



Buncombe County Board of Commissioners

Request for Board Action

Meeting Date: May 7, 2024

New Business

Department:

Agriculture and Land Resources

Presenter(s):

Jennifer Harrison, Director

Contact(s):

Jennifer Harrison, Agriculture and Land Resources Director

Subject:

Clean Water Fund Awards

Brief Summary:

The Clean Water Fund was established to engage local nonprofits and government organizations to improve water quality in Buncombe County. The fund was established with \$100,000 available for awards. Staff received three eligible applications.

The Town of Black Mountain requested funds to install piping to divert stormwater from roadside ditches onto the golf course where it can slow and infiltrate. Riverlink requested funds to expand their Disconnect to Protect project that educates and supports landowners in diverting roof runoff to rainbarrels and raingardens. Asheville GreenWorks requested funds to install a trash trout jr. on Smithmill Creek to remove trash before it enters the French Broad River.

The Energy and Environmental Stewardship Subcommittee reviewed the staff scores and voted to support recommending \$75,000 be awarded to the Town of Black Mountain for the Fairview Drive Stormwater Diversion project and \$25,000 be awarded to Riverlink for their Disconnect to Protect project. Both projects address issues identified in watershed management plans.

Recommended Motion & Requested Action:

Approve grant awards

County Manager's Comments & Recommendation:

County Manager recommends as presented