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For Release
August 2, 2013

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Government agencies receive grant money to fund online projects

LINCOLN – Secretary of State John Gale announced that fourteen Nebraska counties, two cities and two state agencies will all share in the award of nearly $250,000 by the Nebraska State Records Board. Gale is Chair of the Board.

In all, 18 grant requests received final approval. The grants are given annually to government entities for the development of projects designed to improve online access to citizens. There were 21 applications in total, with 3 not approved. Because the number of applicants was so high, board members opted to award the 18 applicants less than the full amount requested.

"There were many viable and worthy projects that we felt were deserving of funding," said Cathy Danahy, executive director. "This was our best option for funding all the top community project applications received."

The majority of grants were issued for the development of geographic information services (GIS). They include: Boone County ($19,913), Gosper County ($19,913), Dakota County ($19,913), Sherman County ($19,913), Webster County ($19,913), Banner County ($6,720), Deuel County ($11,620), Dixon County ($11,620), Franklin County ($6,720), Garden County ($6,720), Johnson County ($4,900), Scotts Bluff County ($17,500), York County ($17,500), Nance County ($10,220), City of Blair ($10,080), and the City of Lexington ($16,800).

In addition, the Department of Agriculture received a grant of $15,000 for an online licensing and fee application payment system and the Real Estate Commission was awarded $15,000 for creation of an online continuing education submission system.

The Records Board oversees Nebraska.gov, the state's official website. The grant program is funded through a portion of the board's share of fees received from Nebraska.gov. No state tax funds are used for the grants.

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