



## **FEMA projects continue, money still to collect**

Grant County road districts continue to work on damages from the June 2008 and September 2008 floods, which both were acknowledged as Presidential Declared Disasters. Flood damages can occur in a matter of minutes while repair work takes days, weeks, months and even years.

During the June 2008 flood, Grant County District 2 was approved for \$108,995.00 in road damages from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Additionally, one 23-foot-long bridge washed down the creek and was completely lost. FEMA has not approved a replacement cost for this bridge; however, an estimated cost for replacement is between \$40,000 and \$45,000.

During the September 2008 flood, Grant County District 2 was approved for \$253,739.00 in road and bridge damages from FEMA. This includes one 90-foot-long bridge that was 75 percent damaged; however, funding includes the replacement cost of \$154,450.00 for a new bridge.

FEMA pays 75 percent of the cost for repairs, while the Oklahoma Emergency Management Agency (OEMA) picks up 12.5 percent and the county is responsible for the remaining 12.5 percent of the costs. Monies that have been received from FEMA for both disasters total \$195,982.00 and OEMA has not paid for any of these costs. In other words, Grant County generally has to “up-front” the costs for repairs and then wait for reimbursements.

All repairs, with the exception of the 23-foot bridge, have been completed from the June flood. There are a few more sites to be repaired, including the 90 foot bridge that is still being worked on. In addition to working on these flood sites, district employees are busy grading up ditches, working on bridges, culvert and low water crossings, as well as day-to-day operations.

As always, please stop by the office or call if you have any county concerns or road concerns. Our shop is located at 524 N. Front Street in Medford and the shop office number is 580-395-2859. You may also reach District 2 Road Foreman Robert Moss on his cell at 580-541-8953 or me on my cell at 580-541-8950.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy R. Bobbitt, Commissioner  
Grant County District 2