

# MEMO

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**To:** Legislative Council  
**From:** Stephanie Neipling, Interim Director  
**Date:** September 6, 2012  
**Re:** FY13 County Fair Funded Applicants

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The Fiscal Year 2013 funding recommendations are enclosed for the Arkansas County Fair Building Grant Program. By the August 17<sup>th</sup> deadline, 6 complete and eligible applications were received with over \$18,000 in requests. Funds available this cycle for distribution under the County Fair Building Grant Program totaled \$17,415.90.

Thanks!

Stephanie Neipling, Interim Director  
Department of Rural Services

Enclosures

**Arkansas County Fair Building Grant Program**  
**Fiscal Year 2013**  
Contact: Stephanie Neipling, 682-6011

**Program:**

Grant awards are available to county fairs located in counties with a population of less than 55,000. Applications for this program are accepted on an annual basis. Eligible projects for this fiscal year include construction, renovation or general improvements of county fair buildings and grounds, or the purchase of items shown to directly improve the buildings, grounds or the services that the county fair association may provide. Maximum grant awards for this fiscal year is \$4,000.

**Grant Review Process:**

Each grant application is date stamped and assigned a control number upon receipt to the Department of Rural Services (DRS). The grants are then reviewed in the order they are received. The reviewer uses a standard checklist to review each application. Applicants submitting their applications prior to the application deadline are notified of application deficiencies and are given the opportunity to submit additional materials prior the application deadline. Applicants postmarking their application on the date of the deadline are eligible and are reviewed by the same process, but are not allowed to submit material to eliminate any deficiencies. All complete applications as of the application deadline are then checked against the awards history to determine if the county has any open grants in the program. Applications are then entered into a database to generate lists and total requests. Copies of complete and eligible applications with a computerized listing are then forwarded to a three-person review committee made up of members of the Arkansas Rural Development Commission (ARDC) appointed by the ARDC Chairperson. The ARDC Grants Review Committee meets and reviews the grants with staff members with their recommendations. Recommendations are entered into the grant database and a listing of all complete and eligible grant applications with funding recommendations is forwarded to all members of the ARDC. The ARDC then meets, discusses the recommendations, and approves final funding recommendations that are forwarded to the Legislative Council and the Governor for approval. The grants are awarded at a special awards ceremony scheduled by the department.

**FY13 Information:**

Amount Available for Distribution: \$17,415.90

Total Dollars Requested from Complete and Eligible Applicants: \$18,622.98

Total Complete & Eligible Grant Applications: 6

Amount Recommended for Distribution under the County Fair Building Grant Program:  
**\$17,415.90**

## Arkansas County Fair Building Grant FY 2013 Funding Recommendations

**APPLICANT:** Chicot County Fair Association

**PROGRAM:** County Fair Building Grant

**COUNTY/JUDGE** Chicot / Hon. Mack Ball

**PROJECT NARRATIVE:** The Chicot County Fair Assn requests \$4,000 to build a 30x34 outdoor covered area to be used for various events.

**TOTAL PROJECT COST:** \$8,100.00

**AMOUNT RECOMMENDED FOR FUNDING:** \$3,597.64

**SENATOR/REPRESENTATIVE:** J. Jeffress / Moore

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**APPLICANT:** Clark County Fair Association

**PROGRAM:** County Fair Building Grant

**COUNTY/JUDGE** Clark / Hon. Ron Daniell

**PROJECT NARRATIVE:** The Clark County Fair Assn requests \$1,328.48 to purchase new ceiling fans in the Commercial Building

**TOTAL PROJECT COST:** \$2,656.96

**AMOUNT RECOMMENDED FOR FUNDING:** \$1,328.48

**SENATOR/REPRESENTATIVE:** Malone / Roebuck

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**APPLICANT:** Conway County Fair

**PROGRAM:** County Fair Building Grant

**COUNTY/JUDGE** Conway / Hon. Jimmy Hart

**PROJECT NARRATIVE:** The Conway County Fair Assn requests \$4,000 to rebuild a concession stand that was damaged in a tornado.

**TOTAL PROJECT COST:** \$24,472.00

**AMOUNT RECOMMENDED FOR FUNDING:** \$3,597.64

**SENATOR/REPRESENTATIVE:** Rapert / Thompson

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**APPLICANT:** Lawrence County Fair Association

**PROGRAM:** County Fair Building Grant

**COUNTY/JUDGE** Lawrence / Hon. Dale Freeman

**PROJECT NARRATIVE:** The Lawrence County Fair Assn requests \$2,125 to extend a lean-to roof.

**TOTAL PROJECT COST:** \$4,250.00

**AMOUNT RECOMMENDED FOR FUNDING:** \$2,125.00

**SENATOR/REPRESENTATIVE:** Thompson / Ratliff

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**APPLICANT:** Montgomery County Fair Association  
**PROGRAM:** County Fair Building Grant  
**COUNTY/JUDGE** Montgomery / Hon. Alvin Black  
**PROJECT NARRATIVE:** The Montgomery County Fair Assn requests \$4000 to purchase weigh scales and to paint and re-roof three small buildings.  
**TOTAL PROJECT COST:** \$8,864.33  
**AMOUNT RECOMMENDED FOR FUNDING:** \$3,597.64  
**SENATOR/REPRESENTATIVE:** Fletcher / Bell  
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**APPLICANT:** Searcy County Fair Association  
**PROGRAM:** County Fair Building Grant  
**COUNTY/JUDGE** Searcy / Hon. Johnny Hinchey  
**PROJECT NARRATIVE:** The Searcy County Fair Assn requests \$3,169.5 to install heating and air conditioning to the Extension Homemakers Bldg and add exhaust fans to exhibit buildings.  
**TOTAL PROJECT COST:** \$6,339.00  
**AMOUNT RECOMMENDED FOR FUNDING:** \$3,169.50  
**SENATOR/REPRESENTATIVE:** Lavery / Branscum  
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