

Effingham awarded water-related grant

**(KAIR)--An Atchison County community is among 34 Kansas municipalities and special districts earmarked to receive a portion of what a joint release from Kansas Governor Laura Kelly and the Kansas Water Office calls "an \$18 million investment" related to water issues.**

**The release says 19 Technical Assistance Grants and 15 Water Project Grants are being awarded.**

**Among the 19 receiving funds in the Technical Assistance Grants category is the City of Effingham, which will receive \$300,000, with the grants made possible through a 2023 Senate Bill, signed into law by Kelly in April of last year.**

**The release explains that "the bipartisan legislation invested a record \$35 million into the State Water Plan," then "added \$18 million on top of the annual \$8 million for the State Water Plan and \$17 million for the two grant funds."**

**This year, the Kansas Legislature added \$1 million to the program to meet the needs of additional requests that were made.**

**Kelly, in the release, says the "investment is vital to the water resources and livelihoods of Kansans" in the selected, rural communities, adding that "by working together, [KS is] making progress on our water crisis while ensuring communities have access to the resources they need to address their pressing water issues."**

**Applicants with emergent water issues, socioeconomic and community factors, conservation plans, and populations of fewer than 2,000 residents were prioritized in the review process.**

**More than 122 Technical Assistance applications and 187 Water Project applications, were received for the first round of funding.**

Many Signals Communications