415 Lincoln St. + P.O. Box 740 + Holdrege, NE 68949 + (308) 995-8601



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- The board accepted a staff recommendation to enter into a \$115,550 contract with the engineering firms Mead & Hunt of Madison, Wis., and Ayres Associates of Eau Claire, Wis., to perform a probably maximum flood (PMF) analysis for Kingsley Dam. A PMF is the largest flood that may reasonably be expected to occur at a given point on a stream from the most severe combination of critical meteorologic and hydrologic conditions that are reasonably possible in a particular watershed. The study is required by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.
- The directors approved construction work orders for lining of a lateral off of the Phelps Canal west of Funk (\$41,176); a pipeline installation at the tail end of the E65 Canal system north of Loomis (\$80,570); and an upgrade on the Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system (\$750,000). The SCADA system allows Central to monitor and control water conveyance throughout its system of canals and to remotely operate its four hydroplants. The SCADA system was previously upgraded in 1984.
- Irrigation Division Manager Dave Ford reported that a meeting with landowners in the area around the head end of the Phelps Canal will be held on Wed., Jan. 9 at 10 a.m., in Central's board room in Holdrege. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss groundwater recharge operations associated with the first 13 miles of the canal this winter.

Ford also reported that the deadline is Jan. 15 for one-year transfers of water delivery service for customers wishing to have additional water available next season. Central's temporary transfer policy allows transfers of water deliveries to and from irrigated tracts during periods of allocations to provide additional flexibility for customers to meet their crops' irrigation needs.

At this time, Ford said, requests for additional water are exceeding the number of acres available from which to transfer water. Anyone willing to forgo irrigation deliveries next season should contact Central's irrigation office in Holdrege before Jan. 15.

• Civil engineer Cory Steinke reported that inflows to Lake McConaughy have been about 900 to 950 cubic feet per second (cfs) in recent weeks -- about 80 to 85 percent of normal for this time of year -- although the flows are estimated because of ice conditions in the North Platte River above the lake. The reservoir was at elevation 3238.5 feet, with storage volume at about 60 percent of capacity.

Steinke said snowpack accumulation in the upper North Platte River Basin, which provides about 70 percent of the snowmelt runoff into the North Platte River, is at 79 percent of normal, while snowpack in the lower basin is at 29 percent, according to data provided by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. The South Platte Basin is currently at 65 percent of normal.

He added that several climatologists have forecasted regional drought conditions to persist well into 2013.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE January 3, 2013

415 Lincoln St. + P.O. Box 740 + Holdrege, NE 68949 + (308) 995-8601



News Release

(HOLDREGE, Neb.) -- The Central Nebraska Public Power and Irrigation District's board of directors elected new officers at the first monthly meeting of 2013 on Thursday.

Dudley Nelson of Axtell was elected president. Nelson has represented Kearney County on Central's board since 1998 and was secretary of the board prior to being elected president. Other officers elected by their fellow board members were Dave Rowe of Johnson Lake, vice president; Robert Dahlgren of Bertrand, treasurer; and Scott Olson of Minden, secretary. Board officers serve two-year terms in their positions.

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