

Planning Commission gets full deck

Oconee County Council appoints David Lyle to empty at-large seat

BY CARLOS GALARZA
THE JOURNAL

WALHALLA — The new member of the Oconee County Planning Commission likely won't be in town for the group's next meeting — a zoning workshop scheduled May 16.



Lyle

J. David Lyle was in Charleston on Wednesday awaiting a flight on a "military hop" that would take him, his wife and two friends to Spain.

"We've been waiting for a military plane with room for the four of us," Lyle said. "It'll be the same on the return trip."

Lyle said one of the perks of being a retired federal government employee with the U.S. Air Force and Navy is the opportunity to travel the world by hopping on a military plane with room to accommodate his travel plans.

Lyle, the brother Luther Lyle, a local historian who is on the board of the Oconee Heritage Museum, was unanimously appointed by County Council on Tuesday night to fill an empty at-large seat on the Planning Commission.

SEE FULL, PAGE A5

FULL: Lyle replaces Abbott

FROM PAGE A1

Lyle, 65, replaces the late Randy Abbott, and is looking forward to serve. He hopes to be a facilitator.

"It takes a lot to work and bring people to the table," Lyle said. "You need everybody to talk."

Lyle said he's also a person that likes to "look at all sides" of an issue.

"I was pleasantly surprised to be appointed unanimously," Lyle said.

Actually, Lyle did not get a vote from Councilman Wayne McCall.

"I've got to come clean," McCall said before the vote. "Lyle is my relative."

Lyle confirmed the relationship.

"Wayne and I shared great-great grandparents," he said.

The Planning Commission workshop May 16 will focus on discussing the zoning districts defined in the county's Zoning Enabling Ordinance.