



News Release

(HOLDREGE, Neb.) -- The Central Nebraska Public Power and Irrigation District's board of directors approved a bid for replacement of three wells in the E65 Canal service area. The wells have been used periodically since the 1950s to supplement surface water deliveries in the area.

The board awarded the bid to Holdrege Well Service for \$75,968.

The board also approved modifications to the District's allocation year transfer policy to include use of the E65 wells to help meet water transfer requests that exceed the supply of water available from the list of temporarily transferred acres. The transfer policy provides additional flexibility to help customers meet irrigation demands for their crops.

Central personnel are continuing to work with customers to complete allocation year transfers for next season in a timely manner.

Central has set an irrigation delivery allocation of 9 inches/acre for the 2014 irrigation season because of below normal storage levels in Lake McConaughy after allocating 10 inches/acre in 2013. Normal deliveries provide customers with up to 18 inches/acre.

Also at Monday's board meeting:

The board approved an agreement with CP Masters, Inc., of Guthrie, Okla., to inspect the existing cathodic protection system on a siphon on the E65 Canal and recommend protection options. The cost of the service will be \$5,000.

The board approved a three-year lease of District-owned land for agricultural use with Brian Isaacson of Loomis; a one-year agricultural lease with Deborah Egender of Centennial, Colo., and Gregory Ingram Greeley, Colo.; and a one-year lease With Dave Malcom of Eustis for District-owned property at Johnson Lake that is used for an airport.

The board approved legal services agreements with the Anderson, Klein, Swan and Brewster law firm, and with Robert McCormick.

Civil engineer Cory Steinke reported that Lake McConaughy's elevation was at 3233.8 feet on Monday with a storage volume of 953,600 acre-feet (55 percent of capacity). Inflows have been averaging about 1,000 cubic feet per second, or about 90 percent of normal for this time of year, but icing conditions on the river make it difficult to accurately measure flows. Steinke also said that the recent cold snap is causing few problems with water conveyance in the Supply Canal and hydroelectric generation.

Engineering Services Manager Eric Hixson reported that the transition of power sales to Kansas City Power & Light from Central's Supply hydroplants has been going smoothly. Central and KCP&L entered into a 10-year power sales agreement in October, 2011 that went into effect on Jan. 1. Previously, all of the power produced at the three hydroplants was sold to the Nebraska Public Power District. NPPD continues to purchase power generated at the Kingsley Hydroplant.

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