



News Release

(HOLDREGE, Neb.) - The Central Nebraska Public Power and Irrigation District's board of directors voted during Monday's monthly meeting to enter into an agreement with Dawson County for underwater bridge inspections.

The agreement states that certain bridges owned by Central located in Dawson County qualify for the use of Surface Transportation Program Funds through the federal government. This program allows the use of federal funds to pay for 80 percent of the inspection costs with Central being held responsible for reimbursement to Dawson County for the remaining 20 percent. The approval of the agreement also required a revision to Central's 2018 budget, adding \$5,000 for the bridge inspections.

Also during Monday's meeting:

- Civil Engineer Cory Steinke said Lake McConaughy is currently at elevation 3256.5 feet, which is 1.5 million acre-feet or approximately 86 percent capacity. Steinke stated that recent rain events have kept inflows up at a time when flow levels at Lewellen would normally be declining. Steinke also mentioned that river conditions are above average for this time of year.
- The board voted to approve the purchase of a flowmeter for the Elwood Pump Station for \$13,924.
- The board approved a bid for hauling riprap to RSK Trucking of Bertrand for \$10,500.
- The board approved an expense of \$6,000 from the Lake Improvement Fund to assist with the construction costs of the Mallard Beach Jetty Lighthouse Project at Johnson Lake.
- During a special board meeting on June 22, the board approved a one-year memorandum of understanding with Central Platte Natural Resources District to participate in a pilot program to exchange surface water. The agreement states that during the 2018 irrigation season, CPNRD agrees not to deliver surface water to 25,491 acres from the three irrigation canals that CPNRD partners with – Cozad, Thirty-Mile and Orchard-Alfalfa canals – in exchange for a portion of the water being credited to the environmental account (EA) in Lake McConaughy. The EA is managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for endangered species habitat purposes.

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