

USDA



Rural Development

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NEWS RELEASE

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CALDWELL COUNTY PWS#2 RECEIVES \$635,650 IN USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT FUNDING FOR WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

USDA Rural Development presented a \$635,650 Mock Check to Caldwell County Public Water Supply District #2 on Wednesday October 24th at City Hall in Kidder. The USDA Rural Development funding consists of a \$350,000 loan and \$285,650 grant. USDA Rural Development funds will be used to construct a new water tower, distribution lines and pump station to improve public water services to the 271 residents of the City of Kidder.

The funds are being provided through USDA Rural Development's Water and Environmental program. This program provides loans, grants and loan guarantees for drinking water, sanitary sewer, solid waste and storm drainage facilities in rural areas, cities and towns of 10,000 or less. The \$350,000 Rural Development loan will carry a fixed interest rate of 4.125% for a 35 year repayment term.



Those pictured in the mock check presentation are from left to right: Melissa Gough (Kidder Mayor); Pat O'Connor (Kidder Alderman); Lance Rains (Community Developer for Green Hills Regional Planning Commission); Ray Garton (Kidder Alderman); Dave Jacobs (District President); Stan Wolfe (Area Specialist with the USDA Rural Development Area Office at St. Joseph); Dean Brookshier (Deputy Chief of Staff for U.S. Congressman Sam Graves); Neal Miller (Area Director with the USDA Rural Development Area Office at St. Joseph); Dick Rhodes (Project Engineer with Rhodes Engineering Co., Inc.); Randy Pickering (District Vice President); Christine Foxworthy (District Clerk); Jim Cochenour (District Maintenance Person).

"It is great to be a partner in a project that will allow for improved water distribution to the residents of the City of Kidder," said U.S. Senator Kit Bond. "The local leadership and the USDA Rural Development staff are to be commended for their dedication and hard work to make this project a reality."

"Infrastructure is essential to economic growth in rural Missouri, and the federal government must continue to invest in this part of our state through grant programs like this one so citizens of Caldwell County can access fresh, clean water more easily," U.S. Senator Claire McCaskill said.

"This will greatly enhance Kidder's water distribution system," said U.S. Congressman Sam Graves. "It is important that we continue to improve the infrastructure in our rural communities."

“Having an environmentally safe water system is important to the residents and I commend all the partners for their hard work in making this project a reality,” said Greg Branum, Missouri State Director for USDA Rural Development. “This project mirrors President Bush’s initiative and exemplify the Rural Development mission - committed to the future of rural communities.” Branum added, “Appreciation is extended to our federal elected officials for supporting USDA Rural Development. They have been strong proponents for the necessary funding for essential services for rural Missourians.”

The Green Hills Regional Planning Commission located in Trenton is assisting the District in their efforts to secure \$500,000 of additional grant funds through the Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG). The Missouri Department of Economic Development administers CDBG funds to eligible applicants that are at least 51% Low to Moderate in income.

Richard Rhodes with Rhodes Engineering Co., Inc. of Brookfield, MO is the project engineer.

USDA Rural Development’s mission is to deliver programs in a way that will support increasing economic opportunity and improve the quality of life for rural residents. As a venture capital entity, Rural Development provides funding and technical assistance to finance and foster growth in homeownership, business development, and critical community and technology infrastructure. Further information on rural programs is available by visiting USDA’s web site at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/mo/> or by contacting Stan L. Wolfe, at the St. Joseph Rural Development Area Office, 3915 Oakland Avenue, St. Joseph, MO 64506 or by calling (816) 364 – 3767 (extension #5).

“Committed to the future of rural communities.”

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