

Contact: Jeremy E. Brady, Rural Development Manager at 660-582-7421 (ext. #4)

CONCEPTION JUNCTION RECEIVES USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT GRANT FOR STORM WARNING SYSTEM

Greg Branum, Missouri State Director for USDA Rural Development, presented a \$5,200 check to the City of Conception Junction on September 5, 2007.

The grant funds will supplement \$9,670 provided by the City of Conception Junction to finance the purchase and installation of a new outdoor early warning siren system. A portion of this applicant contribution cost will be donated by Aquila in the form of a pole and installation of the pole.

In the past, the city did not have a warning siren to alert citizens in the case of an emergency.

The \$5,200 in grant funds was made through USDA Rural Development's Community Facility Program. This program is available to finance essential facilities in rural areas.

"Today's announcement highlights the local commitment and the leadership of the USDA Rural Development staff," said Senator Kit Bond. "They are to be commended for their dedication and hard work in making this project a reality. The entire community will benefit from these efforts."

"Early warning systems are essential to emergency preparedness in our state, and this grant will help ensure the safety of residents of Conception Junction," U.S. Senator Claire McCaskill said.

"One of the facts of life in Northwest Missouri is severe weather that can strike anywhere, anytime," said Congressman Sam Graves. "This funding will ensure that Missourians will be ready."



Pictured from left to right: Jeremy Brady, Rural Development Manager; Greg Branum, State Director Rural Development; Dennis Frost, Councilman; Dean Brookshier, Deputy Chief of Staff for U.S. Congressman Sam Graves Neal Miller, Area Director Rural Development; Cletus Lager, Mayor; Don Lepley, Conception Junction Betterment Committee; Larry Stuart, Aquila

“Financing essential equipment is consistent with Rural Development’s mission and President Bush’s commitment 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.”

Anyone interested in obtaining information regarding assistance available through USDA Rural Development may visit the homepage at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/mo/> or can contact Jeremy E. Brady, Rural Development Manager, at the Maryville Local Office of USDA Rural Development at 502 W. South Hills Drive, Suite 103, Maryville, Missouri 64468 or by calling 660-582-7421 (extension 4).

“Committed to the future of rural communities.”

“USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.”

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