

September 20, 2022 -- ARPA Economic Transformation, Stabilization, and Workforce Development Advisory Commission

**Program update:**

**ARPA Ag Infrastructure Grant Program**

*The intent of the Agriculture Infrastructure Grant Program is to advance Montana's agricultural industry through targeted investments in value-added agriculture projects across the state. Grants will assist with the development of innovative agricultural business improvements to keep pace with a transforming agricultural industry, support jobs, and expand business opportunities.*



- Awards equal to or less than \$150,000 must be matched at \$1 to \$1 (15 projects)
- Awards from \$150,001 to \$300,000 must be matched at \$2 to \$1 (5 projects)
- Awards from \$300,001 to \$450,000 must be matched at \$3 to \$1 (10 projects)

**Awarded 30 projects totaling \$7,872,418.00**

**Complete:**

Big Sky Processing, LLC -- **\$150,000**

*New USDA Retail Meat Shop in Central Montana*

- All funds expended. Used for meat processing building infrastructure.

Blue Creek Marbled Meat Co -- **\$300,000**

*New, Meat Slaughter Facility under Construction for State/USDA Inspection*

- All funds expended. Used to purchase refrigeration equipment for meat processing facility.

BMB Ventures, LLC dba Rawhide Meats -- **\$30,286**

*Expansion, Portioning Vacuum Filler Equipment*

- All funds expended. Used to purchase Handtmann vacuum filler and associated equipment.

Eastern Montana Meats, LLC -- **\$450,000**

*Expansion, USDA Inspected Meat Processing Equipment Upgrades*

- All funds expended. Used to purchase equipment, meat packing/packaging supplies, and on building costs.

IND HEMP, LLC -- **\$450,000**

*Expansion, Hemp Grain and Hemp Fiber Processing Line*

- All funds expended. Used to purchase fiber equipment and installation.

OCC Legacy Cuts -- **\$450,000**

*Expansion, USDA/Organic Certified Meat Processing Facility*

- Funds expended. All supplies and construction completed as of 7/14/2022

Old Salt Co-op -- **\$150,000**

*Direct to Consumer Meat Marketing + Proposed Slaughter Facility*

- All funds expended. Used to purchase meat processing facility and equipment.

Superior Meats, Inc. -- **\$150,000**

*Automated Packaging Equipment and Composting System*

- All funds expended. Used to purchase digester/composter and packaging machine.

**Underway:**

Butcher Block Specialties -- **\$140,000**

*Expansion, Custom Exempt Meat Processing Equipment Upgrades*

- \$7,016.95 expended to date. Used to purchase meat packing/packaging supplies and fund sewer expansion of the meat cutting room.

Commercial Lynks Inc. -- **\$277,972**

*Expansion, Pulse Crop Cleaning, Sorting, Splitting, and Bagging Equipment*

- \$67,038.26 expended to date. Used to purchase screen cleaners and dehuller.

Lake County Community Development Corporation -- **\$79,300**

*Delivering Montana Sourced Value-Added Products for Montana Schools*

- \$137,953 of grant and match funds expended. Grantee has successfully remodeled their freezer thus far.

Montana Gluten Free Processors -- **\$150,000**

*Expansion, Equipment to Increase Processing Line Performance*

- \$55,500 expended. Color sorter purchased.

Pekovitch Meats LLC -- **\$45,000**

*Expansion, Custom Exempt Meat Processing Equipment Upgrades*

- \$13,348.60 expended to date. Used to purchase Lucky Linker, rail hoist, and associated equipment.

Prairie Meats LLC -- **\$150,000**

*Expansion, Custom Exempt Meat Processing Equipment Upgrades*

- \$162,847 of grant and match funds expended. Additional facility has been created. Contractual match funds used for equipment upkeep and refurbishment.

S Ranch Meats, LLC -- **\$102,945**

*Expansion, USDA Inspected Meat Processing Equipment Upgrades*

- \$101,693 of grant and match funds expended. Large equipment purchased, as well as meat processing equipment.

Timeless Seeds, Inc. -- **\$149,900**

*Equipment Upgrade to Maintain Food Safety Certification*

- \$41,758 of grant and match funds expended. Aspirator purchased and installed.

Western Montana Growers Cooperative -- **\$147,015**

*Expansion to Support Increased Local Food Distribution*

- \$130,273 of grant and match funds expended. Industrial pallet equipment purchased and installed.

**Not started:**

Bear Paw Meats -- **\$150,000**

*Expansion, Slaughter Floor Renovations to Increase Capacity*

- No funds expended.

Big Sandy Organics -- **\$400,000**

*Expansion, Food Manufacturing Facility*

- No funds expended.

Evergood Commodities Ltd -- **\$450,000**

*Installation of Pea and Lentil Splitting Plant*

- No funds expended.

Hamilton Packing Company -- **\$450,000**

*Expansion, State Inspected Slaughter Facility*

- No funds expended.

Madison Food Park LLC -- **\$300,000**

*New, Phase 1 Cheese Manufacturing & Processing Facility*

- Contract not sent, waiting on Department of Revenue compliance. (9/15 deadline)

Meats of Montana -- **\$150,000**

*USDA Inspected Retail Storefront Expansion at Pioneer Meats, Inc*

- No funds expended.

Montana Milling -- **\$450,000**

*Expansion, Dehulling, Decortication and Protein Isolate Extraction*

- No funds expended.

Montana Premier Protein -- **\$450,000**

*New Pulse Crop Milling Facility*

- No funds expended.

Nguyen Holdings, Inc dba M&S Meats -- **\$450,000**

*New USDA Inspected Meat Processing Facility*

- No funds expended.

Primitive Meats LLC -- **\$150,000**

*Expansion, Custom Exempt Meat Processing Equipment Upgrades*

- No funds expended.

Pure Montana Meats -- **\$200,000**

*Expansion, USDA Inspected Meat Processing Equipment Upgrades*

- No funds expended.

Sidney Sugars Inc -- **\$450,000**

*Boiler Conversion*

- No funds expended.

The Redwood Group -- **\$450,000**

*New Import/Export Facility*

- No funds expended.