

Weeping Water Refurbishes Community Building to Serve the Public

Outline Of Need: Weeping Water lacked a large multi-purpose public building for community use. They had an old abandoned building that was constructed in 1935 and was the Auditorium for the Cass County Agricultural Society when the fair was in the city limits. The City decided to create the Weeping Water Community Building Foundation to restore this dilapidated but structurally sound building.



How Rural Development Helped: USDA Rural Development assisted the Community Building Foundation through a Community Facility \$500,000 low interest rate loan for the renovation and restoration of the historical building. Leveraged funds from the Community Foundation of \$89,800 and a Community Development Block Grant of \$250,000 from the Nebraska Department of Economic Development completed the funding package totaling \$839,800.

The Results: Weeping Water today has a fully renovated building with a large social hall that can be used for occasions such as receptions, banquets, and other social gatherings. The building is also the new home to the city office employees where service is provided to the people of the community. Space for the local library is contained within the building. Although the building has kept many of its original features, the updates have given the building a needed makeover.

The Weeping Water Community Building benefits the 1,103 residents of Weeping Water and also residents in the surrounding rural areas. The Foundation feels with the improvements that there will be greater utilization of the building.