



Blount County Government

TO: Blount County Commissioners

FROM: John Wilson

RE: Appropriate funds for salary increase and benefits for Ag Extension Agent

DATE: March 24, 2023

This requested increase amount of \$23,687.87 is to fully fund salary and benefits for the Ag. Extension Agent position approved and funded for the current fiscal year. In order to maintain employment of preferred candidate requires a salary of \$55,000 and associated benefits. The request comes to enhance and maintain a competitive salary for the selected candidate filling this position. In addition, this includes a salary improvement of \$2,080.00 and associated benefits for one staff member who achieved advanced educational degree with accompanying salary change.

The original appropriated salary of \$43,600.00 was a starter amount for an individual with no experience. The identified/selected candidate has ten and one-half years (10 ½) Agriculture Extension experience. The candidates' resume' demonstrates excellence in program delivery, community outreach and accomplishment in securing grant funding. This individual would be an asset to our staff and is equipped to well-serve our citizens with minimal training, i.e. 'hit the ground running'.

Respectfully Submitted,
John Wilson, Director