

To all Nebraska Volunteer Fire Departments,

The State of Nebraska Office of the CIO is writing to provide you with an update regarding the FY24 Volunteer Fire Department (VFD) Radio Grant. It has been a busy couple of months, so we thought you would like to know about some of the work the project has completed and what the coming months will entail.

So far, the lottery to select grant awardees has been completed. The winners have been notified, and information has been gathered to ensure they receive their preferred equipment. After we compiled that information, we ordered equipment and began preparing for training and distribution.

The first three “train the trainer” sessions, which provide insight into using the radios and prepare VFDs to train their volunteers, have been scheduled. More training sessions will be available in the coming months. If your department has been awarded equipment, you can register to attend a session [here](#). Sessions in May and June will be open to all departments whether or not they were awarded equipment.

Radio equipment will be delivered during these training sessions, with Kenwood equipment deliveries beginning in Quarter 1 2024 and Motorola equipment deliveries expected by early Q2 2024.

As we move forward, the OCIO expects to have all Kenwood equipment tagged and delivered by April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024. Motorola equipment will arrive in February, and training sessions for that equipment will be planned once it is received. By May 6<sup>th</sup>, the State Radio System plans to have all Motorola equipment tagged and delivered to installation vendors. Delivery currently depends on the manufacturer.

LB1275 has been introduced and is intended to provide additional funding for the grant. Please let your representative in the state legislature know if you would like to see the funding passed.

## Training Schedule

<b>Date and Time</b>	<b>Confirmation Status</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Equipment Available</b>
<b>February 20<sup>th</sup></b> 5:30 – 9:30 p.m.	Awaiting Confirmation from Dixon VFD	<b>Dixon Volunteer Fire Department</b> 105 1st St, Dixon, NE 68732	Kenwood
<b>February 21<sup>st</sup></b> 5:30 – 9:30 p.m.	Confirmed	<b>O’Neill Volunteer Fire Department</b> 304 S 4th St, O’Neill, NE 68763	Kenwood
<b>February 27<sup>th</sup></b> 5:30 – 9:30 p.m.	Confirmed	<b>Aurora Fire Department</b> 906 13th Street Aurora, NE	Kenwood
<b>March 14<sup>th</sup></b> 5:30 – 9:30 p.m.	Confirmed	<b>Southwest Rural Fire Protection District</b> 705 W Burnham St, Lincoln, NE 68522	Kenwood and Motorola
March 19 <sup>th</sup> 5:30 – 9:30 p.m.	Awaiting Confirmation from Kearney VFD	<b>Kearney Volunteer Fire Department</b> 2211 A Ave, Kearney, NE 68847	Kenwood and Motorola
<b>March 21<sup>st</sup></b> 5:30 – 9:30 p.m.	Confirmed	<b>Arlington Rural Fire District</b> 425 N 4th St, Arlington, NE 68002	Kenwood and Motorola
<b>March 25<sup>th</sup></b> 5:30 – 9:30 p.m.	Confirmed	<b>Schuyler Fire and Rescue</b> 302 E 16th, Schuyler, NE 68661	Kenwood and Motorola
<b>March 26<sup>th</sup></b> 5:30 – 9:30 p.m.	Confirmed	<b>Syracuse Volunteer Fire Department</b> 578 Mohawk St, Syracuse, NE 68446	Kenwood and Motorola
<b>April 8<sup>th</sup></b> 5:30 – 9:30 p.m.	Awaiting Confirmation from Dixon VFD	<b>Dixon Volunteer Fire Department</b> 105 1st St, Dixon, NE 68732	Kenwood and Motorola
<b>April 9<sup>th</sup></b> 5:30 – 9:30 p.m.	Confirmed	<b>O’Neill Volunteer Fire Department</b> 304 S 4th St, O’Neill, NE 68763	Kenwood and Motorola
<b>April 15<sup>th</sup></b> 5:30 – 9:30 p.m.	Confirmed	<b>Gering Volunteer Fire Department</b> 1025 M St, Gering, NE 69341	Kenwood and Motorola
<b>April 16<sup>th</sup></b> 5:30 – 9:30 p.m.	Awaiting Confirmation from Bridgeport VFD	<b>Bridgeport Volunteer Fire Department</b> 809 Main Street, Bridgeport, NE 69336	Kenwood and Motorola
April 17 <sup>th</sup> 5:30 – 9:30 p.m.	Awaiting Confirmation from Hershey VFD	<b>Hershey Volunteer Fire Department</b> 117 Railroad St, Hershey, NE 69143	Kenwood and Motorola
<b>April 23<sup>rd</sup></b> 5:30 – 9:30 p.m.	Confirmed	<b>Aurora Fire Department</b> 906 13th Street Aurora, NE	Kenwood and Motorola
<b>April 25<sup>th</sup></b> 5:30 – 9:30 p.m.	Awaiting Confirmation from Plattsmouth VFD	<b>Plattsmouth Volunteer Fire Department</b> 127 N 5th St, Plattsmouth, NE 68048	Kenwood and Motorola

*Additional dates and locations, including May and June training dates, will be posted in future updates.*

## Grant Conditions

The following is a reminder of the conditions of the FY24 VFD Radio Grant.

- The VFD is expected to perform monthly testing from the department and dispatch center. Monthly testing involves powering on the SRS Radio Kit and speaking with the local PSAP.
- Radios are to remain the property of the State.
- VFDs are expected to maintain inventory tags on the radios.
- Grantees will be required to sign a document and show identification to receive their equipment.

Thank you for your patience as we continue to receive, prepare, and distribute equipment. We look forward to providing your requested SRS-capable radios soon.

Regards,

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**For additional details and updates please visit <https://cio.nebraska.gov/network-serv/publicsafety/index.html> and locate the “State of Nebraska Volunteer Fire Departments – Radio Grant Information” button on the page.**