

USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT NEBRASKA

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IMPERIAL VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT GAINS THERMAL IMAGING CAMERAS --USDA Rural Development Assists with Funding

North Platte, Nebraska, April 5-Two new thermal imaging cameras and associated telemetry equipment will be part of the Imperial Volunteer Fire Department's defense in fighting fires, rescuing victims, and insuring the safety of their personnel. This announced today from USDA Rural Development, who has agreed to provide \$5,700 in grant assistance towards the cost of this equipment. The balance of the equipment costs will be funded by community donations of \$28,170 and City contributions of \$4,600.

Mary Gambill, community outreach specialist for Nebraska USDA Rural Development stated, "The acquisition of this equipment will greatly enhance the Volunteer Fire Department's ability to save lives and fight fires."

USDA Rural Development is a credit arm of the U.S. Department of Agriculture whose mission is to provide financial assistance to rural communities who are unable to secure acceptable credit elsewhere for housing, community facilities, and business development. Assistance provided can be in the form of grants, direct loans, and guarantees on loans made by commercial lenders.

The USDA Rural Development grant funds for the equipment are provided through the Community Facility Grant Program. For additional information regarding USDA Rural Development Loan and Grant Programs contact Mary Gambill in the USDA Rural Development Office, 1202 S. Cottonwood North Platte, Neb. 69101 or phone (308) 534-2360. Website: www.rurdev.usda.gov/ne/.

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