

CENTRAL NEBRASKA PUBLIC POWER AND IRRIGATION DISTRICT

HOLDREGE, NEBRASKA

JANUARY 3, 2024 – 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  
DECEMBER 20, 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 December 14, 2023, and through legal publication in the Holiday Daily Citizen, Kearney Hub and North Platte Telegraph on December 14, 2023, and the Lexington Clipper-Herald on December 16, 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 December 11, 2023.

The following Directors were present:

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

The following Director was absent: David G. Nelson

Also present were the following:

Devin M. Brundage, General Manager	Anton Hassebrook, Hydroelectric Ops Super.
Rochelle A. Jurgens, Controller	Tyler Thulin, Civil Engineer
Eric R. Hixson, Electrical Project Ops Mgr.	Luke Ritz, Senior Land Administrator
Cory A. Steinke, Hydraulic Project Ops. Mgr.	Haley Munson, Purchasing Agent
Mike A. Drain, Nat. Resource & Compliance Mgr.	Dusty Way, Irrigation Operations Supervisor
Scott Dicke, Irrigation & Water Services Mgt.	Charles Brewster, Legal Counsel
Alex Linden, Gov't & Public Relations Mgr.	Emily J. Anderson, Assistant Secretary

Others present were:

Carson Messersmith	Gary Robison
Jeff Buettner	

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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 9:01 a.m. the President announced that the meeting was open for business and proceeded with roll call.

PUBLIC INPUT: None.

BID TAB – 2024 INSURANCE (CYBERSECURITY COVERAGE): Haley Munson presented the three coverage options offered by FNIC and recommended accepting the Option 1 coverage with a \$500,000 policy limit, \$15,000 deductible, and a yearly premium of \$5,951.05.

It was moved by Director R. Olson and seconded by Director Knoerzer to accept the bid from FNIC for the Option 1 Cybersecurity Coverage with an annual premium of \$5,951.05. Upon voting on the motion, the following Directors voted therefore: Bogle, Boyle, Dahlgren, Knoerzer, Mueller, Dudley Nelson, R. Olson, S. Olson, Rowe, Shepherd, and Soneson. None voted no. Absent was David Nelson. Motion carried.

BID TAB – PVC PIPE: Scott Dicke presented bids from Diamond Plastics, Kroy Industries and Win Water for 5,600 feet of 15” PVC pipe to replace sections of crushed pipeline. Delivery of the pipe is expected in 1-2 weeks if ordered by December 22, 2023. Staff recommended accepting the lowest bid from Kroy Industries in the amount of \$90,539.12.

It was moved by Director Dudley Nelson and seconded by Director Boyle to accept the bid from Kroy Industries for 5,600 feet of 15” PVC pipe in the amount of \$90,539.12. Upon voting on the motion, the following Directors voted therefore: Bogle, Boyle, Dahlgren, Knoerzer, Mueller, Dudley Nelson, R. Olson, S. Olson, Rowe, Shepherd, and Soneson. None voted no. Absent was David Nelson. Motion carried.

COZAD SOUTH BRIDGE EASEMENTS: Luke Ritz displayed an aerial map and drawing depicting the current and new alignment of the road and bridge. He presented an acquisition contract and the permanent easements that will be granted to Dawson County which have been reviewed by legal counsel.

It was moved by Director S. Olson and seconded by Director Soneson to approve the execution of the Acquisition Contract and Permanent Easements with Dawson County for the Cozad South Bridge Project, subject to final legal review. Upon voting on the motion, the following Directors voted therefore: Bogle, Boyle, Dahlgren, Knoerzer, Mueller, Dudley Nelson, R. Olson, S. Olson, Rowe, Shepherd, and Soneson. None voted no. Absent was David Nelson. Motion carried.

SCALE COMPUTING: Eric Hixson explained the scale is the server mainframe which allows for network communications between Gothenburg and Holdrege. He presented the following 2023/2024 budget revision and Work Order No. 186819-2023 in the amount of \$12,366.37:

Hydro Division	Current Budget	Proposed Budget	Difference
<u>Capital</u>			
Scale Computing (Admin)	\$0	\$12,400	\$12,400

It was moved by Director Dudley Nelson and seconded by Director Soneson to approve the 2023/2024 Budget Amendment in the net difference of \$12,400.00 and Work Order No. 186819-2023 in the amount of \$12,366.37 for the Scale Computing upgrade. Upon voting on the motion, the following Directors voted therefore: Bogle, Boyle, Dahlgren, Knoerzer, Mueller, Dudley Nelson, R. Olson, S. Olson, Rowe, Shepherd, and Soneson. None voted no. Absent was David Nelson. Motion carried.

THE DUNES LAND PURCHASE AT LAKE MCCONAUGHY: Mike Drain stated the Land and Recreation Committee met earlier this morning where they voted to recommend Board approval of a Contract to Buy and Sell Real Estate with Lake McConaughy, LLC at a purchase price of \$302,000.00. The District will purchase 7.73 acres of land in the SW1/4 of Section 32-T15N-R38W in Keith County which will provide more erosion buffer for the FERC boundary. He also presented the following 2023/2024 Budget Amendment:

Hydro Division	Current Budget	Proposed Budget	Difference
<u>Capital</u>			
Land Purchase – Lake McConaughy	\$0	\$330,000	\$330,000

It was moved by Director Dudley Nelson and seconded by Director Mueller to approve the 2023/2024 Budget Amendment in the net difference of \$330,000 and execution of the Contract to Buy and Sell Real Estate with Lake McConaughy LLC for the purchase of 7.73 acres of land in the SW1/4 of Section 32-T15N-R38W in Keith County for a purchase price of

**\$302,000.00, subject to final legal review. Upon voting on the motion, the following Directors voted therefore: Bogle, Boyle, Dahlgren, Knoerzer, Mueller, Dudley Nelson, R. Olson, S. Olson, Rowe, Shepherd, and Soneson. None voted no. Absent was David Nelson. Motion carried.**

ADVERTISEMENT FOR LEASE OF IVERS LAND AT LAKE MCCONAUGHY: Mike Drain stated the Land and Recreation Committee voted to recommend Board approval of publishing a Notice to Bidders for agricultural grazing on the two parcels for a term of 3 years, and to include conditions in the lease agreement with the successful bidder to require rotation grazing between the two parcels, and to permit an annual grazing capacity.

**It was moved by Director Shepherd and seconded by Director Bogle to approve the publication of a Notice to Bidders for agricultural grazing on the two parcels for a term of 3 years, and to include conditions in the lease agreement with the successful bidder to require rotation grazing between the two parcels, and to permit an annual grazing capacity. Upon voting on the motion, the following Directors voted therefore: Bogle, Boyle, Dahlgren, Knoerzer, Mueller, Dudley Nelson, R. Olson, S. Olson, Rowe, Shepherd, and Soneson. None voted no. Absent was David Nelson. Motion carried.**

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

ADJOURNMENT: It was moved by Director Shepherd and seconded by Director Mueller to adjourn the Special Meeting of the Board at 9:26 AM. Upon voting on the motion, the following Directors voted therefore: Bogle, Boyle, Dahlgren, Knoerzer, Mueller, Dudley Nelson, R. Olson, S. Olson, Rowe, Shepherd, and Soneson. None voted no. Absent was David Nelson. Motion carried.

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
THE CENTRAL NEBRASKA PUBLIC POWER AND IRRIGATION DISTRICT  
HOLDREGE, NEBRASKA  
DECEMBER 20, 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 December 13, 2023, and through legal publication in the Holdrege Daily Citizen on December 13, 2023, the Kearney Hub, North Platte Telegraph, and Lexington Clipper-Herald on December 16, 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 December 6, 2023 giving the time, date, and place of this meeting.

The following Directors were present:

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

The following Director was absent: David G. Nelson

Also present were the following:

Devin M. Brundage, General Manager	Anton Hassebrook, Hydroelectric Ops Super.
Rochelle A. Jurgens, Controller	Tyler Thulin, Civil Engineer
Eric R. Hixson, Electrical Project Ops Mgr.	Luke Ritz, Senior Land Administrator
Cory A. Steinke, Hydraulic Project Ops. Mgr.	Haley Munson, Purchasing Agent
Mike A. Drain, Nat. Resource & Compliance Mgr.	Dusty Way, Irrigation Operations Supervisor
Scott Dicke, Irrigation & Water Services Mgt.	Charles Brewster, Legal Counsel
Alex Linden, Gov't & Public Relations Mgr.	Emily J. Anderson, Assistant Secretary

Others present were:

Carson Messersmith	Gary Robison
Jeff Buettner	

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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 9:27 a.m. the Board President announced that the meeting was open for business and proceeded with roll call.

PUBLIC INPUT: None.

CONSENT TO ASSIGNMENT SUMMARY: One consent to assign was approved in December, 2023.

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

Permits to Construct Approved by General Manager 12/20/2023				
<u>Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Permit &amp; Purpose</u>	<u>Date Approved &amp; Fee</u>
1.	Bass Bay Area Association	Section 31-9N-22R	Permit to Construct - Removal/Trimming of trees located within Bass Bay Common Area	11/21/2023
Permits to Construct Approved by Land Administration Department 12/20/2023 – Johnson Lake				
<u>Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Permit &amp; Purpose</u>	<u>Date Approved &amp; Fee</u>
2.	Kirby, John & Jane	9 North Point Dr.	SWAF - Construct 4' W x 32'6"L Access to the shoreline	10/27/2023 \$50.00
3.	Turn Key Properties LLC	22 North Cove Dr. 10	ECS - Bank Stabilization (RipRap) for 46 linear feet of the shoreline	11/13/2023
4.	Harder, Terri & Kristensen, Douglas	6 Bass Bay Dr. 16	ECS - Bank Stabilization (RipRap) for 50 linear feet of the shoreline	11/15/2023
5.	Potter, Kirk & Jenny	21 North Cove Dr. 10	SWAF - Install 10'W x 25'L On-Grade Patio, 8'W x 6'L Dock Anchor Pad, 6'W x 10'L Jet-Ski Lift, 12'W x 12'L Shorestation	11/21/2023 \$50.00
6.	Berglund, Mary	107 Mallard Beach Dr. 22	DWEL - Construct new 21' long addition with 12" eaves	11/30/2023
7.	Tucker, Neil	37 Mallard Beach	ECS - Bank Stabilization (RipRap) for 37 linear feet of the shoreline	11/30/2023
8.	KL Family Roots	11 Sandy Point Dr. 24	DWEL - Construct new dwelling approx. dimensions of 61' x 48' x 34' high	12/06/2023
9.	Rye, Kenneth & Rebecca	36 Bass Bay Dr. 16	DWEL - Construct new 30' x 40' x 14' detached garage/shop	12/11/2023
10.	Schmidt, Keith	80 Mallard Beach Dr. 22	After the Fact DWEL - Constructed a 22' x 28' elevated deck under existing patio overhang	12/11/2023 After the Fact Fee \$100.00
Permits to Construct Approved by Land Administration Department 12/20/2023 – Lake McConaughy				
<u>Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Permit &amp; Purpose</u>	<u>Date Approved &amp; Fee</u>
11.	McComb, Mike & Val	17 K-3	VEG - Plant Trees	11/09/2023
12.	Arterburn, Joseph & Catherine	4 K-3 Rd	DWEL - Construct new two-rail white vinyl fence	11/20/2023
Permits to Construct Approved by Land Administration Department 12/20/2023 – Plum Creek				
<u>Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Permit &amp; Purpose</u>	<u>Date Approved &amp; Fee</u>
13.	Embury, Stuart & Lynn, Quincy, Wayne & Jerrie	2 Plum Creek Canyon Dr 2B	ECS - Bank Stabilization (RipRap) for 100 linear feet of the shoreline	12/12/2023

WORK ORDERS/PURCHASE REQUISITIONS: Eric Hixson presented the following:

- a. Supplemental Work Order No. 186817S – Additional security (keycard access and camera) (\$15,591.00)
- b. Supplemental Work Order No. 2107178S – Governor accumulator air compressors (\$14,666.00)

2024 BOARD SUBCOMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS: The current list of subcommittee assignments was reviewed. President Rowe asked directors to let him know if they had a desire to be reassigned to various committees.

2024 WATER LEASING PROGRAM: Dusty Way presented a summary of the 61 agreements for 1,053 acres enrolled at \$100.00 per acre for the 2024 program with the Platte River Recovery Implementation Program.

BEAVER TRAPPING AGREEMENT: Cory Steinke described issues with beavers building dams along the canal and drainage ditches. In the past, the District hired an individual at a flat fee of \$250/month to trap along the system. The District plans to transition to offering a bounty of \$100.00 per beaver pelt through agreements with individuals as appropriate given the market for pelts is very low and the current individuals were not planning to continue offering that service.

ANNUAL RESERVE FUND REPORT: Rochelle Jurgens reviewed the Reserve Fund Policy approved by the board on December 5, 2016 and presented the fund balances as of November 30, 2023.

KINGSLEY DAM REFACING PROJECT: Mike Drain announced Congressman Adrian Smith introduced legislation for the 30% investment tax credit with bi-partisan support. He and Alex Linden are communicating with Senators Ricketts and Fisher to encourage their support for the companion bill in the Senate. Rochelle Jurgens presented potential bond debt service rates and schedules for the project based on recent meetings with financial agencies.

A break was taken at 10:06 a.m. The meeting resumed at 10:23 a.m.

E-65 SIPHON AND ELWOOD SEEPAGE REPAIR PROJECTS: Scott Dicke and legal counsel are working to finalize a right-of-entry agreement with a landowner in the vicinity of the E-65 siphon project. Once that agreement has been executed, the consultant can begin topography and field work, and finalize the project design.

Dicke and Tyler Thulin will conduct a walk through today to see the progress of the Elwood seepage repair project. Crews will begin work on the pump station after Christmas. They are still on schedule for a July 15, 2024 completion date.

2024 LEGAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH ANDERSON KLEIN BREWSTER & BRANDT: A draft agreement with Anderson Klein Brewster & Brandt was presented with a rate increase over the 2023 rates. Brundage noted that Anderson Klein has not increased their hourly rates since 2020 and staff has been very satisfied with their legal services and responsiveness.

DISTRICT BYLAWS UPDATE: Devin Brundage reminded the directors of their efforts in 2019 to update the Bylaws to remove references to specific statutes, eliminate the J-2 fund, and define per diem requirements. He also suggested reviewing drafts of new and revised policies which were drafted in 2020 but never finalized or adopted. President Rowe suggested forming a Bylaws Subcommittee and selected Dudley Nelson, William Knoerzer, Brent Soneson, and himself for the task since those individuals were involved in the drafting of bylaws as part of the merger project.

LEGISLATION: Alex Linden, Brundage and Charles Brewster met recently with Senator Bostelman, his legal aid and the director and legal counsel from the Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission regarding potential changes to legislation could allow directors with leases and agreements for recreational use and water service to be allowed to take action on the terms of those general leases and agreements as well as rates. The legislative session starts on January 3,

2024 and the Speaker of the Legislature has indicated the first 10 days will focus on establishing rules. The NWRA/NSIA will hold their annual legislative reception on January 24, 2024 at The Cornhusker Hotel in Lincoln.

BOARD COMMENTS: Director S. Olson provided a recap of his trip with Scott Dicke to Las Vegas, NV last week to attend the Colorado Water Users Association meeting where users of the Rubicon system from Australia and California presented about the system. Directors Knoerzer and Boyle commented they have both been closely watching the progress of the Elwood Dam seepage repair project.

LEGAL UPDATE: Charles Brewster announced following its due process investigation, the Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission dismissed the conflict of interest complaint filed by Jim Paulsen against directors Bogle, Knoerzer and Rowe. He reported further on the meeting with Senator Bostelman and the NADC on December 12, 2023. He will work with affected directors on their C-2 Conflict of Interest forms that are filed with the NADC based on the discussions from that meeting. He has otherwise been occupied with assisting staff on real estate transaction documents.

PERSONNEL: None.

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

<u>Name</u>	<u>Meeting</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Date</u>
Devin Brundage	NRECA	Phoenix, AZ	January 7-9, 2024

WORKSHOPS, SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES: None.

BOARD SUB-COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND OTHER IMPORTANT UPCOMING EVENTS: Alex Linden reminded everyone of the District's legislative reception scheduled for January 16, 2024 in Lincoln.

MANAGEMENT REPORTS:

- a. Tyler Thulin reported Lake McConaughy is at elevation 3,236.5, 1,012,000 acre-feet, and 58% capacity. Inflows to Lake McConaughy are around 1,300 cfs and releases are around 275 cfs. Snowpack in the upper North Platte basin is at 71% of median, the lower North Platte is at 40%, and the South Platte is at 78%.
- b. Mike Drain and staff conducted a Land and Shoreline Management Plan stakeholder meeting via Zoom last week. He and Eric Hixson are reviewing resumes for the GIS Specialist to replace Trent Ringenberg upon his retirement. He is working on multiple year-end FERC reports.
- c. Rochelle Jurgens presented the Fiscal Budget Management letter for 2024 which summarizes the budget in written form.
- d. Eric Hixson is working on year-end NERC requirements and FERC annual security compliance reports. He is reviewing resumes for the GIS Specialist position and an upcoming opening for a System Control Operator.
- e. Alex Linden reported the eagle viewing facilities will open on December 30, 2023 and be open every Saturday and Sunday through the end of February, 2024. He continues communicating with Unanimous about the new website. He proposed a potential board retreat in February in Nebraska City, NE. He has been working on a possible board tour of the Cooper Nuclear Plant as part of that retreat.
- f. Anton Hassebrook discussed and displayed photos of crews installing a new governor pump at the J-2 hydro during the recent outage.



- g. Cory Steinke has been grateful for warm temperatures and no icing along the Supply Canal so far this season. He reported on his attendance and discussions held at a recent Tri-Basin NRD meeting.
- h. Dusty Way presented the biennial 2023 Irrigation Survey report which included charts and graphs depicting diversions, deliveries and incidental recharge dating back to 1942, Elwood Reservoir data since 2000, historical rainfall amounts, and recharge totals, including approximately 97,000 acre-feet of incidental recharge from the Phelps, E65 and E67 systems, along with an additional 17,000 acre-feet from excess flow recharge from the District's operations in 2023.
- i. Scott Dicke summarized the information he gathered at the Colorado Water Users meeting last week in Las Vegas, NV.
- j. Devin Brundage reported on an open house yesterday in Ogallala for the South Platte Canal Project. He reminded everyone that as of January 1, 2024, the J-1 and J-2 hydro generation will be sold to MEAN and the Jeffrey hydro generation will be delivered to the Southwest Power Pool market for the first few months of 2024. He presented a slide showing the membership of MEAN. He thanked directors for their efforts the past year to push the District forward.

The meeting adjourned at 11:51 a.m.

MINUTES OF REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
THE CENTRAL NEBRASKA PUBLIC POWER AND IRRIGATION DISTRICT  
HOLDREGE, NEBRASKA  
JANUARY 3, 2024 – 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 December 27, 2023, and through legal publication in the Holdrege Daily Citizen on December 27, 2023, the Kearney Hub and North Platte Telegraph on December 28, 2023, and the Lexington Clipper-Herald on December 30, 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 December 6, 2023 giving the time, date, and place of this meeting.

The following Directors were present:

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

The following Directors were absent: K. Scott Olson and David L. Rowe

Also present were the following:

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

Others present were:

Carson Messersmith	John Thorburn, Tri-Basin NRD
Dennis Ostgren	Nolan Little, Tri-Basin NRD
Tom MacDougall, RJH	

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

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

PUBLIC INPUT: John Thorburn reported on the upcoming South Central Water Conference scheduled on February 1, 2024 at the Phelps County Ag Center and thanked District staff for their help organizing the event.

CONSENT AGENDA: Devin Brundage provided an overview of the items on the Consent Agenda which were presented and discussed at the December 20, 2023 Committee Meeting of the Board.

The Board Vice 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 December 4, 2023**
- **Approval of Minutes of Special Meeting of the Board of Directors held December 20, 2023**
- **Approval of Minutes of Committee Meeting of the Board of Directors held December 20, 2023**
- **Approval of the January Disbursements:**

Hydro Division:

Check # 71207-VOID; Check #s 71461 through 71646 & 8901173 through 8901201 (Accounts Payable)	\$1,596,162.24
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Payroll	\$882,451.24
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Kingsley Division:

Check #s 3620 through 3626 (Accounts Payable)	\$288,713.23
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Glendo Division:

NONE	\$NONE
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- **Approval of Supplemental Work Order No. 186817S – Additional security (keycard access and cameras) in the amount of \$15,591.00**
- **Approval of Supplemental Work Order No. 2107178S – Governor accumulator air compressors in the amount of \$14,666.00**
- **Approval of the 2024 Water Leasing Program Acres with the Platte River Recovery Implementation Program (61 agreements for a total of 1,053 acres at \$100.00 per acre)**

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

WORK ORDER/PURCHASE REQUISITION SUMMARY: None.

WATER RIGHT TRANSFER AND TERMINATION: Cory Steinke reported on an issue with a landowner irrigating through a pipe that passes through Jeffrey Dam. Steinke will work with the Twin Platte NRD and landowner to find alternate options to deliver water to him.

2024 LEGAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH ANDERSON KLEIN BREWSTER & BRANDT:

It was moved by Director Bogle and seconded by Director Dudley Nelson to approve the 2024 Legal Services Agreement with Anderson Klein Brewster & Brandt as presented. Upon voting on the motion, the following Directors voted therefore: Bogle, Boyle, Dahlgren, Knoerzer, Mueller, David Nelson, Dudley Nelson, R. Olson, Shepherd, and Soneson. Absent were: S. Olson and Rowe. None voted no and the motion was declared carried.

LEGISLATION: Charles Brewster reported on his continued conversations with Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission regarding potential Chapter 70 statute amendments to allow board members who may be irrigators or cabin lease holders to vote on rates and general agreements related to water services and leases.

Alex Linden stated the 60-day legislative session starts this morning. The first week will focus on establishing rules. There are over 500 carryover bills from the last session. He is following a bill that would allow for an increase in board member salaries for public power districts. Linden reminded directors and staff of Central's legislative reception on January 16, 2024 and NWRA/NSIA's reception on January 24, 2024.

WORKSHOPS, SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES: Emily Anderson linked an e-mail from Brundage to the board website that includes several upcoming conferences that directors might be interested in attending.

PERSONNEL: **It was moved by Director Dahlgren and seconded by Director R. Olson to approve the 2024 Employment Agreement with Trent Ringenberg as presented. Upon voting on the motion, the following Directors voted therefore: Bogle, Boyle, Dahlgren, Knoerzer, Mueller, David Nelson, Dudley Nelson, R. Olson, Shepherd, and Soneson. Absent were: S. Olson and Rowe. None voted no and the motion was declared carried.**

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

BOARD COMMENTS: Director Shepherd received a compliment about the District's annual legislative reception by an individual who attended the event last year. Director David Nelson discussed his trip to the Panama Canal.

LEGAL UPDATE: Charles Brewster had nothing more to report.

MANAGEMENT REPORTS: The following were presented:

- a. Tyler Thulin reported Lake McConaughy is at elevation 3,237.5, 1,032,200 acre feet, and 59.2% capacity. The inflows to Lake McConaughy are currently unknown due to a frozen gauge, but flows were approximately 1,350 cfs prior to the icing conditions. Outflows are below 300 cfs. Snowpack totals are currently below median.
- b. Cory Steinke reported on usual operations along the Supply Canal and at the Diversion Dam. He continues work with HDR to acquire a permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to address dredging of sediment at the Diversion Dam.
- c. Mike Drain is conducting interviews for a new GIS Specialist to replace Trent Ringenberg upon his retirement. Tom MacDougall reported RJH and other consultants are conducting testing of the various options for the repair of Kingsley Dam. He expects the full analysis could take a number of months to complete.
- d. Scott Dicke reported on crews replacing pipelines and planning to line a section of canal in Axtell. Recharge water will be limited to Cottonwood, Victor and the E-65 canal due to the Elwood Dam seepage project. Regarding the Elwood Dam seepage repair project, crews are working on the abutments currently and will soon start on the pump station. MacDougall commented he believes the contractor is moving a little slow, but their contract has a completion deadline of April 1, 2024. Dicke stated Dusty Way and Steve Osterbuhr will attend the Four States Irrigation Council conference in January. He would like to hold a Water Services Committee meeting in the near future to discuss policies and a potential WaterSmart grant application for the Rubicon system. Letters to irrigators informing them of the 2024 rates will be mailed out soon. Crews assisted with a Phelps County bridge repair project by installing a berm to keep water off their construction site.
- e. Rochelle Jurgens and the accounting department have been busy with year-end activities, including W2s and 1099s. The invoices for Johnson Lake lease fees will be

mailed around the first of February and the Lake McConaughy invoices will be mailed the following month.

- f. Alex Linden reported on the opening weekend of the eagle viewing facilities.
- g. Eric Hixson filed the FERC annual security compliance report and NERC testing at the substations occurred last week. He is conducting a review of applications for the System Control Operator position in Gothenburg and will begin interviewing soon.
- h. Devin Brundage announced as of January 1, 2024, Jeffrey hydropower was sold on the open market and the J1/J2 generation went to MEAN. Work continues with Dawson Public Power District to develop a proposal for forming an interlocal agency to deliver Jeffrey hydro generation to local load. Legal counsel continues their work to develop updates to the District's Bylaws and policies for the bylaws committee to begin considering.

**ADJOURNMENT: It was moved by Director Mueller and seconded by Director Soneson to adjourn the Regular Business Meeting of the Board at 10:15 AM. Upon voting on the motion, the following Directors voted therefore: Bogle, Boyle, Dahlgren, Knoerzer, Mueller, David Nelson, Dudley Nelson, R. Olson, Shepherd, and Soneson. Absent were S. Olson and Rowe. 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