Center expansion that has taken three years to get going.

Moulder's reply prompted someone else to say: "If we haven't seen the projects after three or four years, maybe we don't need that project."

Moulder said he has asked some of his department heads why projects have not been started after money has been set aside for them. He said part of the problem has been a lack of stability at the top with the frequent turnover of administrators.

Asked if he would make the information about the capital projects funded but not spent available online, Moulder said he would.

carlos@dailyjm.com | (864) 973-6685