



News Release

(HOLDREGE, Neb.) - The Central Nebraska Public Power and Irrigation District's board of directors conducted a short monthly meeting Monday, primarily hearing reports from staff and approving routine items on the consent agenda.

In addition to consent agenda topics, the only action item was approval of a final progress payment for steel and closure of a contract to construct a bridge over the Supply Canal southeast of Brady.

Also at Monday's board meeting:

- Civil engineer Tyler Thulin reported that hydrocycling of the J-2 Hydroplant will end on Nov. 10 and normal winter operations will begin the following day. Hydrocycling takes place each spring and fall as required by an agreement with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service to improve conditions on the Platte River during endangered whooping cranes' migratory seasons.

During the hydrocycling period, Johnson Lake's level typically fluctuates from two to three feet as operations are adjusted to minimize the chance of significant flow changes in the Platte River that might affect roosting cranes.

More information about hydrocycling is available on Central's web site at www.cnppid.com/operations/johnson-lake-operations-2/.

- Cory Steinke, hydraulic project operations manager, reported that dredging at Jeffrey Lake will resume this week to take advantage of good near-term weather conditions. At the same time, preparations are underway to end dredging operations at the Diversion Dam for the winter.
- Thulin also reported that Lake McConaughy was at elevation 3241.9 feet above sea level, with storage at about 65 percent of capacity. Inflows to the lake have been around 1,200 cubic feet per second, about 300 cfs below normal for this time of year.
- Irrigation Operations Manager Dave Ford said Central crews have been busy with routine off-season maintenance and repair projects throughout the irrigated area. He also reported that new signs are being placed at several locations throughout the District calling attention to the project's purposes and benefits.

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