



## News Release

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(HOLDREGE, Neb.) - The Central Nebraska Public Power and Irrigation District's board of directors heard a summary of a safety report about the Elwood Reservoir Dam during Monday's monthly meeting.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Feb. 5, 2018

Irrigation Division Manager Dave Ford said the safety inspection performed by engineers with Mead & Hunt revealed that the dam is in good condition, with no evidence of sloughing, settling or uncontrolled seepage. The soil cement on the face of the dam shows some signs of erosion and weathering, but nothing out of the ordinary for an earthen structure built in 1976. A few areas on the dam's protective face will be repaired in the near future, Ford said.

Contact: Jeff Buettner  
Public Relations Manager  
Office: (308) 995-8601  
E-mail: [jbuettner@cnppid.com](mailto:jbuettner@cnppid.com)

There were a few other small maintenance issues that will be addressed in the future, Ford said, including a situation involving a neighboring landowner's pond that backs up water over Central's seepage weir measuring equipment when the pond water level gets too high.

Also at Monday's meeting:

- The board approved an agreement for professional services with Oak Creek Engineering of Kearney to assist with the design of a concrete-and-steel bridge over the Supply Canal just south of North Platte. Central crews will do the bridge construction with input and oversight from the engineering firm.
- The directors approved a \$86,659 work order for purchase of a used backhoe/loader for use by the Bertrand Irrigation Office.
- The board also approved bids to purchase several vehicles, including a Ford sedan for \$18,615; a 1/2-ton pickup for \$23,999; a 3/4-ton pickup for \$26,189; and three 1/2-ton extended box pickups for \$76,197, all from Platte Valley Auto in Lexington. The bid for a 3/4-ton extended cab pickup was awarded to Pony Express Chevrolet of Gothenburg for \$28,499.
- The directors also awarded a bid for a supply of several weed control chemicals to Van Diest Supply Co., of McCook for \$156,856.
- Civil engineer Cory Steinke reported that Lake McConaughy is at elevation 3,255.3 feet, less than 10 feet from maximum elevation. Storage volume is currently 1.46 million acre-feet (84 percent of capacity). Inflows have been ranging between 1,200 cubic feet per second to near 1,500 cfs depending on the weather and ice conditions in the North Platte River.

Snowpack conditions in the upper North Platte Basin are currently 86 percent of average, and 80 percent in the lower North Platte Basin and the South Platte Basin.

- The board approved a change in location for the March 5 board meeting to the Rodeway Inn in Holdrege to correspond with the Central District Water Users' annual meeting, which is scheduled to begin at 12 noon.

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