>>> The Central Nebraska Public Power and Irrigation District

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News Release

(HOLDREGE, Neb.) -- The Central Nebraska Public Power and Irrigation District's board of directors handled routine business at Monday's monthly board meeting, including the approval of a \$30,000 budget revision.

The revision added additional funds to the irrigation division's 2015 capital budget to cover paving and driveway construction at the Holdrege office's parking lot made necessary by the recent road widening project on U.S. Highways 6 & 34.

The highway project reduced the size of the parking lot south of Central's office enough to create some parking and egress issues which will be addressed by the additional construction.

Also at Monday's meeting:

- The board approved five variance requests and one request to re-plat a cabin lot at Johnson Lake.
- The board approved an agricultural lease on four acres of Central land that is used as pasture ground.
- Gothenburg Division Manager Kevin Boyd reported that work on the pedestrian bridge over the Johnson Lake outlet canal was slowed last week by a delay in shipment of lumber for the project. He added that the lumber will arrive this week, allowing bridge construction to resume. Weather permitting, construction of the bridge should be completed by the end of the month.
- Boyd also reported that a \$357,000 project to sandblast, prime and paint the crane atop the Kingsley Hydroplant was delayed by the weather last week, but painting should resume this week.
- Irrigation Division Manager Dave Ford reported that siphon-coating projects on two E65 Canal siphons should be completed by the middle of November, in time to allow some diversions for groundwater recharge to take place while the weather is favorable.
- Civil engineer Cory Steinke said Lake McConaughy was at elevation 3,256.5 feet as of Monday morning, about 12 feet higher than last year at this time, and currently declining at a very gradual rate of about threetenths of a foot per week. The storage volume is 1,495,300 acre-feet, compared with 1,182,800 acre-feet last year. Inflows to the reservoir recently have been in the range of 1,300 to 1,400 cubic feet per second, which is about 85 percent of normal for this time of year.

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