



Buncombe County Board of Commissioners

Request for Board Action

Meeting Date: 12/07/2020

Consent Agenda

Department:

Budget

Presenter(s):

Jennifer Barnette, Budget Director

Contact(s):

Nathan Pennington, Planning
Gillian Phillips, Planning
Jennifer Barnette, Budget

Subject:

FY2021 LCAB Conservation Easements

Brief Summary:

As part of the FY21 Budget, Future Conservation Easement dollars were set aside with the 2025 Strategic Plan Goal in mind of preserving farmland and environmentally sensitive tracts. The Land Conservation Advisory Board has recommended the following conservation easements for approval:

1) Hickory Nut Gap Preservation: \$29,800. The 26.129-acre easement will be established by Southern Appalachian Highland Conservancy (SAHC) and will protect forested land and streambank areas. The proposed easement borders SAHC's 110 acre Drovers Road conservation easement which the County helped fund in FY2009.

2) Brown Farm Preservation: \$19,000. The 13 acres, located in Avery's Creek, will be part of a larger easement and additional 60 acre farm across the Henderson County Line. The easement will be established by Conserving Carolina and will protect an active cattle farm, which borders the French Broad River.

The funds would be used to cover transaction costs for both properties, totalling \$48,800. No new funding is required.

Recommended Motion & Requested Actions:

Approve budget amendment

County Manager's Comments & Recommendation:

County Manager recommends as presented