

CENTRAL NEBRASKA PUBLIC POWER AND IRRIGATION DISTRICT

HOLDREGE, NEBRASKA

DECEMBER 4, 2023 – 9:00 A.M.

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MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
THE CENTRAL NEBRASKA PUBLIC POWER AND IRRIGATION DISTRICT
HOLDREGE, NEBRASKA
NOVEMBER 17, 2023 at 9:00 A.M.

This meeting was publicly advertised in accordance with Section 84-1411 of the Nebraska Statutes by notices aired on KRVN (Lexington) and KUVR (Holdrege) radio stations on November 13, 2023, and through legal publication in the Holiday Daily Citizen on November 13, 2023, the Kearney Hub and North Platte Telegraph on November 14, 2023, and the Lexington Clipper-Herald on November 11, 2023, giving the time, date, and place of the meeting and the information that the Agenda was available in advance at the Office of the Assistant Secretary.

A notice giving the time, date, and place of this meeting was e-mailed to each Director on November 10, 2023.

The following Directors were present:

David L. Rowe, President	Geoffrey K. Bogle	David G. Nelson
Kyle Shepherd, Vice President	Tim Boyle	Brent Soneson
William E. Knoerzer, Secretary	Robert B. Dahlgren	
K. Scott Olson, Treasurer	Martin E. Mueller	

Absent were: Dudley L. Nelson and Roger D. Olson

Also present were the following:

Devin M. Brundage, General Manager	Tyler Thulin, Civil Engineer
Rochelle A. Jurgens, Controller	Steve Osterbuhr, Irrigation Superintendent
Eric R. Hixson, Electrical Project Ops Mgr.	Haley Munson, Purchasing Agent
Cory A. Steinke, Hydraulic Project Ops. Mgr.	Charles Brewster, Legal Counsel
Mike A. Drain, Nat. Resource & Compliance Mgr.	Emily J. Anderson, Assistant Secretary
Anton Hassebrook, Hydroelectric Ops Super.	

Others:

Carson Messersmith	Reed McClymont
Jeff Buettner	Gary Robison

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Board President Rowe announced that information for the public concerning the Open Meetings Act was available for interested parties to view.

At 9:00 a.m. the President announced that the meeting was open for business and proceeded with roll call.

PUBLIC INPUT: Gary Robison stated Central's water service is the biggest value on his farm and supports raising water rates. Robison informed the board that he has contacted Senators Halloran and Murman to request their support to work toward a solution which would allow board members who are irrigators or lease holders to discuss and vote on standard lease and agreement terms and rates.

REPLACEMENT BUSHINGS FOR J1 AND J2 TRANSFORMERS: Anton Hassebrook presented the bids for the replacement bushings from WESCO Distribution in the amount of \$142,280.04 and GE Grid Solutions, LLC in the amount of \$188,394.90. Staff recommended accepting the bid from WESCO Distribution in the amount of \$142,280.04 and approval of Purchase Requisition No. 20565 in the same amount.

It was moved by Director Bogle and seconded by Director Knoerzer to accept the bid from WESCO Distribution for the replacement bushings for the J1 and J2 Transformers in the amount of \$142,280.04 and Purchase Requisition No. 20565 in that same amount. Upon voting on the motion, the following Directors voted therefore: Bogle, Boyle, Dahlgren, Knoerzer, Mueller, David Nelson, S. Olson, Rowe, Shepherd, and Soneson. None voted no. Motion carried.

2024 WATER SERVICE RATES AND SUPPLY: Devin Brundage reminded those directors who are Central irrigation customers that they could not discuss or vote on water rates pursuant to their Potential Conflict of Interest Statement (NADC Form C-2) filed with the Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission. Tyler Thulin provided information on current water supplies and presented the staff recommendation to provide a full irrigation supply for 2024. Discussion was held concerning the District's financials and potential scenarios related to funding large capital expenditures like the Kingsley Dam refacing project. This included hypothetical examples utilizing revenue bonding. The discussion included other possible large capital expenditures, and historical irrigation rates.

It was moved by Director Shepherd and seconded by Director Mueller to approve a base water rate of \$42.79 for 2024 which represents a 20% increase, to apply the 20% increase to the corresponding other extra water rates, and to provide a full irrigation delivery supply for 2024.

It was moved by Director Rowe to amend the motion to establish a base water rate of \$40.00 for 2024. The motion failed due to a lack of a second.

Upon voting on the original motion, the following Directors voted therefore: Bogle, Boyle, Mueller, David Nelson, and Shepherd. Voting no was: Rowe. Those who abstained were: Dahlgren, Knoerzer, S. Olson, and Soneson. Absent were: Dudley Nelson and R. Olson. Motion carried.

DIRECTORS' ATTENDANCE: It was moved by Director David Nelson and seconded by Director Soneson to excuse the absences of Directors Dudley Nelson and R. Olson from this meeting. Upon voting on the motion, the following Directors voted therefore: Bogle, Boyle, Dahlgren, Knoerzer, Mueller, David Nelson, S. Olson, Rowe, Shepherd, and Soneson. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT: It was moved by Director Dahlgren and seconded by Director Mueller to adjourn the Special Meeting of the Board at 9:43 AM. Upon voting on the motion, the following Directors voted therefore: Bogle, Boyle, Dahlgren, Knoerzer, Mueller, David Nelson, S. Olson, Rowe, Shepherd, and Soneson. Absent were: Dudley Nelson and R. Olson. Motion carried.

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
THE CENTRAL NEBRASKA PUBLIC POWER AND IRRIGATION DISTRICT
HOLDREGE, NEBRASKA
NOVEMBER 17, 2023 – 9:00 A.M.

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A postcard was mailed to each Director on November 1, 2023 giving the time, date, and place of this meeting.

The following Directors were present:

David L. Rowe, President	Geoffrey K. Bogle	David G. Nelson
Kyle Shepherd, Vice President	Tim Boyle	Brent Soneson
William E. Knoerzer, Secretary	Robert B. Dahlgren	
K. Scott Olson, Treasurer	Martin E. Mueller	

Absent were: Dudley L. Nelson and Roger D. Olson

Also present were the following:

Devin M. Brundage, General Manager	Tyler Thulin, Civil Engineer
Rochelle A. Jurgens, Controller	Steve Osterbuhr, Irrigation Superintendent
Eric R. Hixson, Electrical Project Ops Mgr.	Haley Munson, Purchasing Agent
Cory A. Steinke, Hydraulic Project Ops. Mgr.	Charles Brewster, Legal Counsel
Mike A. Drain, Nat. Resource & Compliance Mgr.	Emily J. Anderson, Assistant Secretary
Anton Hassebrook, Hydroelectric Ops Super.	

Others:

Carson Messersmith	Reed McClymont
Jeff Buettner	Gary Robison

* * * * *

Board President Rowe announced that information for the public concerning the Open Meetings Act was available for interested parties to view.

At 9:48 a.m. the Board President announced that the meeting was open for business and proceeded with roll call.

PUBLIC INPUT: Gary Robison stated the board has done a good job of keeping water rates low for many years, despite inflation. He stated the “Colors of Water” demonstration by John Mohr and Kelly Close from LRE Water at the October 27, 2023 Committee Meeting of the Board was interesting and it would be a helpful tool for the District in his opinion.

CONSENT TO ASSIGNMENT SUMMARY: No consents were approved in November, 2023.

PERMIT TO CONSTRUCT SUMMARY: The following permits were approved during the month of November, 2023:

Permits to Construct Approved by General Manager 11/17/2023				
<u>Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Permit & Purpose</u>	<u>Date Approved & Fee</u>
1.	Tallgrass Interstate Gas Transmission, LLC	36-7-16, 1-6-16, 12-6-16, 16-6-16	CONSTRUCT, OPERATE, MAINTAIN, AND REPAIR A 8.625" CARBON STEEL GAS LINE.	10/24/2023 \$10,100.00
Permits to Construct Approved by Land Administration Department 11/17/2023 – Johnson Lake				
<u>Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Permit & Purpose</u>	<u>Date Approved & Fee</u>
2.	Jennifer L Hempel Trustee	1 Mallard Beach Dr. 19B	DWEL - Construct 20' x 24' x 13.5 tall addition to the existing garage	10/10/2023
3.	Foley, Donald & Kim	4 Mallard Beach Dr. 19B	DWEL - Install new 120-gallon propane tank	10/18/2023
4.	Sund, Travis	51 Mallard Beach So Bay Dr. 21	DWEL - Remove existing garage and construct new 46' x 36' two story addition	10/18/2023
5.	Dominguez, Carlos & Josiane	37 Park Lane Dr. 28	DWEL ATF - Previously installed hvac unit, screened area with pavers in area of hvac	10/18/2023 \$100.00 After the Fact Fee
6.	Tucker, Neil	37 Mallard Beach Dr. 20	SWAF - Install 5'W x 20'L Dock, 8'W x 20'L Jet-Ski Lift	10/19/2023 \$50.00
7.	Selby, Michael & Donna	124 Mallard Beach Dr. 22A	SWAF - 4'W x 24'L Access to the Shoreline	10/19/2023 \$50.00
8.	Bonner, William & Kimber	18 Mallard Beach Dr. 20	DWEL - Construct 18' x 36' x 15.5' detached garage with eaves	10/20/2023
9.	Sund, Travis	51 Mallard Beach So Bay Dr. 21	ECS - Bank Stabilization (Riprap) for 8 linear feet of the shoreline	10/23/2023
10.	Northeast Cove Area Association	NE1/4 of 29-9-22	Permit to Construct ATF - Trim trees and remove vegetation located behind #19 Northeast Cove	10/27/2023 \$100.00 After the Fact Fee
11.	Kirby, John & Jane	9 North Point Dr.	SWAF - Construct 4'W x 32'6" L Access to the shoreline	10/27/2023 \$50.00
12.	Lowe, Timothy & Lowe, John & Anderson, Cust	48 Mallard Beach So. Bay Dr. 21	ECS - Bank Stabilization (RipRap) for 40 linear feet of the shoreline	10/31/2023
13.	Grosshans, Kurt & MacDonald, Lori	101 Mallard Beach Dr. 22	ECS - Bank Stabilization (RipRap) for 62 linear feet of the shoreline	10/31/2023
14.	Kirby, John & Jane	9 North Point Dr. 13	DWEL - Pour 4' wide sidewalk	11/01/2023

15.	Samway, Scott	43 North Point Dr. 13	DWEL - Remove existing asphalt and replace with new 17' x 50' on grade concrete slab	11/01/2023
16.	Melville, Wanda	49 Mallard Beach So. Bay Dr. 21	SWAF - Shoreline modification to create a sand beach area	11/02/2023 \$50.00
17.	Zauha, Judy	39 North Point Dr. 13	ECS - Bank Stabilization (RipRap) for 47 linear feet of the shoreline	11/06/2023
18.	Peterson, Dana	15 Merriweather Dr. 11	ECS - Bank Stabilization (RipRap) for 45 linear feet of the shoreline	11/07/2023
19.	Peterson, Dana	15 Merriweather Dr. 11	ECS - Bank Stabilization (RipRap) for 45 linear feet of the shoreline	11/07/2023
20.	Shotkoski Investments LLC	20 Perch Bay Dr. 6	ECS - Bank Stabilization (RipRap) for 30 linear feet of the shoreline	11/10/2023
21.	Kassing, Mark & Debra	66 lakeview Acres Dr. 14A	ECS - Bank Stabilization (RipRap) for 51 linear feet of the shoreline	11/10/2023
22.	Fagot, David & Margaret	21 Perch Bay Dr. 6	ECS - Bank Stabilization (RipRap) for 15 linear feet of the shoreline	11/10/2023
23.	Keller Real Estates, LLC	127 Mallard Beach Dr. 22A	ECS - Bank Stabilization (RipRap) for 65 linear feet of the shoreline	11/13/2023
24.	Swanson, Owen & Claudette	1 Northeast Cove Dr. 9	ECS - Bank Stabilization (RipRap) for linear 47 feet of the shoreline	11/13/2023
Permits to Construct Approved by Land Administration Department 11/17/2023 – Jeffrey Lake				
<u>Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Permit & Purpose</u>	<u>Date Approved & Fee</u>
25.	Kaschke, Orville & Mary	36 S. Lakeview Rd	ECS - Bank Stabilization (RipRap) for 30 linear feet of the shoreline	11/13/2023
Permits to Construct Approved by Land Administration Department 11/17/2023 – Lake McConaughy				
<u>Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Permit & Purpose</u>	<u>Date Approved & Fee</u>
26.	Rodenburg, Robert & Donna	95 K-1 Rd	DWEL - Install new 62' x 34' patio, using patio pavers	11/08/2023

WORK ORDERS/PURCHASE REQUISITIONS: None.

COUNTY BRIDGE AGREEMENT SUMMARY: Tyler Thulin reported on box culverts recently installed by the county at the following locations:

- Bridge Location/County
 E65-23.7-1.4 – Phelps County
 A17.0 – Phelps County
 A29.9 – Phelps County
 A26.3 – Phelps County
 A33.5 – Phelps County
 A14.6 – Phelps County

LAND AND RECREATION COMMITTEE (11/14/23): Mike Drain reviewed the minutes of the November 14, 2023 meeting and presented the following items the subcommittee acted on:

- a. Johnson Lake Concession Lease – Bullhead Point Outlet Boat Stall Owners: The subcommittee voted to deny renewing the concession lease and required removal of the stalls at the expiration of the current lease.
- b. Application for Variance – 40 Mallard Beach, Johnson Lake: The subcommittee voted to recommend Board denial of the variance application as the proposed major repair of the non-conforming structure exceeds the allowable limit of 8’ and violates Section 5.2.2.4. of the Permitting Procedures.
- c. Expiring Agricultural Leases – Adjacent to Plum Creek Canyon: The subcommittee voted to recommend Board approval of the two ag leases with Jon Wahl as presented.

A break was taken at 10:08 a.m. The meeting resumed at 10:25 a.m.

SUPPLY CANAL BRIDGES: Cory Steinke presented photos of the recently completed Midway bridge. He displayed aerial photos of the locations of numerous county and farm bridges across the Supply Canal that are in need of repair or removal. He discussed the various agreements associated with them and his intended approach to work with the landowners on those issues on a case-by-case basis.

KINGSLEY DAM REFACING PROJECT: Mike Drain reminded everyone that while RJH continues their work to determine the best method to repair the dam facing, it will be at least four months before a full evaluation and recommendation will be available. Preliminary cost estimates remain in the \$75M to \$200M range, depending on the final design. In the meantime, he continues to explore funding options.

2024 BUDGET PREPARATION: Rochelle Jurgens reviewed the current draft of the proposed 2024 budget and each division manager discussed their major proposed expenditures and capital purchases.

A break for lunch was taken at 11:46 a.m.

Director David Nelson left the meeting during lunch.

The meeting resumed at 12:16 p.m.

LEGISLATION: Devin Brundage reported on behalf of Alex Linden who was absent due to his involvement with the Leadership Nebraska program. A letter has been sent to Senator Bostelman’s office regarding potential changes to legislation to allow directors with leases and agreements for recreational use and water service to be allowed to discuss and vote on the terms of those leases and agreements as well as vote on the rates.

BOARD COMMENTS: Director Mueller reported the water in Lake McConaughy is finally reaching back into Martin Bay through a small channel. Director Boyle complimented the crews who performed the recent projects at Johnson Lake during the hydro outages.

LEGAL UPDATE: Carson Messersmith reported on the fulfilled Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests. The uninsured driver who hit a District truck has signed a promissory note and payment plan to reimburse the District.

PERSONNEL: The following employment agreements for 2024 were presented: Beck, Bevard, Buettner, Cernousek, Ford, Kraus, and Trompke.

More discussions were held in Closed Session.

OUT OF STATE TRAVEL: The following travel was approved by the General Manager for November/December, 2023:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Meeting</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Date</u>
Rochelle Jurgens	Nebraska Class Orientation Meeting	Denver, CO	November 8-9, 2023
Mike Drain	PRRIP	Loveland, CO	December 5-6, 2023
Devin Brundage	PRRIP	Loveland, CO	December 5-6, 2023

WORKSHOPS, SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES:

- a. 2023 NWRA/NSIA Joint Convention, November 19-21, 2023 in Kearney
- b. NREA Annual Meeting, November 29-30, 2023 in Kearney
- c. 2024 Four States, January 17-18, 2024, Fort Collins, CO

BOARD SUB-COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND OTHER IMPORTANT UPCOMING EVENTS: A Public Relations Committee meeting will be held on November 21, 2023 at 4:30 p.m.

At 12:39 PM it was moved by Director Soneson and seconded by Director Mueller to enter into Closed Session. Upon voting on the motion, the following Directors voted therefore: Bogle, Boyle, Dahlgren, Knoerzer, Mueller, S. Olson, Rowe, Shepherd, and Soneson. Absent were: David Nelson, Dudley Nelson and R. Olson. None voted no and the motion was declared carried. The reason for entering Closed Session was for the discussion of personnel.

C L O S E D S E S S I O N

At 12:53 PM it was moved by Director Soneson and seconded by Director S. Olson to exit Closed Session and reconvene in Regular Session. Upon voting on the motion, the following Directors voted therefore: Bogle, Boyle, Dahlgren, Knoerzer, Mueller, S. Olson, Rowe, Shepherd, and Soneson. Absent were: David Nelson, Dudley Nelson and R. Olson. None voted no and the motion was declared carried. President Rowe stated the discussion held in Closed Session was limited to personnel.

MANAGEMENT REPORTS:

- a. Tyler Thulin reported Lake McConaughy is at elevation 3,234.7, 974,600 acre-feet, and 55.8% capacity. Inflows to Lake McConaughy are around 1,200 cfs and releases are around 800 cfs to refill NPPD’s system. The Elwood dam seepage project is underway with crews excavating and preparing to install pipe in the coming weeks.

Director Dahlgren exited the meeting at 1:03 p.m.

- b. Cory Steinke displayed photos and videos of crews working to install and remove a dike in the outlet canal at Johnson Lake to dewater and make needed repairs.
- c. Rochelle Jurgens announced the passing of former controller, Gary Bergsten. She continues working on the 2024 budget and staff has taken in about \$1.6M in irrigation payments so far.
- d. Jeff Buettner stated his term as president of NSIA ends next week. He recommended Alex Linden as his replacement on the board. He also resigned from the NeWRA board and nominated Scott Dicke to fill his position. Don Kraus is resigning from the National Water Resources Association board and Buettner will be nominated by Kraus to replace him.
- e. Anton Hassebrook will share the compliments received during the meeting with his crew. He also discussed work done at Johnson 1 hydro during the outage.
- f. Steve Osterbuhr displayed photos of crews dewatering, sandblasting and painting at the Phelps headgate. He also shared photos of crews working to repair a section of lining on the E65 canal, patching work on the coating at the E65 3.2 siphon, and E67 headgate repairs.

- g. Devin Brundage attended the MEAN board meeting yesterday in Kearney He conveyed to their board the District's appreciation and excitement to begin a new 10-year power sales agreement with them. He also discussed MEAN's continued interest in working with Central on other potential generation projects.

The meeting adjourned at 1:40 p.m.

MINUTES OF REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
THE CENTRAL NEBRASKA PUBLIC POWER AND IRRIGATION DISTRICT
HOLDREGE, NEBRASKA
DECEMBER 4, 2023 – 9:00 A.M

This meeting was publicly advertised in accordance with Section 84-1411 of the Nebraska Statutes by notices aired on KRVN (Lexington) and KUVR (Holdrege) radio stations on November 27, 2023, and through legal publication in the Holdrege Daily Citizen on November 27, 2023, the Kearney Hub and North Platte Telegraph on November 28, 2023, and the Lexington Clipper-Herald on December 2, 2023, giving the time, date, and place of the meeting and the information that the Agenda was available in advance at the Office of the Assistant Secretary.

A postcard was mailed to each Director on November 1, 2023 giving the time, date, and place of this meeting.

The following Directors were present:

David L. Rowe, President	Geoffrey K. Bogle	David G. Nelson
Kyle Shepherd, Vice President	Robert B. Dahlgren	Dudley L. Nelson
William E. Knoerzer, Secretary	Martin E. Mueller	Roger D. Olson
K. Scott Olson, Treasurer		Brent Soneson

The following Director was absent: Tim Boyle

Also present were the following:

Devin M. Brundage, General Manager	Alex Linden, Gov't & Public Relations Mgr.
Rochelle A. Jurgens, Controller	Tyler Thulin, Civil Engineer
Eric R. Hixson, Electrical Project Ops Mgr.	Haley Munson, Purchasing Agent
Cory A. Steinke, Hydraulic Project Ops. Mgr.	Charles Brewster, Legal Counsel
Mike A. Drain, Nat. Resource & Compliance Mgr.	Emily J. Anderson, Assistant Secretary
Scott E. Dicke, Irrigation & Water Services Mgr.	

Others:

Carson Messersmith	John Thorburn, Tri-Basin NRD
Joe Bilka	Nolan Little, Tri-Basin NRD
Matt Wells	Gary Robison
Dave Dahlgren	

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Board President Rowe announced that information for the public concerning the Open Meetings Act was available for interested parties to view.

At 9:00 a.m. Board President Rowe announced the meeting was open for business and proceeded with roll call.

PUBLIC INPUT: John Thorburn reported on Tri-Basin's new plan to utilize reuse pits for recharge and the revised Water Conservation Incentive Plan (WCIP) to allow irrigators to suspend their surface water usage, while maintaining their certification. Dave Dahlgren stated he believes the increase in irrigation rates was too much. He offered the assistance of the Central District Water Users to urge legislators to change statutes relating to board members being unable to vote on rates if they hold a water service agreement or lease with the District. Gary Robison stated he supported

the increased irrigation rates but did not believe irrigators want to increase the commitment from the District and the water user from 10 years to 30 years in the water service agreements.

CONSENT AGENDA: Devin Brundage provided an overview of the items on the Consent Agenda which were presented and discussed at the November 17, 2023 Committee Meeting of the Board.

The Board President asked the Directors if there were items they wished to remove from the Consent Agenda for individual discussion and voting. Hearing none, the following items were presented:

- **Approval of Minutes of Regular Business Meeting of the Board of Directors held November 6, 2023**
- **Approval of Minutes of Special Meeting of the Board of Directors held November 17, 2023**
- **Approval of Minutes of Committee Meeting of the Board of Directors held November 17, 2023**
- **Approval of the December Disbursements:**

Hydro Division:

Check #s 71281 through 71460 & 8901145 through 8901172 (Accounts Payable) \$889,015.65

Payroll \$571,129.39

Kingsley Division:

Check #s 3607 through 3619 (Accounts Payable) \$15,828.05

Glendo Division:

NONE \$NONE

- **Denial of the variance application at 40 Mallard Beach, Johnson Lake as the proposed major repair of the non-conforming structure exceeds the allowable limit of 8' and violates Section 5.2.2.4. of the Permitting Procedures**
- **Approval of two agricultural leases with Jon Wahl in an area adjacent to Plum Creek Canyon**

It was moved by Director R. Olson and seconded by Director Soneson to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Upon voting on the motion, the following Directors voted therefore: Bogle, Dahlgren, Knoerzer, Mueller, David Nelson, Dudley Nelson, R. Olson, S. Olson, Rowe, Shepherd, and Soneson. Absent was Boyle. None voted no and the motion was declared carried.

WORK ORDER/PURCHASE REQUISITION SUMMARY: The following was presented:

- a. Work Order No. 107467 – Ivers Land Purchase (\$5,103,685.00)

It was moved by Director Dahlgren and seconded by Director Dudley Nelson to approve Work Order No. 107467 for the Ivers Land Purchase near Lake McConaughy in the amount of \$5,103,685.00 as presented. Upon voting on the motion, the following Directors voted therefore: Bogle, Dahlgren, Knoerzer, Mueller, David Nelson, Dudley Nelson, R. Olson, S. Olson, Rowe, Shepherd, and Soneson. Absent was Boyle. None voted no and the motion was declared carried.

REPLACE OBSOLETE PLOTTER AND SCANNER: Eric Hixson presented Work Order No. 186818 to replace the obsolete plotter and scanner in Holdrege in the amount of \$17,634.00 and Revision #8 to the 2023 Budget as follows:

Hydro Division	Current Budget	Proposed Budget	Difference
<u>Admin Capital</u>			
Plotter / Scanner	\$10,000	\$18,000	\$8,000

It was moved by Director Mueller and seconded by Director Knoerzer to approve Revision #8 to the 2023 Budget with a net difference of \$8,000.00 and Work Order No. 186818 to replace the obsolete plotter and scanner in Holdrege in the amount of \$17,634.00 as presented. Upon voting on the motion, the following Directors voted therefore: Bogle, Dahlgren, Knoerzer, Mueller, David Nelson, Dudley Nelson, R. Olson, S. Olson, Rowe, Shepherd, and Soneson. Absent was Boyle. None voted no and the motion was declared carried.

BID TAB – 2024 CHEMICALS: Scott Dicke presented two bids from Van Diest Supply Co. and Nutrien Solutions, with both bids being in the amount of \$128,145.00. Staff recommended accepting the bid from Van Diest Supply Co. as they will ship the chemicals on February 28, 2024, rather than Nutrien’s bid with a shipping date of December 31, 2023. Dicke explained he would like a later shipment date of the chemicals due to the lack of sufficient storage in the Holdrege and Bertrand shops.

It was moved by Director Knoerzer and seconded by Director S. Olson to accept the bid from Van Diest Supply Co. in the amount of \$128,145.00 for the 2024 Chemicals. Upon voting on the motion, the following Directors voted therefore: Bogle, Dahlgren, Knoerzer, Mueller, David Nelson, Dudley Nelson, R. Olson, S. Olson, Rowe, Shepherd, and Soneson. Absent was Boyle. None voted no and the motion was declared carried.

BID TAB – 2024 INSURANCE PREMIUMS (PROPERTY, LIABILITY, ETC.): Haley Munson presented two bids from FNIC and MARSH. MARSH’s bid encompasses the property damage, boiler and machinery coverage in the amount of \$318,468.00. FNIC’s bid encompasses the general and management liability, excess liability, business automobile, inland marine and mobile equipment, worker’s compensation and employer’s liability, and commercial crime and public employee dishonesty coverage in the amount of \$289,880.00. The total renewal cost of the insurance products equals \$608,348.00, which represents a 7.09% increase over the 2023 rates. Munson will continue searching for a suitable policy for cyber liability coverage.

It was moved by Director Bogle and seconded by Director S. Olson to accept the bids from MARSH in the amount of \$318,468.00 and FNIC in the amount of \$289,880.00 for the 2024 Insurance. Upon voting on the motion, the following Directors voted therefore: Bogle, Dahlgren, Knoerzer, Mueller, David Nelson, Dudley Nelson, R. Olson, S. Olson, Rowe, Shepherd, and Soneson. Absent was Boyle. None voted no and the motion was declared carried.

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE (11/21/23): David Nelson and Alex Linden summarized the discussions held at the recent meeting and the minutes were displayed.

2024 BUDGET: Rochelle Jurgens presented the final version of the 2024 Budget, which includes a 3.4% wage adjustment for all personnel.

It was moved by Director Dudley Nelson and seconded by Director Mueller to approve the 2024 Budget as presented, which includes a 3.4% wage increase for all District personnel. Upon voting on the motion, the following Directors voted therefore: Bogle, Dahlgren, Knoerzer, Mueller, David Nelson, Dudley Nelson, R. Olson, S. Olson, Rowe, Shepherd, and Soneson. Absent was Boyle. None voted no and the motion was declared carried.

LEGISLATION: Alex Linden continues corresponding with Senator Bostelman’s office about potential legislation to allow board members who may be irrigators or cabin lease holders to vote on rates. He discussed a few bills he expects to be introduced in this next legislative session.

Brundage had an opportunity discuss the Kingsley Dam refacing project with Senator Murman last week and Alex Linden meets with Senator Ibach later this week about the same. Mike Drain discussed the bi-partisan Senate bill SB2994 that would amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to support upgrades at existing hydroelectric dams in order to increase clean energy production, improve the resiliency and reliability of the United States electric grid, enhance the health of the Nation's rivers and associated wildlife habitats, and for other purposes. A letter expressing support of the bill was sent to Congressman Adrian Smith's office by Board President David Rowe on November 9, 2023, and Drain encouraged others to do the same. Alex Linden is arranging meetings with Senator Fisher and Senator Ricketts to discuss the Kingsley Dam refacing project and the senate bill.

WORKSHOPS, SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES: None.

PERSONNEL: It was moved by Director Bogle and seconded by Director Knoerzer to approve the 2024 Employment Agreements with Beck, Bevard, Buettner, Cernousek, Ford, Kraus, and Trompke as presented; and to approve the Personnel Action related to the General Manager's salary. Upon voting on the motion, the following Directors voted therefore: Bogle, Dahlgren, Knoerzer, Mueller, David Nelson, Dudley Nelson, R. Olson, S. Olson, Rowe, Shepherd, and Soneson. Absent was Boyle. None voted no and the motion was declared carried.

DIRECTORS' ATTENDANCE: It was moved by Director David Nelson and seconded by Director S. Olson to excuse the absence of Director Tim Boyle from this meeting. Upon voting on the motion, the following Directors voted therefore: Bogle, Dahlgren, Knoerzer, Mueller, David Nelson, Dudley Nelson, R. Olson, S. Olson, Rowe, Shepherd, and Soneson. Absent was Boyle. None voted no and the motion was declared carried.

BOARD COMMENTS: Director David Nelson commented on the recent board action to raise the irrigation rates to cover the costs for water delivery from the irrigation canal headgates.

LEGAL UPDATE: Charles Brewster had nothing new to report.

MANAGEMENT REPORTS: The following were presented:

- a. Cory Steinke reported on usual operations along the Supply Canal and at the Diversion Dam. He is currently preparing bid specifications for the concrete repairs in the the Morning Glory and discharge tunnel.
- b. Tyler Thulin reported Lake McConaughy is at elevation 3,235.7, 990,000 acre feet, and 57.1% capacity. The inflows to Lake McConaughy are approximately 1,100 cfs and outflows are around 300 cfs. Snowpack totals are currently below median. Johnson Lake was lowered to accommodate an outage at the J-2 hydro but levels should return to normal by December 8, 2023.
- c. Mike Drain announced the upcoming retirement of Trent Ringenberg. He and Eric Hixson have revised the GIS Specialist job description slightly and posted the job on Indeed and the District's website. He will work with legal counsel to respond to questions from Richard Borman regarding his recently fulfilled FOIA request. An annual stakeholder meeting will be held by Zoom on December 13, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. to discuss the status of the Land and Shoreline Management Plan and Boundary Review filings with FERC, permitting procedures, and other important topics that primarily affect cabin owners.
- d. Scott Dicke plans to attend a conference in Las Vegas, NV on December 13, 2023 where Rubicon users from irrigation districts in Australia and California will discuss their experience and success with canal automation. He invited any interested director to join him. He has heard no complaints from irrigators about the rate increase for 2024 and, in fact, additional acres have been signed on. Work continues at the Elwood Dam to scrape the banks around the pump station to prepare for the installation of pipe. He expects the progress to continue with good weather in the forecast.

- e. Alex Linden stated the IT department is researching cameras suitable to provide a live feed from the eagle viewing facilities on the District’s website. The eagle viewing facilities will open on December 30, 2023. He attended the NSISA/NWRA and NREA conferences recently.
- f. Rochelle Jurgens reported the majority of irrigation payments have been received. She has an upcoming meeting with a bond underwriter about financing options for the Kingsley Dam refacing project.
- g. Eric Hixson stated the governor pump at the J-2 hydro is being replaced this week.
- h. Devin Brundage participated in the NSIA/NWRA and NREA meetings in November. The Natural Resources Committee is proposing rule changes for the Water Sustainability Fund grants. He will attend the PRRIP Governance Committee meeting in Colorado this week with Mike Drain.

ADJOURNMENT: It was moved by Director Mueller and seconded by Director R. Olson to adjourn the Regular Business Meeting of the Board at 10:29 AM. Upon voting on the motion, the following Directors voted therefore: Bogle, Dahlgren, Knoerzer, Mueller, David Nelson, Dudley Nelson, R. Olson, S. Olson, Rowe, Shepherd, and Soneson. Absent was Boyle. None voted no and the motion was declared carried.

ATTEST:

THE CENTRAL NEBRASKA PUBLIC POWER
AND IRRIGATION DISTRICT

William E. Knoerzer, Secretary

By _____
David L. Rowe, President