



## News Release

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(HOLDREGE, Neb.) -- The Central Nebraska Public Power and Irrigation District's board of directors elected new officers at the first monthly meeting of 2015 on Thursday.

Dudley Nelson of Axtell was re-elected president. Nelson has represented Kearney County on Central's board since 1998 and has served the past two years as board president. Other officers elected to two-year terms by their fellow board members were David Rowe of Johnson Lake, vice president; Robert Dahlgren of Bertrand, treasurer; and Marty Mueller of Ogallala, secretary.

Also in Thursday's meeting:

- The board approved agricultural and pasture lease renewals to seven tenants; they also approved renewal of the annual lease for the airport at Johnson Lake.
- The board approved legal service agreements with the Anderson, Klein, Swan and Brewster law firm, and with Robert McCormick. They also approved employment agreements with Tim Anderson, Leonard France, and David Campbell.
- The board of directors approved construction work orders for a Geographic Information System (GIS) upgrade and expansion (\$71,500); and a pipeline to replace an open lateral northwest of Holdrege (\$7,249.45). The board also approved supplemental work orders for a Kingsley warehouse bathroom (\$3,240); and replacement of the flume (north of Axtell) with 42" PVC pipe (\$56,713.01).
- Irrigation Division Manager Dave Ford reported that the irrigation division was still processing water transfers for the 2015 irrigation season. Ford expects them to be completed by the committee meeting of the board in two weeks.
- Civil Engineer Cory Steinke reported Lake McConaughy is holding steady at elevation 3247.7 feet or approximately 73 percent of capacity. Steinke says inflows have slowed due to ice upstream, but he estimates current inflows of about 500 cubic feet per second and supply canal diversions at North Platte of approximately 1,000 cfs.
- Steinke also reported that total diversions for agreements with Tri-Basin Natural Resource District and the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources for recharge into Elwood Reservoir and the E65 Canal have reached approximately 9,000 acre-feet of water. Those diversions have been on hold due to cold temperatures hindering water movement through structures since the end of December. The diversions may pick up again if weather allows before the agreement cut-off dates at the end of January 2015. Recharge diversions continue into the Phelps Canal for the Platte River Recovery Implementation Program and the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources.

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Contact: Holly Rahmann  
Public Relations Assistant  
Office: (308) 995-8601  
E-mail: hrahmann@cnppid.com

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