



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

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BEEMER TO RECEIVE IMPROVED WATER SERVICES

Lincoln, Neb., May 13-The village of Beemer is the recipient of more than \$1.2 million in United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development loan funds. The monies will be used in conjunction with \$250,000 from the Nebraska Department of Economic Development for a water improvement project totaling \$1,485,000.

"The funds will accomplish major improvements to the present water system allowing for improved water storage and delivery of safe drinking water to the 773 residents of the village," stated Roger Meeks, rural development specialist for USDA Rural Development.

Improvements scheduled include the replacement of water mains to replace the existing undersized mains that are causing reduction in flow or pressure of water and posing maintenance problems. Additionally, new valves will be installed. A 200,000 gallon elevated storage tank is to be constructed to replace the 50,000 gallon existing storage tank which is providing minimal pressure and does not meet the State's standards for size. Residents in higher elevations of the community have been experiencing issues with pressure causing them to utilize booster pumps to supplement their pressure needs. A new well will be built one-mile northeast of Beemer to replace the well which has a higher than allowable level of nitrates. Installation of 363 water meters and 12 fire hydrants are also encompassed in the water improvements.

The USDA \$1,235,000 loan funded through the USDA Rural Development Water and Waste Disposal Loan program will be repaid over 40 years at 4.50 percent interest.

USDA Rural Development is a credit arm of the USDA whose mission is to provide financial assistance to rural communities who are unable to secure acceptable credit elsewhere for housing, community facilities, and business development. Assistance provided can be in the form of grants, direct loans, and guarantees on loans made by commercial lenders.

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