Daily Journal • Daily Messenger Thursday, June 11, 2009

Search for Oconee County boss begins

By CARLOS GALARZA
carlos@dailyjm.com

WALHALLA — The search for a new Oconee County administrator officially began this week.

An ad announcing the opening began appearing Monday on the "Job Announcements" link found in the South Carolina Association of Counties Web site. The opening also is posted on the County Council's Web site.

The job lists the current salary of $105,000, but county officials said last week they would be willing to pay more for a qualified candidate with experience.

County officials set a deadline of July 15 for receiving cover letters and resumes. The top three candidates would be brought in for interviews.

At a minimum, candidates should have at least a bachelor's degree in public administration or business, but would prefer someone with a master's of public administration or master's of business administration or related degree "and significant experience in Public Finance, Planning, Human Resources and/or Public Works or engineering."

Additionally, as the county boss, the qualified candidate is required to demonstrate people skills by "inspiring performance." The person should also be able to coach, delegate to others, participate in decision making with others, develop solutions and resolve conflicts."

The job opened up when the council fired Dale Surrett, who had been administrator since the summer of 2007.