Continued from page 1

Fox said the economy appears to be softening and the demand for workers may not be as strong as it has been, "but I would guess that most of the people that have been employed, if they don't choose to retire, we'll be able to find jobs."

Fox said he is also available personally to help displaced workers devise their reemployment strategies. He can be contacted at 641-228-3020 or tfox@charlescituia.com.

Fox started in Charles City at about the same time the Hardwoods Division became the first Winnebago facility in the community.

"It's very poignant for me in that I was hired in August of 1998, and this is the first project that I had the opportunity to work on in Charles City, and we had it all tied up by September," Fox said, talking about the Hardwoods Division closing.

The company was attracted by the availability of a spec building in the community's Southwest Development Park that was ready to go, and the soon-to-becompleted Avenue of the Saints that would provide easy transportation access, he said.

"They came into the community when we had a very high unemployment rate," Fox said. "And our advantage, other than the forthcoming Avenue of the Saints, was that we had many people that had transferable skills that had worked for White Farm Equipment."

Winnebago was always very pleased with the low employee turnover rate at its Charles City facilities in comparison to its other operations, he said.

#### AT ONE TIME THERE HAD BEEN

more than 200 people employed at Winnebago's Charles City Hardwoods Division, at 1100 11th St. in the Southwest Development Park, according to Press files. That number had been closer to 80-100 in recent years.

Charles City Hardwoods is a 100,000-square-foot facility that had been responsible for fabricating, assembling and finishing wood cabinet and countertop components for the various assembly lines for Winnebago motorhome production, according to information from the company.

smaller of its two local manufacturing facilities, the Charles City Assembly Facility, in July 2024, laying off 36 workers who were making smaller vanbased recreational vehicles, and moving that production to Winnebago's facilities in Lake

Winnebago had closed the

The Assembly Facility, at 1200 11th St. in the Southwest Development Park, has now been purchased and refitted by Curbtender, a Cedar Falls-based manufacturer of refuse collection vehicles, street sweepers and similar vehicles, which



laying off 44 workers. The company made wood cabinetry and wood and Corian countertops for Winnebago motorhomes.

# Winnebago Industries History in Charles City

**From Press Files** 

- September 1998 Winnebago Industries announces opening of Hardwoods Division in Charles City at 1100 11th St. in Southwest Development Park.
- October 2000 Charles City Assembly Facility opens at 1200 11th St. to assemble company's new Ultimate brand diesel motorhome, the company's largest and most
- April 2002 Winnebago announces plans to build a \$12.5 million, 204,000 square foot manufacturing facility near its other two facilities in the Southwest Development Park, expected to hire more than 300 people to produce Class A of Class C motorhomes, increasing the company's total manufacturing capacity by 30%. Charles City was selected from more than 100 proposals by communities throughout the Midwest.
- · May 2003 Manufacturing and assembly facility opens with 217,000 square feet of space; grand opening ceremony includes Iowa Gov. Tom Vilsack, IDED officials. CEO Chair Bruce Hertzke says plant opened with 359 employees and plans to add 100 more. Goal is to build 75 units per week - 3,000-4,000 per year.
- July 2003 Winnebago announces plans to expand Hardwoods Division facility by 37,500 square feet and add 50 employ-
  - February 2004 Winnebago plans CDI

LLC paint facility in industrial park to support production facilities; 46,300 square feet, \$3 million, 50 jobs.

- March 2005 Winnebago reports 632 employees in Charles City - 310 at Charles City Manufacturing Facility (CCMF), 206 at Charles City Hardwoods Division (CCHD), 116 at Charles City Assembly Facility (CCAF). • August 2005 - Winnebago confirms lay-
- offs are coming because of plummeting RV sales driven by rising gas prices, high interest rates and low consumer confidence; problems continue through end of the decade. October 2005 – Winnebago announces
- moving Ultimate Class A diesel motor home manufacturing back to Forest City, but employment expected to remain stable in CC. August 2008 – Winnebago closes
- CCMF, laying off 270 salaried and hourly employees. • November 2010 - CGS Tyres of Prague, Czech Republic, takes over closed CCMF plant (CGS a division of MITAS, then Trelle-
- borg, now Yokohama). March 2014 – Company announces shifting Class B production from Charles City to Lake Mills
- July 2024 Charles City Assembly Facility closes, laying off 36 employees.
- December 2025 Charles City Hardwoods Division closing, laying off 44 since closing was announced in July.

Cook@iwd.iowa.gov.

In 2003, Winnebago built and opened a new 217,000-squarefoot motorhome manufacturing and assembly building in the SW Development Park. It 3,000 to 4,000 motorhomes a

Also that year, the company expanded the Hardwoods Division plant and added an additional 50 employees there.

a nosedive in the later years of that decade, with gas prices above \$5 a gallon in some parts of the county, high interest rates that made it more difficult to purchase the expensive vehicles, and waning consumer confidence slashing sales.

RV market," Fox said.

In the summer of 2008 Winnebago closed its biggest Charles City facility, laying off what was then a workforce of 270 salaried and hourly employees.

That property would be re-

## **Workforce Development coordinating** the response for affected workers

By Bob Steenson

bsteenson@charlescitypress.com

Iowa Workforce Development has activated its Local Rapid Response Team to assist the 44 workers affected by the upcoming closure of the Winnebago facility in Charles City.

Sara Cook, a business engagement consultant for Iowa Workforce Development, said the agency is in the process of organizing meetings with the employer to gather information and plan support activities.

"Every layoff situation is difficult," Cook said. "Our intention is to work as one community to help minimize the impact as much as possible and assist those workers in finding new, promising careers as quickly as possible."

Following initial employer discussions, a worker information meeting and additional support events will be orga-

"It's critically important then that coordination occurs between all workforce partners, to ensure that disruptions don't occur throughout the entire process," she added. Local job leads, job fairs and business recruitment ef-

forts will be key strategies in attempting to retain impacted employees within the community, she said. "Above all, our primary goal is to help retain as many impacted workers as possible in your local area before inviting other businesses to participate," Cook said.

Community businesses and other organizations interested in supporting these efforts can contact Cook at Sara.

the company's largest and most luxurious models.

started with about 300 employees, and the goal was to produce

BY 2005, WINNEBAGO reported 632 employees in Charles City, with 310 at Charles City Manufacturing Facility, 206 at Charles City Hardwoods Division, and 116 at Charles City Assembly Facility, all located in the SW Development Park. Winnebago's fortunes took

"It is realized that Charles

City operations have been subject to the whims and ebbs and flows of a consistently volatile

opened in 2014 as the new home of CGS Tyres, a division of the Czech Republic-based MITAS, which would later become Trelleborg, and is now Yokohama TWS North America.

The Assembly Facility closed last year, and before this year is over the Hardwoods Division will also be closed, ending more than a quarter century of Winnebago production in Charles City.

"They've been an honorable employee and a good corporate citizen for Charles City, so we hate to see them go," Fox said.

"Beyond the immediacy of this closure, the community and Winnebago Industries will have a 100,000 square foot manufacturing facility to market," Fox "This is an opportunity to

demonstrate our economic competitiveness as we replenish jobs

## **Legal Notice**

NOTICE OF SALE

The following property of Amy Johnson located at building C, unit 16, of safeguard self-storage at 800 Jackson Street Charles City Iowa will be sold at public auction at 5 o'clock pm on the 25th day of July, 2025 at the Safeguard Self-Storage site. The following property of Justin Payne

located at building C, unit 15, of safeguard self-storage at 800 Jackson Street Charles City. Iowa will be sold at public auction at 5 o'clock pm on the 25th day of July, 2025 at the Safe-guard Self-Storage site.

> No. 25037 7/11/25 Charles City Press 7/18/25 Charles City Press www.iowapublicnotices.com

### **Legal Notice - Legal Notice**

Floyd Mitchell Chickasaw Solid Waste Management Agency Unapproved - Executive Board Minutes July 1, 2025

On Tuesday July 1st, 2025 in the Meeting Room at the Floyd Mitchell Chickasaw Landfill at 5:30 p.m. the regular meeting of the Executive Board of the Floyd Mitchell Chickasaw Solid Waste Management Agency was held in person and by Zoom.

Chairman Scott Cerwinske, was in the chair. Executive Board members, Jerry Joerger, Trevis O'Connell, Dave Swenumson, Keith Horgen, Brock Waters and Floyd County alternate Gloria Carr were in the Boardroom Absent: Sydney Hartogh and Steve Geerts. Employees Present: Christian Fox, Direc-

Guests Present: None A motion was made by Joerger, second by O'Connell to approve the agenda as presented All members present voting aye, motion car-

A motion was made by Joerger, second by Swenumson to approve the consent agenda minutes from the June 2025 Executive Board Meeting, and Summary List of Bills for June 2025 as presented. All members present voting

Financial Report- Joerger presented the Financial Report. Joerger stated that we were roughly 75% through the budget and that everything seemed right on target with the budget. He also stated that all investments were around 4% interest or greater. After some discussion, a motion was made by Waters and second by Swenumson to approve the Financial Report. All members present voting aye. motion carried.

Discussion/Decision Track loader repair-Fox brought to the attention of the board that the 963k track loader was in need of a large repair due to the undercarriage becoming worn out. He presented a quote from Ziegler Cat for \$29,002,26. After some discussion, a motion was made by Horgen and second by Carr to approve the quote and repair from Ziegler Cat. All members present voting aye, motion car-

Discussion/Decision credit card used to pay bills- Cerwinske brought to the attention of the board the potential use of the landfill's credit card to pay certain bills. It was stated by

Fox that the landfill's credit card is currently used to pay some small bills for office expenses and to avoid potential late fees it would be convenient to pay some of the larger bills including the utility bills. After further discussion, no action was taken at this time.

is using the site to produce

than 25 years of Winnebago

Division in 1998, it added the

Charles City Assembly Facility

in 2000 to assemble the compa-

ny's Ultimate motorhome line

- diesel-powered RVs that were

presence in Charles City.

front-loader trash collection ve-

There being no further items requiring board action, the meeting was adjourned at 6:01 p.m. with a motion by Dave Swenumson and second by Brock Waters. All members present voting aye, motion carried.

August minutes will be published in the New Hampton Tribune. A copy of these minutes can also be found on our website fmcland-

fill.org.	
Scott Cerwinske, Chairman	
ATTEST: Christian Fox, Secretary	
Jun 2	25
Alliant Energy	21
Cardmember Service67.1	1
City Laundering313.7	16
Fairbanks Scales Inc45,000.0	
Fox, Christian40.6	60
Geerts, Steve70.0	)(
Hartogh, Sydney40.6	60
HLW Engineering Group2,091.0	)(
Horgen Keith74.2	20
Innovative Ag Services2,181.5	50
Jendro Sanitation310.0	
Joerger, Jerry190.4	10
L R Falk Construction Co3,184.1	15
Larson's Hardware Hank21.2	26
Lori King60.2	20
Mason City Public Utilities2,348.5	58
Midwest Electronic Recovery1,371.7	70
Mitchell County - Health/Dental3,467.5	
NORTH IOWA BROADCASTING650.0	)(
O' Connell, Trevis58.8	30
Omnitel Communications9.8	32
Riley's Inc10.8	
Scott Cerwinske126.0	)(
Smith AG., INC3,107.2	20
Swenumson, David63.0	
US Cellular39.5	58
Waters, Brock60.2	20
Ziegler Inc2,104.3	
TOTAL68,595.6	53

No. 25039 7/11/25 Charles City Press www.iowapublicnotices.com

#### Floyd County Board of The closing of the Hardwoods **Supervisors Meeting** June 30, 2025, 9:00 a.m. Division marks the end of more

The Floyd County Board of Supervisors met in the Floyd County Courthouse Board Room. Supervisors Boyd Campbell and Gloria Carr were in attendance After opening the Hardwoods

Carr/Campbell moved to amend the agenda by revising Item 3 to reflect the correct meeting date of June 24 instead of June 17. Motion carried 2-0.

Carr/Campbell moved to approve the amended agenda. Motion carried 2-0.

Public comment: Linda Tjaden asked board members to speak louder to improve audibility. Roger Trettin inquired about the regular meeting schedule, seeking clarification

Carr/Campbell moved to approve the June 24, 2025 meeting minutes. Motion carried 2-0. Campbell/ Carr moved to approve Res# 33-25\* Interfund Transfer from General Supplemental Services to County Attorney Collection Incentive Fund in the amount of \$17,195.12. Roll call vote: Ayes-Carr, Campbell; motion carried 2-0.

Carr/Campbell moved to approve the claims: County #3064-3173 and Engineer #11472-11482. Motion carried 2-0.

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Howard Co, Fees ......

IA DNR. Permits ..

IDPS, Services ....

IT. Outlet Service ...

JDF, Supplies

LEAF, Equip ..... LEAF, Services

Govt Forms, Supplies .....

IA DOT, Fuel/parts .....

Kanawah Libr., Reimb .......

Galls, Equip...

Amazon, Supplies ..... .3060.40 7 G Aries, Reimb ... .. 9.60 1 .52.62 1 AT&T, Phone ... .197.40 1 A Bellinger, Reimb ..... Bruening Rock ... . 306291.95 2 Butler Co, Reimb. ....13398.37 2 J Butterfield, Reimb .73.20 1 S Butterfield, Reimb ... .130.80 1 Calhoun-Burns, Inspect ..... 7232.00 .2000.00 B Callaway, Reimb ...... G Carr, Reimb... . 24.00 1 Centrl IA Dist, Supplies ....... 2081.00 2 Centrl IA JV, Shelter ...... 7974.42 3 .55200.80 1 CG Co Aud, Service ... Charles City, Services ...... .2202.23 3 2303.00 1 D&D, Sales Supplies ...... D & L. Reprs .2411.60 2 B Hinz, Reimb .. 148.20 1 40.28 Eagleview Aerials. 36172.22 Exceptional CCR&R..... 7578.23 67.95 Express, Serv Veh. FayetteCo, Treas Training ... . 150.00 1 FC Correction..... 5038.00 .6668.70 2 FC Aud, Misc .. EMA, Alloc. .50000.00 1 FC, Gen Pstg ForestCity Libr, Alloc ..... .800.00

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..465.85 1 Updates on various boards/commissions/ activities: Carr attended meetings of the Area Development Corporation and the County Social Services Board and attended the ISU Wind Energy presentation. Campbell attended the Juvenile Detention Center meeting.

Jacob Hagan, PE, and Tyler Buman, EIT,

introduced AgriVia, their insured and licensed company focused on drainage district engineering. They described it as a low-overhead operation that keeps costs down by offering a flat-rate fee, regardless of activities performed or equipment used. Judge Lou Lavorato, Mediator for the

Wind Energy and Battery Storage Workgroup, opened the presentation by outlining the group's formation and goals, noting that 18 issues were discussed with consensus reached on all but three. The final report has been released.

Carr expressed concern that the group's work was incomplete, citing unresolved issues. She questioned County Attorney Todd Prich ard and Samantha Norris about the potential for litigation. Prichard responded that while legal outcomes are speculative, ordinances that effectively halt wind projects could increase the risk of lawsuits. Carr asked Samantha Norris to clarify how many wind turbines could be installed and where, under the proposed ordinance. Norris responded that turbine placement opportunities are very limited and emphasized at ordinances are only one of several factors that determine viable locations for turbine development. Carr questioned whether Tom

Legal Notice - Legal Notice - Legal Notice Reavley had communicated with all board members during the mediation process. Reavley stated he had spoken with Keifer multiple times had one conversation with Carr and had not spoken with Kuhn outside of meetings. Carr expressed concern about how Reavley could represent the full Board with such limited communication. Carr asked for clarification on the changes, which were answered by the mediation group. Carr asked Prichard whether there could be legal ramifications associated with continuing the wind moratorium. Both Prichard and Reavley indicated they were not currently aware of any such legal concerns.

Campbell stated that while he had clearly expressed his position, he ultimately chose to compromise on each ordinance to ensure fair representation of all constituents

Prichard advised the Board that the mediation group's report constitutes a recommendation and not a legally binding agreement. Norris explained that in this situation, there is little gray area, making it seem like a simple yes-or-no stance on turbines. This lack of middle ground has made it difficult to view the mediation as successful to any degree. Carr questioned the group about their

authority to remove battery storage from the discussion. In response, Norris and John Robbins explained that battery storage had not been eliminated from the ordinance entirely. Instead, they clarified that the topic was simply not part of the current discussion. Community members raised concerns

about whether updated setback rules would unfairly impact smaller landowners. Some felt the county gave up more than the wind developer during mediation and questioned the Board's focus on potential lawsuits. Others expressed disagreement with supervisors' positions. skepticism about environmental benefits, and frustration over increased turbine height limits. A request was made for a financial report on projected county revenue. A wind company representative highlighted the project's economic benefits and noted it could proceed even without government funding.

Bernie Solomon, IT Director, reported that the quote of \$4,981.03 from Communication Innovators for security upgrades at the Public Health building did not include all necessary components. The Board agreed to postpone further discussion until complete information Linda Tiaden requested an update on the

status of the pipeline project. Prichard advised that the matter remains ongoing and is ex pected to be a lengthy process. Carr/Campbell moved to approve the \$1,770.38 invoice from Ahlers & Cooney for judicial review of the IUC permit. Motion carried 2-0. Carr/Campbell moved to approve Res# 31-

25\* Support of the Joint CHBP Grant Agreement & Letter of Support for the Competitive Highway Bridge Program (CHBP) Grant Project: the Board approved participation in a joint grant project under the CHBP. The County committed to its role as a Sub-recipient, including providing matching funds, and authorized the Chair to sign the necessary agreements with the Iowa DOT. Roll call vote: Ayes-Carr, Campbell; motion carried 2-0.

Carr/Campbell moved to approve the first reading of an Ordinance 2025- 01, Repealing

Ordinance Nos. 12 and 13 Providing for the Division of Taxes Levied on Taxable Property Southwest Bypass Urban Renewal Area. Roll call vote: Ayes-Carr, Campbell. Motion

Carr/Campbell moved to approve Res# 32-25\* to repeal urban renewal plan for the Southwest Bypass Urban Renewal Area, terminating County involvement in the Southwest Bypass Urban Renewal Area and terminating the bylaws of the joint administrative board of the Southwest Bypass Urban Renewal Area. Roll call vote: Ayes-Carr, Campbell; motion

Carr/Campbell moved to approve the FY26 the Area Development Corporation Contract. Motion carried 2-0. Carr/Campbell moved to approve appoint-

ments to boards and commissions. Motion

carried 2-0. Appointments are as follows: All Board Members: Assessor's Conference Board Boyd Campbell 911 Board Ambulance Commission (Alt) County - Department Head Meeting

FC Communications Advisory FMC Early Childhood Iowa FMC Landfill North Cedar Regional Aviation Authority Gloria Carr 911 Board (Alt.)

CC ADC - Jobs Potential Review Com-CC Chamber of Commerce

CC CD - Business Improvement Com-CC CD - Cultural Entertainment District

CC CD- Hotel/Motel Tax Commission CC CD - Main St Charles City Board CC Joint Entity Committee Central Iowa venile Detention Center (Alt)

FMC Governance Decat Board FMC Landfill (Alt.) Shell Rock River Watershed Management

Coalition (Alt) Upper Cedar Watershed Mgmt Improve-

ment Auth. (Alt) Carr/Campbell moved to recertify Allison HocCarr/Campbell moved to approve FY26 salary/wage certifications for Medical Examiner, Medical Examiner Investigators, and Jen

Carr/Campbell moved to recertify Allison Hocking FY26 wage from \$21.43 to \$22.50. Motion carried 2-0. Future agenda items: SW Bypass process

Carr/ Campbell moved to adjourn. Motion carried 2-0. \*This is a summary of the resolution; full text of resolutions may be inspected during

olomon. Motion carried 2-0.

and Public Health security.

Auditor's office and at www.floydcoia.org. ATTEST: Morrigan Montagne Floyd County Auditor Boyd Campbell, Chair

normal business hours in the Floyd County

No. 25034 7/11/25 Charles City Press

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Floyd County Board of Supervisors