



Committed to the future of rural communities.

NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Tresia Webb 573-888-6664

USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROVIDES \$ 78,970.00 TO THE CITY OF CARDWELL

Greg Branum, the Missouri State Director of USDA Rural Development, presented the City of Cardwell with a \$78,970 Mock Check on Tuesday, October 17, 2006. The funds will be used to purchase turn out gear, two pagers, and a new fire truck for the City's fire department. The City is currently without adequate turn out gear to protect the volunteer fire fighters and a working fire truck.

"I am very pleased to announce that the City of Cardwell will be receiving this grant," said U.S. Sen. Jim Talent, Member of the Senate Agriculture Committee. "Providing new resources for Missouri's first responders is a priority and grants like this one mean better protection for the community and increased emergency preparedness for Missouri."

"Our firefighters and our first responders risk their lives for the safety of others. In Cardwell, just as in other rural communities in our state, our first responders are also our friends and neighbors. It is so very important that they have the equipment and training to do their jobs safely and well. In addition, we put a lot of miles on our fire trucks when serving a large rural area. I am very excited that Cardwell's new fire truck will provide an improved level of service to everyone in the area. I am extremely glad that USDA Rural Development has identified this opportunity to invest in our first responders, and I am grateful to U.S. Senators Kit Bond and Jim Talent for their strong support of this opportunity for a Southern Missouri community that will derive great benefit from this grant," said U.S. Representative Jo Ann Emerson.

"Funding important projects like this by Rural Development mirrors President Bush's initiative of being committed to the future of rural communities," Branum 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."

Mayor Pro Tem Wanda Lee said, "The City of Cardwell's Fire Department does first-rate work with very little. These funds will help them maintain their high standards".

Anyone seeking more information about this or any other 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.



Front row left to right: Rural Development State Director Greg Branum, Fire Chief Anthony Parker, City Clerk Dawn Farrar, Rural Development Manager Tresia Webb, Mayor Wanda Lee, Rural Development Specialist Phyllis Minner.
Back row St. Senator Rob Mayer's office Brad Jarrell, St. Rep. Terry Swinger, Sen. Jim Talent's office Jeff Glenn, Water Comm. Charlie Smith, Rural Development Area Director Pam Anglin, and Police Officer Jack Powell

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