

REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

**HENDERSON COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

MEETING DATE: Wednesday, November 18, 2020

SUBJECT: Soil and Water Conservation District - Grant Awards

PRESENTER: Betsy Gerwig, Conservation Engineer

ATTACHMENTS: Yes

1. Budget Amendment
2. Edneyville Community Center Stream Restoration Project
3. Edneyville Community Center Environmental Enhancement
4. Mill Pond Creek Restoration and Stabilization
5. Mill Pond Creek Stream Restoration Phase II

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

The Henderson Soil and Water Conservation District is requesting that the Board approve a series of grants to be awarded to the department for two separate stream restoration projects, one at the Edneyville Community Center and one on the campus of Rugby Middle School. These grants will provide funding for similar projects at each site, which will include stream restoration, establishment of a riparian buffer and native vegetation, and the creation of educational access points/outdoor learning labs. The grants awarded for the two projects are in the table below:

Project Site	Grant Funder	Grant Amount
Edneyville Community Center	NC Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Water Resources: 319 NPS Pollution Control Grant	\$150,000
Edneyville Community Center	NC Attorney General: Environmental Enhancement Grant	\$90,000
Rugby Middle School	Duke Energy Foundation: Nature Grant	\$10,000
Rugby Middle School	NC Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Water Resources: Water Resources Development Grant	\$71,600

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:

The Board is requested to approve the grants which will allow for stream restoration, establishment of riparian buffer and native vegetation, and an educational access point at two County locations, and the associated Budget Amendment.

Suggested Motion:

I move the Board of Commissioners approve the grants for the stream restoration projects at the Edneyville Community Center and Rugby Middle School, and the associated Budget Amendment.

**LINE-ITEM TRANSFER REQUEST
HENDERSON COUNTY**



Department: SOIL AND WATER

Please make the following line-item transfers:

What expense line-item is to be increased?

Account	Line-Item Description	Amount
<u>115471-569931-9011</u>	<u>UNALLOCATED FUNDING</u>	<u>\$86,690</u>
<u>115471-569931-9012</u>	<u>UNALLOCATED FUNDING</u>	<u>\$240,000</u>
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What expense line-item is to be decreased? Or what additional revenue is now expected?

Account	Line-Item Description	Amount
<u>114471-453034-9011</u>	<u>MISC REVENUES</u>	<u>\$5,090</u>
<u>114471-457001-9011</u>	<u>DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES GRANT</u>	<u>\$71,600</u>
<u>114471-454019-9011</u>	<u>MISC LOCAL GRANT (DUKE ENERGY)</u>	<u>\$10,000</u>
<u>114471-458010-9012</u>	<u>NCDOJ - ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT GRANT</u>	<u>\$90,000</u>
<u>114471-454802-9012</u>	<u>NCDEQ - NPS POLLUTION CONTROL GRANT</u>	<u>\$150,000</u>
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Justification: Please provide a brief justification for this line-item transfer request.

TO BUDGET FOR GRANT AWARDS AND FUNDING RELATED TO THE EDNEYVILLE (9012) AND RUGBY (9011) STREAM BANK RESTORATION PROJECTS.

Authorized by Department Head

Date

Authorized by Budget Office

Date

Authorized by County Manager

Date

<i>For Budget Use Only</i>	
Batch #	_____
BA #	_____
Batch Date	_____

FW: 319 Grant FY20 Award Decision

Gerwig, Betsy - FPAC-NRCS, Hendersonville, NC <betsy.gerwig@usda.gov>

Tue 8/18/2020 7:17 AM

To: Caroline Wicker <CWicker@Hendersoncountync.gov>; Jonathan Wallin <jonathan.wallin@nc.nacdnet.net>; Hoyt, April - NRCS, Hendersonville, NC <april.hoyt@usda.gov>

Cc: Carleen Dixon <CDixon@Hendersoncountync.gov>

Woo Hoo! We got the 319 Grant for the Edneyville Park. Fingers crossed on the EEG grant.

Betsy.

Betsy Gerwig, PE

Henderson Soil & Water Conservation District

Phone: (828) 697-4949

All email correspondence to or from this address is subject to the North Carolina Public Records law, which may result in monitoring or disclosure to third parties.

From: Bastakoti, Rishi <rishi.bastakoti@ncdenr.gov>

Sent: Friday, August 14, 2020 4:52 PM

To: Gerwig, Betsy - FPAC-NRCS, Hendersonville, NC <betsy.gerwig@usda.gov>

Cc: Bastakoti, Rishi <rishi.bastakoti@ncdenr.gov>

Subject: 319 Grant FY20 Award Decision

Importance: High

Dear Betsy,

Congratulations! The 319 grant review team has selected your proposal, *Edneyville Community Center Stream Restoration Project*, to be fully funded! Please update your application with the following information:

- Include AU# in Section 7 of the application
- Any updates on match (Section 29)

Besides, this is your final opportunity to update your application based on the questions raised by the review committee, your written response, and the discussion during the interview.

I'll follow up soon with contracting forms, which you should have signed and return promptly so your contract can begin on Jan 1, 2021.

I look forward to working with you on this project. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns!

Thanks,

Rishi Bastakoti

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JOSH STEIN
ATTORNEY GENERAL



REPLY TO:
SARAH G. ZAMBON
ENVIRONMENTAL DIVISION
szambon@ncdoj.gov
TELEPHONE (919) 716-6955
FAX: (919) 716-6767

October 28, 2020

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Betsy Gerwig
Henderson County Soil and Water Conservation District
61 Triple Springs Road
Hendersonville, NC 28792

Re: HCSWCD 020-CR Edneyville Project

Dear Ms. Gerwig,

It is my pleasure to inform you that Henderson County Soil and Water Conservation District has been selected for a 2020 Environmental Enhancement Grant in the amount of \$90,000.00. The 2020 grant cycle was highly competitive with numerous excellent proposals submitted. I applaud your commitment to improving environmental quality and protecting natural resources in North Carolina.

Our office will be contacting you soon regarding the documentation required for the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), which outlines the administration and procedures of the grant program. If an MOU has not been initiated within 12 months of the receipt of this award letter, the EEG Program reserves the right to rescind the grant award. We will also be holding a virtual informational meeting for grantees regarding the compliance requirements for the EEG program and we will be sending out the information about the meeting by email shortly. Please email EEG@ncdoj.gov if you have any questions.

Thank you for your time and dedication to protecting North Carolina's environment.

Sincerely,

Sarah G. Zambon
Assistant Attorney General

Congratulations on your Duke Energy Foundation Grant

DeBrew, Craig <Craig.DeBrew@duke-energy.com>

Thu 10/1/2020 8:33 AM

To: Caroline Wicker <CWicker@Hendersoncountync.gov>; betsy.gerwig@usda.gov <betsy.gerwig@usda.gov>; Jonathan Wallin <jonathan.wallin@nc.nacdnet.net>

Cc: Chuck Edwards <Chuck.Edwards@ndeg.net>; Chuck McGrady - NC House Dist 117 <Chuck.McGrady@ncleg.net>; jake.johnson@ncleg.net <jake.johnson@ncleg.net>; McLaughlin, WKevin <WKevin.McLaughlin@duke-energy.com>; Minto, Ryan James <Ryan.Minto@duke-energy.com>

Duke Energy Update

October 1, 2020

Good morning, I wanted to share some good news. The Duke Energy Foundation has announced \$522,400 in grants to fund environmental projects creating access to nature and protecting species, habitats and water quality in North Carolina. I am happy to inform you that the **Henderson County Soil & Water Conservation District's** grant application to help restore and stabilize 425 feet of the upper portion of Mill Pond Creek at Rugby Middle School was approved at the \$10,000 level. We are excited that in addition to protecting water quality, the project gives students an opportunity to study watershed issues, to understand processes that degrade a stream system, and to learn ways to improve the quality of the stream and the associated habitat.

Below is more information on our grant announcement. Congratulations and we look forward to working with you on this exciting project.

Thank you for all you do,

Craig

Craig DeBrew, District Manager, Local Government and Community Relations
Kevin McLaughlin, Vice President, Government Affairs and External Relations
Ryan Minto, Director, State Government Affairs



News Release

Contact: Shawna Berger

24-Hour: 800.559.3853

Twitter: @DE_ShawnaB

Duke Energy powers vitality of natural resources in North Carolina through \$522,400 in grants

■ 22 organizations receive funds to protect, restore wildlife and natural resources

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – The Duke Energy Foundation today announced \$522,400 in grants to fund environmental projects creating access to nature and protecting species, habitats and water quality in North Carolina.

One of the ways Duke Energy builds powerful communities is through protecting and restoring wildlife and natural resources that communities and future generations depend on.

"We're pleased to support projects that protect and expand access to North Carolina's natural treasures, especially as more people are engaged in outdoor activities," said Stephen De May, Duke Energy's North Carolina president. "Our company is committed to the environment of our great state."

One of this year's grantees, Asheville GreenWorks, will receive funding for its Everybody's Environment program to promote racial equity in the environmental field.

"Asheville GreenWorks' Urban Forestry program grew tremendously over the past several years due in large part to generous funding from the Duke Energy Foundation," said Dawn Chavez, executive director, Asheville GreenWorks. "GreenWorks and many other environmental and conservation organizations in western North Carolina have been working together as part of Everybody's Environment to advance racial equity in our organizations and programs. The recent nature grant from the Duke Energy Foundation helps to build our capacity to effect meaningful change in equity, diversity and inclusivity in the environmental field."

Duke Energy is committed to investing in and working alongside our community partners to ensure future generations enjoy the immeasurable benefits of our natural resources.

A list of the grantees receiving more than \$10,000 can be found [here](#).

Duke Energy Foundation

The Duke Energy Foundation provides philanthropic support to meet the needs of communities where Duke Energy customers live and work. The Foundation contributes more than \$30 million annually in charitable gifts, and is funded by Duke Energy shareholder dollars. More information about the Foundation and its Powerful Communities program can be found at duke-energy.com/foundation.

Duke Energy (NYSE: DUK), a Fortune 150 company headquartered in Charlotte, N.C., is one of the largest energy holding companies in the U.S. It employs 30,000 people and has an electric generating capacity of 51,000 megawatts through its regulated utilities, and 3,000 megawatts through its nonregulated Duke Energy Renewables unit.

Duke Energy is transforming its customers' experience, modernizing the energy grid, generating cleaner energy and expanding natural gas infrastructure to create a smarter energy future for the people and communities it serves. The Electric Utilities and Infrastructure unit's regulated utilities serve approximately 7.7 million retail electric customers in six states – North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida, Indiana, Ohio and Kentucky. The Gas Utilities and Infrastructure unit distributes natural gas to more than 1.6 million customers in five states – North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Ohio and Kentucky. The Duke Energy Renewables unit operates wind and solar generation facilities across the U.S., as well as energy storage and microgrid projects.

Duke Energy was named to Fortune's 2020 "World's Most Admired Companies" list, and Forbes' 2019 "America's Best Employers" list. More information about the company is available at duke-energy.com. The [Duke Energy News Center](#) contains news releases, fact sheets, photos, videos and other materials. Duke Energy's [illumination](#) features stories about people, innovations, community topics and environmental issues. Follow Duke Energy on [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#).

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NORTH CAROLINA
Environmental Quality

September 22, 2020

ROY COOPER

Governor

MICHAEL S. REGAN

Secretary

S. DANIEL SMITH

Director

Andrew C. Brannon, Chair
Henderson Soil & Water Conservation District
61 Triple Springs Road
Hendersonville, NC 28792

Dear Chairman Brannon,

The Division of Water Resources (DWR) of the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ) is pleased to announce that **\$71,600** in financial assistance for a project located in your jurisdiction has been approved by the State of North Carolina.

We congratulate the Henderson Soil and Water Conservation District on its sponsorship of the **Mill Pond Creek Stream Restoration-Phase 2 Project**. This grant will provide financial assistance to restore approximately 425 linear feet of degraded stream, 0.5 acres of riparian buffer and construct outdoor educational facilities at Rugby Middle School. Your ongoing efforts to improve the condition of water resources in your district are to be commended.

DWR will be contacting District staff soon concerning the administrative requirements, including the signing of a grant contract with the State, for the use of state funds for this project. This award letter is not a guarantee of funding due to the COVID-19 pandemic or other unanticipated events that could reduce current appropriated state funding, any contracts shall be subject to availability of funding.

We look forward to working with you on this project. If you have questions, please contact Amin Davis at 919-707-9132 or via email at: amin.davis@ncdenr.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "S. Daniel Smith".

Danny Smith
Director, Division of Water Resources

ECc: Betsy Gerwig, Henderson Soil and Water Conservation District
Caroline Wicker, Henderson Soil and Water Conservation District
Amin Davis, Division of Water Resources
Andrew Moore, Division of Water Resources



North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality | Division of Water Resources
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