



News Release

(HOLDREGE, Neb.) -- The Central Nebraska Public Power and Irrigation District's board of directors voted during Monday's monthly meeting to allocate \$4,000 to the Inlet Memorial Angler Access Improvement Project at Johnson Lake.

The project is a partnership with the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission to improve the walkway and install seating and lights for safety and accessibility. Central has partnered with NGPC on several past projects to improve public recreational facilities and access to the lake.

Also at Johnson Lake, the board approved a request from the Mallard Beach Area Association to expand lots across the road and into a common area to improve the use of existing structures and allow for the future construction of ancillary structures.

The cost of the survey for the correction replat will be shared by Central and the area's lot lessees.

Also at Monday's meeting:

- The board discussed efforts to work with lot lessees at Lake McConaughy during their attempts to enter into new lot leases with Central.

The master lease between Central and Lake McConaughy Lessees, Inc., ends on March 31 and new leases will go into effect on April 1. Of the 124 leases at Lake McConaughy, less than 40 remain to be properly signed. A letter has been included with billing statements to inform the remaining parties of the March 31 deadline to enter into new leases.

The board approved a recommendation for staff to work with lot lessees at Lake McConaughy who have shown extenuating circumstances during their attempts to enter into new lot leases with Central even if it should extend past April 1.

A \$300 fee will be charged for leases with other tenants not postmarked before the April 1 deadline.

- Civil Engineer Cory Steinke reported that Lake McConaughy is currently at elevation 3256.2 feet and slowly rising. Storage volume is currently at 1.47 million acre feet. Ice conditions on the North Platte River above the reservoir are easing and inflows are near 800 cubic feet per second (cfs), with outflows averaging around 600 cfs.

Steinke also reported that snowpack predictions in the upper and lower North Platte basins, as well as the South Platte region, remain below average and, barring heavy snowfall and/or late spring precipitation, will most likely not result in a release of extra water from Wyoming's Bureau of Reclamation reservoirs. However, Steinke said, storage conditions at Lake McConaughy are good as irrigation season approaches.

- The board approved the purchase of a used multi-terrain loader and concrete hammer for \$99,787. The loader has been in use in the Gothenburg Division under a lease-to-own contract.
- Irrigation Division Manager Dave Ford reported that agreements with the Tri-Basin NRD and Phelps County (for right of way) to provide excess flows into Johnson Waterfowl Production Area have been approved. The bidding process for project construction will begin soon.

###

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 5, 2018

Contact: Jeff Buettner
Public Relations Manager
Office: (308) 995-8601
E-mail: jbuettner@cnppid.com