



## News Release

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(HOLDREGE, Neb.) - The Central Nebraska Public Power and Irrigation District board of directors approved work orders at Monday's monthly meeting for the replacement of two wood bridges on the Supply Canal. The Henry farm bridge just east of North Platte will be removed and replaced with a newly designed steel and concrete bridge at a cost of \$276,429. Central personnel will complete the work on this bridge.

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The second bridge to be replaced is the Snell Canyon bridge located on the Supply Canal southwest of Brady, Neb. The bridge will be replaced by a new steel and concrete structure for \$527,000. Oak Creek Engineering of Kearney, Neb. is overseeing the project and Norfolk Contracting of Norfolk, Neb. will be doing the work. An earthen dike bridge has been constructed to allow access for local traffic only.

Central's maintenance crew will be installing three new remote terminal units (RTUs) along the Phelps County irrigation canal for approximately \$25,000 each. RTUs are essentially computerized controllers that allow Central's control center in Gothenburg to communicate and control gates along the entirety of the project from Kingsley dam to Minden, Neb., through the supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) system.

Also at the board meeting:

- The board approved work orders for the purchase of four half-ton Dodge pickups for \$98,988 and one three-quarter ton Dodge pickup for \$26,847 from Janssen Chrysler of Holdrege, Neb.
- The board approved a purchase requisition for \$131,508.66 to Van Diest Supply Co., of McCook for herbicides and related chemicals.
- Civil engineer Tyler Thulin reported that Lake McConaughy is currently at elevation 3254.6 feet above sea level or 82.8 percent capacity. Inflows to the lake are approximately 1,000 cubic feet per second, although ice conditions make it difficult to collect accurate gauge data. Thulin also reported that as of Feb. 1, target flows set by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for habitat along the Platte River went up, so the groundwater recharge efforts along the canal system have been suspended.
- Megan Meyer, newly hired administrative assistant, was introduced to the board.

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