

From: LaClair, Jolinda <Jolinda.LaClair@state.vt.us>
Sent: Friday, February 21, 2014 5:57:44 PM
To: Richard Lawrence; Carolyn Partridge; Linda Leehman
Cc: Leland, Jim; Bothfeld, Diane; Ross, Chuck
Subject: FW: Information for the House Committee of Corrections and Institutions

Representatives Partridge and Lawrence: Attached is the update provided by the Vermont Agency of Agriculture to the House Corrections and Institutions Committee regarding various Capital Construction Bill programs and accompanying account balances. These include Best Management Practice, Conservation Reserve Enhancement Grant, and Capital Equipment Assistance Grant programs. In addition, Deputy Secretary Bothfeld has outlined information about the Fair Grants below. The Agency has worked hard to reduce/spend down prior year account balances, as well as contact farmers who have received funding commitments but may have been delayed in their ability to finish projects. Staff have been diligent with this effort and 3 years of former account balances have been erased. With 45 applications pending and another 80 farms on the priority list for projects, the current fund balance will be depleted in full. Thank you for your interest and support for all of the Agency's work. Please let me know if we can offer you further information about the Agency's programs in the bi-annual Capital Construction Bill. - Jolinda

Jolinda H. LaClair
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From: Bothfeld, Diane
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2014 4:48 PM
To: SMacMartin@leg.state.vt.us
Cc: LaClair, Jolinda; Ross, Chuck
Subject: Information for the House Committee of Corrections and Institutions

Sue,

Attached please find to letters addressing the information required by the House Committee of Corrections and Institutions. The Agency has been spending down funds for capital construction funding accounts for the Agency of Agriculture (Agency) as of January 22, 2014. These funds provide financial assistance for the Best Management Practice (BMP) Cost Share Program, Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP), Capital Equipment Assistance Program (CEAP), and Vermont Farmers' Markets capital project.

The Agency has also been expending the capital improvement funds for the Fair Capital Improvement Grants. The grants have been allocated for FY 14 with less than \$10,000 remaining in this account. Please see the break down below.

FY2013 Agr. Fairs Capital Grant program had a remaining amount of:

\$73,229.10
- \$20,330.00 – Currently under contract agreement (remaining 10% of two year
contracts & \$9,900*)
\$52,899.10

FY2014 Agr. Fairs Capital Grant program:

\$ 52,899.10 – FY2013 carry-over
+\$223,660.00 – FY2014 appropriation was \$225,000-\$1,340 (bonding costs)
\$276,559.10
\$241,614.10 - awarded/contract agreements
\$ 26,845.00 - awarded/future contract

\$ 8,100.00 – FY2014 remaining balance

Please feel free to contact me or Jolinda LaClair for further information.

Thanks,

Diane Bothfeld
Deputy Secretary for Dairy Policy
Agency of Agriculture Food and Markets