



NEWS RELEASE

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NEW FIRE TRUCK HEADED FOR WINNEBAGO THANKS TO USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

Winnebago, Neb., September 11, 2004—The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development presented today in Winnebago, a \$232,500 symbolic funding check to the Village of Winnebago for the purchase of a new fire truck, affording greater fire protection to the 768 rural residents of the community.

“On behalf of the Village of Winnebago, I would like to thank USDA Rural Development for the funds that will allow for us to purchase a new fire truck,” stated Arthur May, chairperson for the Village of Winnebago. “Acquiring a new, larger and reliable fire truck is essential as it will provide the level of fire protection needed for our residents, workers, and infrastructure.”

Winnebago’s new pumper/fire truck will be fully equipped with a 1500 gallon tank/1500 gpm pumper, single axle 2-door tandem commercial chassis, generator, lights and foam system. The truck will be housed in Winnebago, and owned and operated by the Village with the Rural Fire District having access to the truck.

“Winnebago is in great need of a new truck as its 1980 model is out of service 80 percent of the time due to mechanical failures. This places the lives and property of the residents in jeopardy,” stated Jolene Kasper, rural development specialist for USDA Rural Development. “USDA Rural Development is pleased to assist the Village of Winnebago in the purchase of their truck which will be a great asset to the community.”

The USDA funds are provided through the USDA Rural Development Community Facility Loan program and the Economic Impact Initiative via the Community Facility Grant program. For additional information contact Jolene Kasper, jolene.kasper@ne.usda.gov, 1909 Vicki Lane Suite 103 Norfolk, Neb. 68701 or phone (402) 371-5350, (402) 437-5093 (TDY). Visit <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/ne/>.

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