

ASCOG offices are closed January 15 to observe Martin Luther King Day.



ASCOG News'n Briefs

**Edition 331
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Gene Brown (L) repeats his Oath of Office to Gerald Hayes

GENE BROWN rejoins ASCOG Board of Trustees

Former Duncan Mayor **GENE BROWN** served on ASCOG's Board of Trustees as the Stephens County mayoral representative from 2006-2015. Trustee **MARCEL GIGGER** served as the Minority Representative on the Board for Stephens and McClain County from 2006-2017 when health issues forced him to retire. **GENE** agreed to return to the Board as the Minority Representative. ASCOG staff appreciates all that **MARCEL** did for ASCOG and wish him the very best in his retirement. We also welcome **GENE's** return to the Board. **GENE** is an active, involved member who will continue to be a great representative.

PEDRO GUEVARA has served as the minority representative for Jefferson, Cotton, and Tillman Counties from 2001 to the present. He is suffering from health issues and desires to be replaced on the Board. ASCOG would welcome any nominations for a minority residing in one of the three counties to fill the vacancy.

ASCOG HONORS 2 EMPLOYEES



NANCY BLUML, accountant in Resource Management, received a check for \$100 and a paid day off for being selected as ASCOG's **EMPLOYEE of the YEAR!**

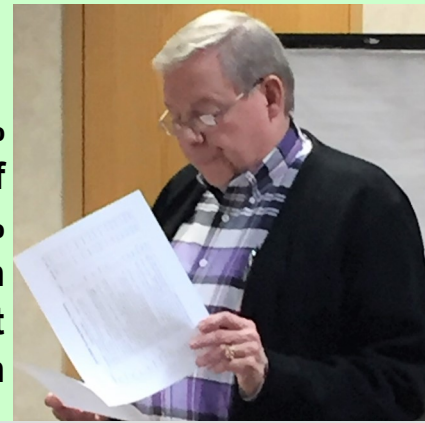


PEGGY RUSH, Managed Care Supervisor, received a check for \$250 for completing 10 years of services with ASCOG.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO
BOTH OF YOU!!**

2018 REAP GRANT RECIPIENTS ANNOUNCED

ASCOG has a total of \$942,789 for REAP awards this year. 90% of that amount was awarded to the recipients listed below. If there are no funding cuts between now and April, the other 10% will be awarded to the next 3 projects on the prioritized list. Each year, at least one project is selected to get a larger REAP grant that is used to match an equal amount of CDBG funds through the CDBG-REAP program. Special congratulations to Ringling for being selected to receive the CDBG-REAP award for 2018.



CED Director Tom Zigler reports the REAP projects to be awarded.

APPLICANT	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
Comanche	2nd year, Consent Order Waterline Loop to address high TTHM levels. Engineering complete. OWRB grant \$150,000 and Town of Comanche \$18,367 cash leverage.	\$45,000
Comanche County 1	2nd Year Final phase to complete new fire station for Valley View FD. Concrete the driveway and apron needed to support heavy fire trucks using the building until called out \$5,000 cash match	\$45,000
Cyril	2nd Year Funds for Engineering Report for sewer system. SSES already completed.	\$45,000
Elgin	2nd Year - Funds for relining the inside of stand pipe and painting the outside.	\$45,000
Grady County 1	2 Storm Sirens for North Eastern Grady County to finish coverage area	\$40,326
Hastings	3rd Year Resurface 3.35 miles of city streets including Flynn, Parrish, Broadway, Duke, College, K, M and 4th, 6th, and Holland.	\$45,000
Loco	Replace undersized waterlines on N2980 Road that are over 35 years old and in need of constant repair	\$45,000
Ringling	CDBG/REAP Consent Order Phase 1 of Sewer Project - Replace Lift Station - Total Project Cost \$149,500	\$136,364
Ryan	Electrical system supplies and equipment including 40 utility poles with cross arms, braces and insulators; security lights, wire, capacitors, transformers, transformer tester, hydraulic tamper and drill, cut-outs, fuses, etc. \$3,600 cash match	\$45,000
Temple	325 hi-intensity reflective Street Signs including brackets and posts to meet new signage code requirements	\$39,997
Terral	Replace 147 water meters that are worn-out and no longer	\$45,000
Tuttle	2 Storm Sirens to finish coverage area	\$42,563
Walters	3rd Year Resurface approximately 3 miles of roads including 1 mile on Park Rd, 1 Mile on Golf Course Rd, 2 blocks on Indiana, 3 blocks on Mershon Dr, and 2 blocks on Thurman \$5,000 cash match	\$45,000
Waurika	Erecting walls, installing trusses, and installing the roof of what was originally intended to house DOC inmates. Cash Match \$25,000	\$45,000

Oklahoma Mason's Multimillion-Dollar Legacy Supports Aging in Place



(L to R) Masonic Grand Master Corky Grigsby, Jr., ASCOG Supportive Services Director Ken Jones, ASCOG Executive Director Ronnie Ward, and Masonic Senior Grand Warden Bob Peters

The Masonic Fraternity of Oklahoma presented a gift of \$736,671 to the eleven (11) Oklahoma Agencies on Area Aging (O4A) to support 2018 programs which help aging Oklahomans remain in their homes.

The Fraternity has provided nearly \$8 million over the last ten years, thanks to a generous bequest from Oklahoma Freemason Edgar M. Woody. Woody believed in the obligation to care for aged members of the community and placed a \$12 million endowed gift with the Masonic Charity Foundation of Oklahoma to support the aged.

Woody's gift continues to generate support for O4A programs which provide a range of services including wheelchair ramps, small home repairs, and necessary dental, hearing, and eye care not provided by other government programs.

Thanks to partnerships with groups like O4A and the network of over 200 Masonic lodges in communities throughout the state, Masonic charity is able to impact Oklahomans from every walk of life at a rate of over \$12,000 per day. More information about O4A programs and the Masonic Charity Foundation may be found at www.o4aoklahoma.org and www.mcfok.org.

ASCOG received \$69,214 to distribute in ASCOG's region consisting of Caddo, Comanche, Cotton, Grady, Jefferson, McClain, Stephens and Tillman Counties. Funding focuses on gaps where other sources of aid is not available to the elderly needing assistance. Funding is primarily to be utilized on a one-time basis and is not intended to provide continual support for individuals. Applications will be available on the ASCOG website at www.ascoq.org beginning on January 3, 2018, and at local senior centers by mid-January.

For more information contact Ronnie Ward at (580) 736-7970.

Follow-ups continue with the nutrition sites at Cement, Ryan and Wayne. Volunteers from Cement have printed and are distributing flyers through the town water bill system. Delta has been asked to use the same method for Ryan and Wayne. Training has been conducted with the new site managers. Wayne and Cement and are encouraged by their willingness to work to increase their numbers. An update on December meals served will be provided at the January Executive Committee meeting.

While the second special session of the Oklahoma Legislature did provide additional funding to the OK Department of Human Services, they still report a significant shortfall could impact the ADvantage (Managed Care) program. DHS is expected to provide information on how they will absorb any remaining cuts.



CYRIL VFD RECEIVES GRANT



(L-R) ASCOG Rural Fire Coordinator Perry Brinegar, Georgia Pacific Environmental Manager and Donation Coordinator Jordan Kenworthy, Cyril Volunteer Firefighter A.J. Cooper, Cyril Volunteer Firefighter Matt Snider, Cyril Fire Chief Gerard Dodson, Georgia Pacific Plant Manager Brent Quillen

The CYRIL VFD received a \$5,000 grant from the Georgia Pacific Bucket Brigade. The Brigade provides grants to communities close to the railroads to purchase needed equipment. Cyril was one of two Oklahoma communities to receive a grant from the Brigade this year. They plan to use the funds to help purchase self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBAs) for their volunteer firefighters.

DOYLE, LOCO & VELMA FIRE DEPARTMENTS RECEIVE GRANTS



(L to R) Mid-Ship Representative Brian Hlavinka, Mid-Ship Representative Matt Barr, State Representative, Marcus McEntire, ASCOG Rural Fire Coordinator Perry Brinegar, Velma Fire Chief Jay Dumas, Loco Captain Tucker Wilson, Doyle Fire Chief Earl Henderson, Doyle Assistant Fire Chief James Henderson, Stephens County Commissioner David McCarley (Photo courtesy of Duncan Banner)

The Midship Pipeline Company provided grants totaling \$200,000 to 64 Volunteer Fire Departments within a 10 mile radius of their existing pipelines. Each department received \$3,125. each. Total of \$200,000 across the state where their pipelines are located. VFDs receiving these grants in ASCOG's area include Doyle, Loco, and Velma.

The **Valley View Volunteer Fire Department** has completed their new brush truck and inspection for title. The **Walters Fire Department** has received a purchase order to start the process for the department to replace some of their older personal protective gear for the fire fighters thru the 80/20 grant. The **Corum Volunteer Fire Department** has received title to their new brush truck as well. It has been a busy year for training and building equipment as well as additions to or new stations. Your volunteer fire fighters in Region 9 ASCOG, as well as across the state, are **AMAZING** women and men. Please continue to support and help in the coming 2018 year.

HAZARD MITIGATION ACTION PLAN



The **Comanche County** Multi-Jurisdiction Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan has been approved by Oklahoma Emergency Management and is now under review by FEMA.

QUESTIONABLE NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

- ◆ I promise to clean the top of my desk once a week even though I haven't cleaned it more than once in the last year.
- ◆ I will always "check for paper" when leaving the restroom.
- ◆ I will not bore my boss with the same excuse for taking off. I will think of some more excuses so I can add some variety.
- ◆ I will spend less than one hour a day on the Internet. This, of course, will be hard to estimate since I'm not a clock watcher.
- ◆ I will give up chocolates totally. 100%. Completely. Honestly....
- ◆ I will gain some weight - at least 40 pounds. Didn't mom always say I was a bit skinny when I was growing up?
- ◆ I will cut down on exercise. Too much is bad for your health, it can even kill you.

