

McLEAN COUNTY FAIR
PO BOX 103
UNDERWOOD, ND 58576

Chairman Beltz and Members of the House Agriculture Committee:

The McLean County Fair Board is asking for support of House Bill No. 1591 – County Fair Resiliency Grant Program.

The McLean County Fair was established 69 years ago in Underwood. We showcase the achievements of 4H, FFA, and Junior Points Livestock students with their static exhibits and livestock, earning them premiums and ribbons. Individuals and schools are also awarded premiums through their static exhibits. Our goal is to keep the McLean County Fair a family-friendly event with farm animals, great food, and fun entertainment. Entertainment events with animals is always a highlight and educational – petting zoo, pony rides, pig races, Ranch Rodeo, horse barrel racing, birds of prey, monkeys, even snakes!

The McLean County Fair struggles with being able to keep the Fair financially viable and growing. Our gate admission and exhibit numbers keep increasing which is an indication that the public desires County Fairs throughout North Dakota.

Some of our immediate needs are additional bleachers, an ancillary fire suppression system for our food booth, and updated restrooms. We are in the planning stages of replacing a barn, open-air pole barn, and two beef tie-outs, with one larger, “all seasons” barn that would include a show ring, office space and restrooms.

The McLean County Fair is run completely by volunteers from throughout the County.

The fairground is used numerous times throughout the year and contributes financially to the hotels, groceries, hardware, and lumber stores as well as gas stations and advertising.

The McLean County Fair Board respectfully asks that this committee give House Bill 1591 a DO PASS recommendation.

Sincerely,
Diane Schell, President
McLean County Fair