



News Release

(HOLDREGE, Neb.) - The Central Nebraska Public Power and Irrigation District board of directors convened briefly for the regular monthly board meeting Monday. The board approved a work order for a standby generator to be installed at the Holdrege office for \$10,000, and a work order for finishing concrete work on the parking lots on the south side of the Holdrege office for \$56,500.

The board also approved the purchase of a video surveillance system from Kidwell of Kearney, Neb., for \$68,059; and the purchase of a 20 cubic yard side dump trailer from SmithCo. Mfg. Inc., of Le Mars, Iowa.

Also at Monday's meeting:

- Natural Resources Manager Mike Drain reported on an administrative hearing held Friday in Lincoln by the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources regarding an application to divert water from the Platte River watershed to the Republican River watershed. The hearing was held to determine if the application by Central and co-applicant comprised of a partnership of Tri-Basin Natural Resources District and the Lower Republican Natural Resources District, should be dismissed by the Department. Susan France, the DNR's hearing officer, requested the applicants and the opponents to the proposed project file written briefs by the end of August.
- The board approved the 2020 board and committee meeting schedule.
- Civil Engineer Tyler Thulin reported that Lake McConaughy is currently at elevation 3259.7 feet above sea level (1.58 million acre-feet, or 91 percent capacity) with inflows at 1,500 cubic feet per second (cfs). Thulin said the inflows for the North Platte River at the state line have seen increases over the past few days, so he anticipates an uptick in Lake McConaughy inflows soon. Outflows from the lake are currently at 1,650 cfs and will be increasing by 300 cfs this week.
- Legal counsel Mike Klein reported that the Tax Equalization and Review Commission will hold a hearing in the near future regarding a recent ruling by the Dawson County Board of Equalization that would require Central to pay taxes on land owned in that county. Klein said the Nebraska Supreme Court has ruled in the past that political sub-divisions which make in lieu of tax payments are not required to pay property taxes on the same property.

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