



Buncombe County Board of Commissioners

Request for Board Action

Meeting Date: 5/7/2019

Consent Agenda

Department: Soil & Water Conservation

Presenter(s): Gillian Phillips, Planning

Contact(s): Gary Higgins, Soil and Water Conservation Director

Subject: Sluder Farm Conservation Easement

Brief Summary: The Buncombe County Ag Advisory Board in partnership with the Buncombe Soil and Water Conservation District would like to request closing costs for one project that they are currently working on. The board requests \$70,000 to complete two easements on the Sluder Farm on Beaverdam Rd in Candler. The project consists of 235.05 acres of farm and forestland consisting of a group of parcels. The ownership consists of Randall and Debra Sluder (PIN 9605-59-6557), Larry Sluder and Sheila Lambert (9605-68-1272), and Randall Sluder and Larry Sluder (9605-57-6001, 9606-40-2522, 9605-58-0178, 9606-50-3520). This property is in the Beaverdam valley community in Candler, where development of farmland has started to be more common than a working family farm. Randall and Larry Sluder are both very good stewards of the land and have a strong conservation mindset. This farm has been in their family for over 100 years and they are currently applying for NC Century Farm Status.

Recommended Motion & Requested Action: Buncombe County Soil & Water Conservation and Budget Office recommend approving this budget amendment for \$70,000.

County Manager's comments and Recommendation:

Approve this amendment for \$70,000.