Budget Revision # _____

Item No. _____

Date: _____

Caldwell County Board of Commissioners

BUDGET REVISION

Subject:

Background and explanation for the Budget Revision:

This revision provides funding for the Forestry Service to allow them to finish equipping a new truck provided by the state.

The Budget Ordinance is hereby amended by making a Supplemental Appropriation with appropriations and revenues being adjusted as follows:

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION

Line Item #	Title	I/D		Amount	Line Item #	Title	I/D		Amount
10.9800.397000	Fund Balance App	I	$	39,000.00	10.6571.469303.5004	Forestry Service	I	$	39,000.00
Total				**39,000.00**	**Total**				**39,000.00**

Attachments (Yes or No): Yes

Public Hearing (Yes or No):

Distribution:
Original - Finance Office
Duplicate - Clerk to the Board
Triplicate - Department Head

Staff Recommendation:

Board Action:

Department Head	Date	Finance Director	Date	County Manager	Date
			03/26/24		

North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

N.C. Forest Service

Steven W. Troxler
Commissioner

Caldwell County Office
1543 Wilkesboro Boulevard
Lenoir, North Carolina 28645-4734
Phone: 828-757-5612
Fax: 828-757-5614

Gregory M. Hicks
Assistant Commissioner

Caldwell County Commissioners and County Manager Duncan,

The North Carolina Forest Service, District 2 Caldwell County Ranger's office, is asking for your consideration in the assistance of funding a new County Ranger vehicle, A type 6 engine.

In last year 2023, the Caldwell County Rangers Office responded to 201 calls county wide. That response amount is also the highest number of calls in all of Region 3, which includes 31 of the western counties in North Carolina. The Caldwell County Ranger's office responsibilities include Wildfire Prevention and Safety, Prescribed Fire and Debris Burning, Forest Management and above all else Fire Control. Our Ranger's office also assists the U.S. Forest Service on federally owned land as well in Caldwell County. Fire Control on private property is our main focus as there are well over 450sq miles of land in Caldwell County alone. That amount of land puts us sitting 48th out of the 100 counties in NC for land mass.

The emergency firefighter program employs many community members and firefighters throughout our county, during our two fire seasons which include a spring and fall season. Last year our emergency firefighters worked a total of 1,740.5-man hours and paid out more than $28,000. Caldwell county had 201 calls for 105.8 acers last year 2023, which is approximately 1.05 acers for each fire. In turn we are catching wildfires in the county at a small size due to the quality of equipment we have. This truck and what we have requested to outfit it, will help us better serve the citizens and those that visit Caldwell County.

The State of North Carolina, in cooperation with Caldwell County, purchased a 2023 Ford F-350 truck during this fiscal year. However, the truck was not delivered to us completed and ready for service. For the vehicle to be complete, the truck needs the following items: Emergency lighting, radios and its accessories, a skid unit which includes a pump, tank, motor, and all the proper fittings, a winch, and finally the NC Forest Service logo on the driver and passenger doors. This is an additional cost of $39,000.00 in order to get the truck operational for emergency calls. This 2023 Ford F-350 will be replacing the current 2012 Ford F-350. The 2012 Ford F-350 is now 12 years old and has 135,000 miles on it. At the rate the calls are growing and with us about to enter Spring Fire Season, pushing and running the current truck puts us at risk of low to no response time if the truck happens to need maintenance and/or parts to replace, as it is 12 years old.

The Caldwell County Ranger's office would like to extend a thank you to the County, the Commissioners, and the County Manger Donald Duncan for their continued support of the North Carolina Forest Service.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact the Caldwell County Ranger's office.

Respectfully submitted by,

Jason Noble
Caldwell County Ranger

Harley Andrews
Caldwell County Assistant Ranger

Type 6 Engine Price List - 2024 (Caldwell)

Item Description	Quantity	Unit Cost	Total	Remarks/Vendor	comments
Slip On Unit					
Fire Supperssion Skid Unit	1	$17,000.00	$17,000.00	Wildland Warehouse, includes shipping	200 gal. tank, pump, & all fittings
Interior					
Console	1	$967.82	$1,005.10		
Radio (BK)	1	$3,300.00	$3,300.00		
Radio (Motorola) Mobile	1	$9,000.00	$9,000.00		
Motorola in car charger	1	$450.00	$450.00		
Magnetic mic holder	2	$29.00	$58.00		Plus tax
Weather Tec floor mats	1	$233.90	$233.90		
Viking 1,000 Peak AMP Jump box	1	$89.00	$89.00		Plus tax
Radio Portible	1	$4,400.00	$4,400.00		
Exterior					
Light bar w/ siren & strobe lights	1	$960.00	$960.00		
LED strip light for tool box	1	$22.50	$22.50		
ROM R0300034 34" COMP. LIGHT	1	$55.00	$55.00		
LED bumper lights / UnderBody Lights	4	$49.00	$196.00		
LED backup lights	2	$36.50	$73.00		
Misc. bolts, caulk, etc.	1	$100.00	$100.00	Misc. vendors	
Trailer light Plug	1	$30.74	$30.74		
Spring Kits	1	$550.00	$550.00		
ROM R0300027.5 27.5" COMP. LIGHT	4	$90.00	$360.00		
ROM R0300034 34" COMP. LIGHT	1	$113.00	$113.00		
Badlaod Apex 12,000 LB. Winch	1	$600.00	$600.00		
EcoHitch Hidden Front Mount Trailer Hitch	1	$375.64	$375.64		
		Total	$38,971.88		