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USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT MAKES MOCK CHECK PRESENTATION TO THE CITY OF POTOSI

U. S. Representative Jo Ann Emerson joined Greg Branum, the Missouri State Director of USDA Rural Development, to present the City of Potosi with a \$69,866 Mock Check on Friday, November 3, 2006. The funds will be used for two purposes. Rural Business Enterprise Grants funds totaling \$58,200 will be used to extend sewer lines to a proposed new furniture business and Community Facility Grant funds totaling \$11,666 will be used to purchase a computer system to allow integrated access to systems used by the Washington County Emergency 911 and Washington County Sheriff's Department.

U.S. Representative Emerson said, "In rural America, we are blessed with a tremendous quality of life. In order to ensure it continues, we have to take care that our community institutions are well-cared for, especially those that deal with public safety. In that regard, these funds for tools for our first responders and improvements to the sewer line infrastructure are welcome news. These investments in Potosi will help proposed new businesses get on their feet, and the new computer system for the 911 dispatch center will ensure a complete response to any emergency that might face our country. I thank USDA Rural Development for identifying this opportunity and I appreciate the support of our U.S. Senators, Kit Bond and Jim Talent, for these vital programs

Branum said. "Funding important projects like this by Rural Development mirrors President Bush's initiatives for rural America and Rural Development's commitment to the future of rural communities. He added, "Appreciation is also extended to U.S. Senators "Kit" Bond and Jim Talent and U.S. Representative Jo Ann Emerson for supporting USDA Rural Development. They have been strong proponents of providing essential services to rural Missourians."

"These grants are wonderful examples of how USDA Rural Development helps rural communities like Potosi improve, grow and prosper. The Breton Creek sewer project will provide for utility extension to a proposed new furniture business, as well as improvement and upgrade in an area of the City targeted for future business expansion. Additionally, the grant for the new computer system for the City of Potosi Police Department will allow interoperable capability with not only Central Dispatch at 911 and the Washington County Sheriff's Department, but also the ability to access vital classified criminal and homeland security information around the globe via the World Wide Web. Without financial support from USDA Rural Development, these projects would not have been possible", stated Thomas R. "TR" Dudley, Mayor of the City of Potosi.

Anyone interested in obtaining assistance available through USDA Rural Development may visit the homepage at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/mo/> or can contact Cathy Coffman, Rural Development Manager, at the Hillsboro Local Office of USDA Rural



Left to Right: James F. McCaul, Engineer; Donna Martin, RD Area Specialist, USDA, Farmington; Jo Ann Emerson, State Representative; Terry Luetkemeyer, USDA Area Director, Farmington; Thomas R. Dudley, Mayor, City of Potosi; Roy Logsdon, Potosi Police Chief; Cathy Coffman, USDA RD Manager, Hillsboro; Emory Oliver, IDA Acting Director; Annabelle Trowegge and Mary Pat West, Potosi Alderpersons; Former Potosi Mayor, Wayne Molugen; and Greg Branum, USDA RD State Director.

**Development at 10820 Highway 21, Suite 201, Hillsboro, MO 63050 or by calling 636-789-3551,
Ext. 4.**

“Committed to the future of rural communities.”

“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).