



COLORADO
Department of Agriculture

From: Colorado Department of Agriculture
To: Governor Jared Polis
Colorado Senate Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee
Colorado House Agriculture, Livestock, and Water Committee
Re: HB 21-1262 Support for Agricultural Events Organizations Report
Date: January 14, 2022

Overview

[House Bill 21-1262 Support for Agricultural Events Organizations](#) - This bill provided funding to the Colorado Department of Agriculture to distribute to Agricultural Events Organizations, the National Western Stock Show Administration, the National Western Stock Show Campus Construction, and the Colorado State Fair. This report fulfills the reporting requirements for HB 21-1262, covering Agricultural Events and the National Western Stock Show Campus Construction.

Agricultural Events Relief Program - \$2M

HB 21-1262 appropriated funding for a relief program to provide payments to agricultural events organizations that met eligibility criteria developed by the Commissioner. The statute required priority to go to local county fairs before awarding grants to other agricultural events organizations.

The bill required that when determining eligibility and the size of a relief payment, the Commissioner shall consider:

- the type of agricultural events organization that is applying for a relief payment
- the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the agricultural events organization or business model
- the size of the organization
- the availability of access to other COVID-19 relief or grant funding.

The bill also required the agency to report on how they allocated the money, a list of relief payment recipients with the amount given to each, the types of agricultural events organizations that received relief payments, and any other information deemed pertinent by the Commissioner.

Supporting and Aiding the National Western Stock Show - \$28.5M

HB 21-1262 provided \$25 million in funding for the construction of the National Western Stock Show Campus and \$3.5 million in funding for supporting or aiding the National Western Stock Show event. The bill requires the agency to provide a report detailing how the agency allocated the funds to provide support for and construction of the National Western Stock Show.

Summary

Agricultural Events Relief Program - \$2M

Program Development and Allocation

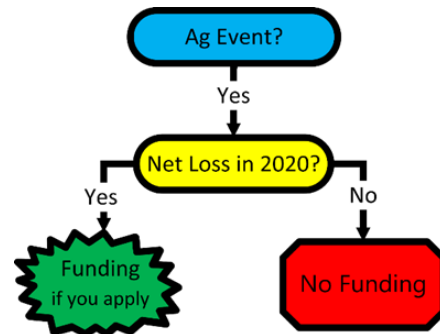
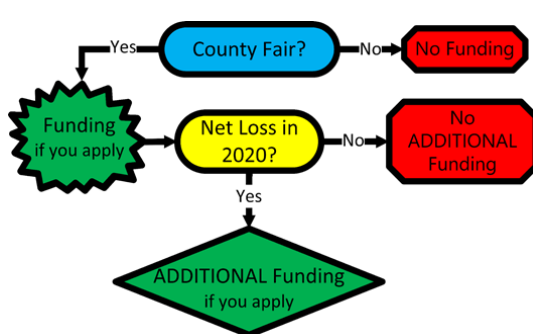
Our goal was to provide relief to agricultural event organizations throughout Colorado facing impacts from COVID-19. During summer 2021, the Department held two stakeholder listening sessions presenting ideas and gathering feedback on different allocation models. CDA also received input through a google form, phone calls, and meetings with the Colorado Fairs Association and Colorado Counties, Inc.

CDA with input from stakeholders created definitions for "County Fair" and "Agriculture Event."

- County Fair for this bill's purpose is *"an exhibition held for the purposes of disseminating knowledge concerning, and encouraging the growth and prosperity of, all agricultural, stock raising, horticultural, artistic, and other mechanical or industrial pursuits in a county or region. They must incorporate agricultural exhibits or shows, include competitions for youth programs, and have recognition by one or more county commissions."*
- Agricultural Event for this bill's purpose is *"a public event held for the primary purposes of promoting or disseminating knowledge concerning, and encouraging the growth and prosperity of, all agricultural, stock raising, and horticultural, industrial pursuits in a county or region of Colorado."*

To distribute funds, the Department used an allocation model as outlined below:

- \$600,000 distributed equally among all eligible applicants (County Fairs and other Agricultural Events)
- \$1,050,000 distributed equally among all County Fairs that applied
- \$300,000 to compensate for net losses. CDA totaled all net losses submitted to determine each applicant's loss percentage. The applicant then received that percentage of this allocation.



Additional Considerations

- The Ag Event must have existed before 2020 and show net losses comparable to fair-type expenses for the 2020 event.
- To determine the impact, Ag Events were required to submit net losses from 2020 due to COVID-19. Net losses were money an Ag Event paid out related to their event they did not recover. Reporting of net losses was optional for County Fairs. The template for net losses also included an area to deduct other COVID-19 relief funds they received.
- In addition, due to limited funds and many potential events, CDA limited money to non-profits and events that were not deemed critical or essential during the pandemic.
- CDA considered the organization's size and the event's reach, but ultimately size was not used as a factor in the allocation model.

Applications and Awards:

In August, one application period was open for all Agricultural Events and County Fairs.

- 53 total applications.
- 45 County Fairs applied. 29 of them reported net losses.
- Eight Agricultural Events applied.
- Forty-nine applicants received funds **as provided in the table on the following page**.
- CDA distributed the final payment on December 15, 2021.

An application review committee assessed all applications related to the eligibility criteria obtaining additional or missing information when needed.

- The committee determined that one event that applied as a County Fair did not meet the criteria for a County Fair. The applicant did not provide additional documentation to determine their eligibility as an Agricultural Event.
- The committee determined that three of the Agricultural Events that applied were not eligible because their 2020 event occurred before the pandemic. Hence, net losses were not relevant to the impacts of COVID-19 for the 2020 event.

Further Reporting

Applicants submitted initial thoughts on how they would spend funds. Over the next year, we will be collecting data and stories on the actual use of funds.

County	Name of the organization.	County Fair or Ag Event?	Total Allocation
Adams	Adams County Fair	County Fair	\$ 36,109.00
Adams	Colorado Foundation for Agriculture- Summer Agriculture Institutes	Ag Event	\$ 14,761.00
Arapahoe	Arapahoe County- Arapahoe County fair	County Fair	\$ 45,195.00
Archuleta	Archuleta County Fair- Archuleta County Fair	County Fair	\$ 44,583.00
Baca	BACA FAIR & RODEO, INC.- BACA COUNTY FAIR & RODEO	County Fair	\$ 36,109.00
Bent	Bent County Extension- Bent County Fair and Rodeo	County Fair	\$ 36,109.00
Boulder	Boulder County Fair Livestock Show & Rodeo- Boulder County Fair Livestock Show & Rodeo	County Fair	\$ 63,014.00
Chaffee	Chaffee County Government- Chaffee County Fair and Rodeo	County Fair	\$ 40,842.00
Crowley	Crowley County Fair Association, Inc.- Crowley County Days	County Fair	\$ 36,108.00
Custer	Custer County Fair Board- 2020 Custer County Fair	County Fair	\$ 36,375.00
Denver	Colorado Agricultural Leadership Program- Governor's Forum on Colorado Agriculture	Ag Event	\$ -
Dolores	Dolores County- Dolores County Fair & Junior Rodeo	County Fair	\$ 36,109.00
Douglas	Colorado Agricultural Leadership Foundation (CALF)- Farm and Ranch Day, and Harvest Day	Ag Event	\$ 13,832.00
Douglas	Douglas County Fair & Rodeo- Douglas County Fair & Rodeo	County Fair	\$ 55,709.00
Eagle	Eagle County Government- Eagle County Fair & Rodeo	County Fair	\$ 57,180.00
El Paso	El Paso County-El Paso County Fair	County Fair	\$ 69,034.00
Elbert	Elbert County Government- Elbert County Fair	County Fair	\$ 48,799.00
Fremont	Fremont County- Fremont County Fair	County Fair	\$ 36,109.00
Gilpin	Gilpin County Parks & Recreation- Gilpin County Fair	County Fair	\$ 36,109.00
Grand	Grand County- Middle Park Fair and Rodeo	County Fair	\$ 36,108.00
Gunnison	Gunnison County Fairgrounds	Ag Event	\$ 15,126.00
Huerfano	Huerfano County Fair Board- 2020 Huerfano 4H and FFA Fair	County Fair	\$ 37,027.00
Jackson	North Park Fair Association- North Park 4-H and FFA Fair	County Fair	\$ 36,463.00
Jefferson	CSU Extension - Jefferson County - Jeffco 4-H Fair	County Fair	\$ 42,062.00
Jefferson	Evergreen Rodeo Association- 2020 Evergreen Rodeo & Parade	Ag Event	\$ 16,011.00
Kiowa	Kiowa County- Kiowa County Fair & Rodeo	County Fair	\$ 42,523.00
Kit Carson	Kit Carson County- Kit Carson County Fair	County Fair	\$ 66,526.00
La Plata	La Plata County Fair- La Plata County Fair 2020	County Fair	\$ 36,108.00
Larimer	The Ranch Events Complex, Larimer County Fairgrounds- 2020 Larimer County Fair and Rodeo	County Fair	\$ 59,312.00
Las Animas	Las Animas County Fairboard- Las Animas County Fair	County Fair	\$ 36,109.00
Logan	Logan County- Logan County Fair & Rodeo	County Fair	\$ 45,670.00
Mesa	Mesa County Fair	County Fair	\$ 59,428.00
Mesa	Colorado Association for Viticulture & Enology (CAVE)- VinCO Conference and Trade Show	Ag Event	\$ -
Mesa	Rimrock Fruita Rodeo- Fruita Rimrock Rodeo	County Fair	\$ -
Moffat	Moffat County Fair- Moffat County Fair	County Fair	\$ 36,109.00
Montezuma	Montezuma County- Montezuma County Fair	County Fair	\$ 37,561.00
Montrose	Montrose County Fair & Rodeo	County Fair	\$ 44,984.00
Otero	Arkansas Valley Exposition & Fair Association- Arkansas Valley Fair	County Fair	\$ 45,323.00
Park	Park County Government- Park County Fair	County Fair	\$ 36,109.00
Phillips	Phillips County Fair Board- Kayla Kafka	County Fair	\$ 46,184.00
Prowers	Sand & Sage Round-Up	County Fair	\$ 36,108.00
Pueblo	Pueblo County Fair	County Fair	\$ 36,675.00
Rio Blanco	Rio Blanco County- 2020 Rio Blanco County Fair	County Fair	\$ 36,109.00
Rio Grande	San Luis Valley Fair	County Fair	\$ 36,109.00
Routt	Routt County Fair- 106th Annual Routt County Fair	County Fair	\$ 36,109.00
San Miguel	San Miguel Basin Fair Board- San Miguel Basin County Fair	County Fair	\$ 36,108.00
Sedgwick	Sedgwick County Fair	County Fair	\$ 36,108.00
Teller	Teller County Association of Fairs and Shows- Teller County Fair	County Fair	\$ 36,497.00
Washington	Washington County/Eastern Colorado Roundup- Concert and Tractor Pull	County Fair	\$ 36,109.00
Weld	Colorado Farm Show	Ag Event	\$ -
Weld	Weld County Fair- Weld County Fair	County Fair	\$ 36,109.00
Yuma	Yuma County Colorado-Yuma County Fair	County Fair	\$ 55,601.00
Yuma	Old Threshers Group- Old Threshers Days	Ag Event	\$ 15,529.00
		Total	\$ 1,950,000.00

Support or Aid for the National Western Stock Show Event- \$3.5 million

On June 29, 2021, the Department issued a grant agreement to the Western Stock Show Administration for agriculture programs and expenses related to the 2022 National Western Stock Show in January of 2022.

As of December 8, 2021, the National Western Stock Show had used \$2.887 million of the grant to prepare for the show in January 2022.

- In April 2020, NWSS laid off 60% of the stock show staff. A good portion of the funds went to grow the staffing levels needed to complete a world-class show.
- NWSS hired judges for competitions across all animal species.
- Tended to repairs, maintenance, and infrastructure needs to ensure Colorado has a professional showcase that hosts producers from over 40 states and 30 countries.
- NWSS funded educational programs for youth, including numerous events in the Activity Pavilion, which hosts over seven hours of educational programming and family entertainment each day of the Stock Show. Other specific events funded outside of the Activity Pavilion include Ag Adventure, Dairy Discovery Zone, National Western Nursery, Petting Farm, Pony Rides, Catch-A-Calf Program, Collegiate Judging Contests, and many more.

The Western Stock Show Association will submit a final report in March of 2022 identifying the use of the remaining funds.

Aiding the National Western Stock Show Event in Constructing the National Western Stock Show's Campus - \$25 million

NWCO (the Mayor's Office of the National Western Center) is the party responsible for constructing the National Western Stock Show Campus. On December 7, 2021, the Department issued a grant agreement to NWCO for this work. The grant award was a one-time payment for the total grant amount for any construction on the campus. NWCO will provide quarterly and biannual reports to the Department of Agriculture, with the final biannual report being due on December 1, 2022.