



Committed to the future of rural communities.

NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Tresia Webb 573-888-6664

USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROVIDES \$ 2,054.00 TO THE CITY OF CARDWELL

Greg Branum, the Missouri State Director of USDA Rural Development, presented the City of Cardwell with a \$2,054 Mock Check on Monday, January 9, 2006. The funds will be used to purchase turn out gear for the City's fire department. The city is currently without adequate turn out gear to protect the volunteer fire fighters.

U.S. Representative Jo Ann Emerson said "Our first responders face added challenges in rural America, and keeping up-to-date gear in top condition is important to public safety and firefighting. I am glad USDA Rural Development has identified this important opportunity in Cardwell and made a grant to support the city's fire department."



1st row: Art Cole; Cindy Norethern; Greg Branum; Katna Whitlege, City Clerk; Jarad Southard, City employee; David Bishop, Mayor; and Tresai Webb.
2nd row: Terry Luetkemeyer; Harvey Beasley, Asst. Fire Chief

"I would like to personally thank everyone involved in this project," Branum said. "Financing essential services in support of a community is consistent with USDA Rural Development's mission and President Bush's commitment to the future of rural communities."

Mayor David Bishop said, "The City of Cardwell would like to thank USDA Rural Development for their continuous service to small communities. We would also like to thank Tresia Webb, Rural Development Manager for her assistance. With their help, the Cardwell Fire Department now has three fully equipped turnout gear for fighting fires. We look forward to working with Rural Development on upcoming grants. The City plans to apply for a fire truck and three more turnout gear."

Bishop stated, "Cardwell's Fire Department is a fully volunteer department. The firemen of Cardwell fight fires with no compensation. They do this service to help their community and surrounding areas. We would like to thank them for their service."

Branum added, "Special thanks are extended to our federal elected officials including U.S. Senators "Kit" Bond and Jim Talent plus U.S. Representative Jo Ann Emerson for making available federal monies for funding this kind of project."

Anyone interested in obtaining regarding assistance available through USDA Rural Development may visit the homepage at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/mo/> or can contact Tresia Webb, Rural Development Manager, at the Kennett Local Office of USDA Rural Development at 704 North Bypass, Kennett, MO 63857 or by calling 573-888-6664.

“USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.”

To file a complaint of discrimination write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Ave., S.W., Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD).