



For Immediate Release:
August 16, 2022

Gracemont Public Works Authority receives \$150,000 grant for wastewater system improvements

OKLAHOMA CITY – The Gracemont Public Works Authority (Authority) in Caddo County received approval for a \$150,000 Rural Economic Action Plan (REAP) grant Tuesday through the Oklahoma Water Resources Board (OWRB) to improve the Authority’s wastewater infrastructure.

The Authority will use these proceeds to construct a flow-through lagoon system consisting of two (2) primary and two (2) secondary lagoons, rehabilitation and sludge removal in the two (2) existing lagoon cells, structural improvements on the inlets and outlets, a new splitter box, a new effluent flow measuring device, and liner construction. The estimated cost of the project is \$875,096.93 which will be funded with the requested OWRB REAP of \$150,000, two ASCOG REAP grants totaling \$90,000, an Indian Health Services grant of \$352,000, and a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) of \$283,096.93.

Joe Freeman, chief of the OWRB's Financial Assistance Division, calculated that the grant will save the Authority’s customers \$223,800 in principal and interest charges by not having to borrow the project funds. Since 1983 the Water Resources Board has approved over \$5.8 billion in loans and grants for water and wastewater infrastructure improvements throughout Oklahoma.

“We are grateful to Senator Darcy Jech and Representative Dick Lowe for their continued support of water and wastewater infrastructure funding in Oklahoma,” said Julie Cunningham, OWRB Executive Director.

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