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Rural Development

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NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Stan L. Wolfe, St. Joseph Area Specialist Telephone (816) 364-3767 (extension #5)

MARCELINE RECEIVES \$500,000 USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT GRANT FOR WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

Gregory C. Branum, Missouri State Director for USDA Rural Development, presented a \$500,000 Mock Check to the City of Marceline on Thursday, October 18th at Marceline's City Hall. The USDA Rural Development grant funds will be used to improve Marceline's public water system to help alleviate dry weather effects on the city's water supply. This will improve the water service to approximately 1,150 households and businesses in the area. The City also supplies water to Chariton and Linn County Public Water Supply District #3.

The funds are being provided through USDA Rural Development's Emergency Community Water Assistance Grant program. This program assists rural areas that have experienced a significant decline in water quantity or quality in obtaining or maintaining adequate quantities of safe drinking water. USDA Rural Development's Water and Environmental Programs are available to eligible entity's to provide financing for public water and sanitary sewer facilities for rural residents.



Pictured left to right: Scot Othic (Project attorney), Greg Branum (State Director with USDA Rural Development at Columbia, MO), Don Reynolds (Industrial Development Board), Shirley White (Councilperson), Veda Whiate (Councilperson), Neal Miller (Area Director with USDA Rural Development Area Office at St. Joseph), Toni Jacobs (Marceline City Clerk), Cary Sayre (Project Engineer with Allstate Consultants, P.C.), Jed Frost (Chamber of Commerce President), Dean Brookshier (Deputy Chief of Staff for U.S. Congressman Sam Graves), Naomi Boss (Field Representative for U.S. Congressman Sam Graves), Stan Wolfe (Area Specialist with USDA Rural Development Area Office at St. Joseph), Gary Belt (Board Member with PWSD #3 of Chariton & Linn County), Liz Cupp (Marceline City Manager), Bill Stuart (Marceline Mayor), Dan Downey (System/Maintenance Supervisor for PWSD #3 of Chariton & Linn County), Elaine Loghry (Community Development Assistant for Green Hills Regional Planning Commission), Tom Shively (District #8 Missouri State Representative)

"These federal funds will help Marceline make necessary infrastructure updates. We must continue to encourage economic growth in Missouri's small towns and invest in rural development with programs like this one," U.S. Senator Claire McCaskill said.

“Marceline’s water system has had a tough couple of years,” said Congressman Sam Graves. “This funding will put it back on solid footing and ensure an adequate supply of clean drinking water.”

“This kind of assistance mirrors USDA Rural Development’s mission and President Bush’s initiative of being committed to the future of rural communities,” said Branum. “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.”

“We appreciate both the financial and technical support provided to Marceline by USDA Rural Development”, said Liz Cupp, City Manager. “This project will improve services to the residents, businesses and organizations in Marceline. A thank you is extended to our elected officials, U.S. Senators Christopher Bond and Claire McCaskill, U.S. Representative Sam Graves, State Senator Brad Lager and State Representative Tom Shively.

Marceline, in conjunction with Chariton and Linn County Public Water Supply District #3, will be contributing \$243,660 to the project. Cary Sayre, with Allstate Consultants located in Marceline, is the project engineer for the city.

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 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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