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NORTHWEST MISSOURI REGIONAL Council of Governments



PRESS RELEASE

NWMO Water Partnership Awarded \$2.8 Million

Funding will jumpstart eight projects around Northwest Missouri

Maryville, MO, January 9, 2008: The Northwest Missouri Water Partnership received some news that will move its water provision pipe dreams one step closer to reality. At their regular monthly meeting, the Director of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Doyle Childers, announced that eight participating communities in the Water Partnership would share approximately \$2.8 Million in grant funds and close to \$18 Million in State Revolving Loan funds to kick-start the 12-county water effort.

Made of up volunteers representing each of the 12 counties and three northwest Missouri regional planning commissions, the Water Partnership has been meeting for nearly two years to develop "Sketch #7". Sketch #7 is a plan designed to ensure all 83 water providers through the 12-county northwest Missouri region have permanent access to abundant, clean drinking water. The plan consists of 280 miles of transmission lines, laid out to interconnect seven existing water sources, in addition to a new regional water plant in Atchison County, Missouri. The seven water sources include Maryville, Savannah, Bethany, Middlefork Water Company, Cameron, Plattsburg, and Missouri-American Water Company.

The eight Water Partnership projects announced on Tuesday are funded by the DNR Rural Water Grant program, which is established to help communities of less than 10,000 people meet their drinking water needs. The funded projects are:

- ❖ **Atchison County Wholesale Water Commission.** Five of the eight projects are combined under the Atchison County Wholesale Water Commission to construct a new regional water plant and transmission lines in Atchison County. The five grant recipients are the Cities of Rock Port, Tarkio, Fairfax, and Craig, as well as the Atchison County Public Water Supply District #1. These five projects represent \$2.2 Million of the announced award.
- ❖ **Burlington Junction.** The community of Burlington Junction will receive \$298,000 to construct a clear well, make distribution improvements, and interconnect with the Nodaway County Public Water Supply District #1. The city will match the grant with \$298,000 of local dollars, for a total project cost of \$596,000.

- ❖ **Clearmont.** The community of Clearmont will receive \$140,000 to abandon their existing wells and water plant, as well as interconnect with Nodaway PWSD#1. The city is also contributing \$50,000 of local dollars, as well as pursuing grant funds from the Missouri Department of Economic Development for a total project cost of \$363,752.

- ❖ **Hopkins.** The community of Hopkins will receive \$137,000 to make improvements to the existing water distribution system, as well as interconnect with Nodaway PWSD#1. The city will match the grant with \$137,500 of local dollars, for a total project cost of \$274,500.

For more information on the Water Partnership, visit their website at <http://water.nwmorcog.org>
