

CENTRAL NEBRASKA PUBLIC POWER AND IRRIGATION DISTRICT

HOLDREGE, NEBRASKA

NOVEMBER 6, 2023 – 9:00 A.M.

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MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
THE CENTRAL NEBRASKA PUBLIC POWER AND IRRIGATION DISTRICT
HOLDREGE, NEBRASKA
OCTOBER 27, 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 October 23, 2023, and through legal publication in the Holdrege Daily Citizen on October 23, 2023, and the Kearney Hub, North Platte Telegraph, and Lexington Clipper-Herald on October 21, 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 October 16, 2023 giving the time, date, and place of this meeting.

The following Directors were present:

David L. Rowe, President	Geoffrey K. Bogle	David G. 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	

**arrived at 9:04 a.m.*

The following Director was absent: Dudley L. Nelson

Also present were the following:

Devin M. Brundage, General Manager	Dusty Way, Irrigation Operations Superintendent
Rochelle A. Jurgens, Controller	Steve Osterbuhr, Irrigation Superintendent
Eric R. Hixson, Electrical Project Ops Mgr.	Duane Cernousek, Purchasing Agent
Scott Dicke, Irrigation & Water Services Mgr.	Haley Munson, Purchasing Agent
Mike A. Drain, Nat. Resources & Compliance Mgr.	Charles Brewster, Legal Counsel
Anton Hassebrook, Hydroelectric Ops Super.	Emily J. Anderson, Assistant Secretary
Alex Linden, Gov't and Public Relations Manager	

Others:

Jeff Buettner	Carson Messersmith
Gary Robison	John Mohr, LRE Water
	Kelly Close, LRE Water (via Zoom)

* * * * *

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 Board President announced that the meeting was open for business and proceeded with roll call.

PUBLIC INPUT: None.

CONSENT TO ASSIGNMENT SUMMARY: No consents were approved in October, 2023.

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

Permits to Construct Approved by Land Administration Department 10/27/2023 – Johnson Lake				
<u>Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Permit & Purpose</u>	<u>Date Approved & Fee</u>
1.	Crappie Corner Area Association	32-9-22	Permit to Construct – Long Form - Remove weed and remove dead branches	09/11/2023
2.	Meyer, Sharlene	22 Mallard Beach Dr. 20	SWAF - Install 6' Access to the Shoreline	09/19/2023 \$50.00
3.	Colter, Steven	22 Lakeview Acres Dr. 14A	ECS - Bank Stabilization (Riprap) for 50 linear feet of the shoreline	09/21/2023
4.	Colter, Steven	22 Lakeview Acres Dr. 14A	ECS: Construct 2 - 2'T x 17'L Retaining walls	09/21/2023
5.	Marquardt, Donna	3A East Shore Dr. 2	DWEL - Pour new on grade concrete 10' x 12' slab	09/25/2023
6.	Koble, Richard & Thompson, Jennifer	20 North Point Dr. 13	SWAF - Install On-grade Patio	09/25/2023 \$50.00
7.	Maloley, Michael & Ronda	42 Bass Bay Dr. 16	DWEL - Construct 34' x 44' x 18.5' detached garage	09/26/2023
8.	Butler, William & Keely	47 Lakeview Acres Dr. 14A	ECS - Bank Stabilization (Riprap) for 100 linear feet of the shoreline	09/28/2023
9.	Andreasen, Sherri	11 East Shore Dr. 1B	DWEL ATF - Rebuild storm damaged dwelling using the existing footprint	09/29/2023 \$400 After the Fact Fee
10.	Vanden Berge, Leon & Jodi	21 North Shore Dr. 8	ECS - Bank Stabilization (Riprap) for 50 linear feet of the shoreline	10/06/2023
11.	Knuth, Steven & Janet	87 Mallard Beach Dr. 22	SWAF - Cement Boat Ramp cut out and re-poured at a different slope	10/12/2023 \$50.00
12.	Sund, Travis	51 Mallard Beach So Bay Dr. 21	DEF - Remove cement boat ramp and fill with dirt then vegetation	10/12/2023 \$50.00
Permits to Construct Approved by Land Administration Department 10/27/2023 – Jeffrey Lake				
<u>Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Permit & Purpose</u>	<u>Date Approved & Fee</u>
13.	McKenna, Jack	24 Lakeview Rd	SWAF - Install Electrical Outlet	09/21/2023 \$50.00
14.	Gustafson, Glen & Melody	92 Pelican Dr.	ECS - Construct 19'L x 4'T retaining wall	09/29/2023

Permits to Construct Approved by Land Administration Department 10/27/2023 – Midway Lake				
<u>Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Permit & Purpose</u>	<u>Date Approved & Fee</u>
16.	Lukens, Scott & Natalie	62 Cedar Point	SWAF - Install 5'x 5' dock, 3' x 8' gangway, 6' x 8' concrete pad	09/27/2023 \$ 50.00
Permits to Construct Approved by Land Administration Department 10/27/2023 – Plum Creek				
<u>Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Permit & Purpose</u>	<u>Date Approved & Fee</u>
17.	W.W.W.S. Limited Partnership	8 Plum Creek Canyon Drive 12A	DWEL ATF - Approval for previously installed 6' tall black chain link fence	09/25/2023 \$100.00 After the Fact Fee

WORK ORDERS/PURCHASE REQUISITIONS: The following were presented:

- a. Supplemental Work Order No. 107436 – Overrun on labor and equipment expenses for Mako Chi Mni Geotube Project (\$124,000.00)
- b. Purchase Requisition No. 20034 – Purchase chemicals under SEPRO CIM Service Contract (\$67,789.32)
- c. Purchase Requisition No. 20220 – Dawson Co. Dept. of Roads for BRO-7024(25) Bridge (\$163,003.34)

Director Soneson arrived at 9:04 a.m.

LAND AND RECREATION COMMITTEE (10/17/23): Mike Drain reviewed the minutes of the October 17, 2023 meeting and presented the following items the subcommittee acted on:

- a. Application for Variance – Application for Variance – 3 Plum Creek Canyon Dr. 12A, Plum Creek Lake: The subcommittee voted to recommend Board denial of the variance application for 3 Plum Creek Canyon Dr. 12A, Plum Creek Lake due to the dock width exceeding 8' and violating Section 5.2.2.4. Water-Based SWAF of the Permitting Procedures.
- b. Application for Variance – 9 and 10 East Shore, Johnson Lake: The subcommittee voted to recommend Board denial of the variance application for 9 and 10 East Shore, Johnson Lake for the replacement shed due to it violating Section 6.2. Lot Line Construction Setbacks of the Permitting Procedures and the Johnson Lake Residential Lease Agreement.
- c. Application for Variance – 116 Mallard Beach, Johnson Lake: The subcommittee voted to recommend Board approval of the variance application for 116 Mallard Beach, Johnson Lake for the second story addition which will extend approximately 1.5' into the Lot Line Construction Setback, conditional on their neighbors' written consent to the project.
- d. Application for Variance – 24 Perch Bay, Johnson Lake: The subcommittee voted to recommend Board approval of the variance application for 24 Perch Bay, Johnson Lake for the after-the-fact construction of a roof eave overhang that extends approximately 1' into the Lot Line Construction Setback, but to recommend Board denial of the portion of the application for the concrete step that extends approximately 4' into the Lot Line Construction Setback.
- e. Johnson Lake Development, Inc. Services Agreement for 2024: The subcommittee voted to recommend Board approval of the Johnson Lake Development, Inc. Services Agreement for 2024 as presented, subject to final legal review.

DAM SAFETY: Mike Drain presented the annual dam safety report to the Board which included the monitoring, maintenance, inspections, investigations, planning, studies, and reporting steps the District takes to ensure regulatory compliance and public safety.

KINGSLEY DAM REFACING PROJECT: Mike Drain reported RJH continues their work to determine the best method to repair the dam facing. RJH subcontracted with additional consultants to evaluate the soil cement or riprap options and associated costs. Preliminary cost estimates remain in the \$75M to \$200M range, depending on the final design.

WATER ACCOUNTING AND VISUALIZATION/WEBSITE UPDATES – LRE WATER: Scott Dicke introduced John Mohr and Kelly Close from LRE Water. Kelly Close appeared via Zoom and demonstrated the “Colors of Water” tool their firm has developed for other basins which color codes water by release type. Discussion was held regarding the potential for such a tool to provide more transparency and increase public awareness of who controls water releases from Lake McConaughy. The board discussed the various demands and rights of entities other than Central who hold water in Lake McConaughy.

Director Dahlgren exited the meeting at 10:10 a.m.

A break was taken at 10:11 a.m. The meeting resumed at 10:24 a.m.

E-65 SIPHON AND ELWOOD SEEPAGE REPAIR PROJECTS: Scott Dicke is working with LRE Water to apply for a WaterSmart grant through the Bureau of Reclamation which he expects to be submitted on November 6, 2023. He continues conversations with landowners to acquire the necessary right-of-way easement access. Crews are currently excavating along the back side of Elwood Dam for the seepage repair project.

SUPPLY CANAL HYDRO POWER CONTRACTS AND AGREEMENTS: Discussion was held regarding potential strategies to take Jeffrey Hydro generation to market on a short-term basis with Evergy. This would provide additional time to evaluate the potential to deliver Jeffrey generation to Dawson Public Power District and to provide some additional value to the generation, potentially through an interlocal cooperative arrangement. The transfer of market participant status to NPPD was discussed. A power purchase agreement for the J-1 and J-2 Hydros will be presented for consideration at the November 6, 2023 Regular Business Meeting of the Board. Directors were briefed on the change in revenue associated with the new power contract for J-1 and J-2 which will likely result in lower revenues in average and especially high generation years, but improved revenues in low generation years.

2024 BUDGET PREPARATION: Rochelle Jurgens reviewed the current draft of the 2024 budget, including major proposed expenditures and capital purchases. A thorough presentation will be made by each division manager at the November 17, 2023 Committee Meeting of the Board.

LEGISLATION: Alex Linden reported on the October 23, 2023 tour with state senators of the South Platte Canal and the District’s project. To date, around 25 senators have participated in the tour. He continues to follow upcoming legislative hearings about eminent domain and nuclear reactors. The legislative planning committee has projected the upcoming session will heavily focus on housing, childcare, and water quality issues. He and Devin Brundage are working with a state senator to potentially introduce legislation to amend Chapter 70 statutes to allow irrigators and leaseholders to discuss and vote on their respective rates. Mike Drain reported Senate Bill 2994, a bill that would grant a 30% tax credit to political subdivisions like Central for dam safety and environmental enhancements, has been introduced with promising bi-partisan support. He plans to contact Congressman Adrian Smith next week to gain his support for the bill in the House of Representatives.

Devin Brundage introduced Haley Munson as the new Purchasing Agent who has replaced Duane Cernousek. Cernousek will spend a couple weeks training Munson and be available to assist her as needed in the coming months.

A break for lunch was taken at 11:47 a.m.

Directors Shepherd and Soneson exited the meeting during lunch.

The meeting resumed at 12:17 p.m.

BOARD COMMENTS: Director Boyle circulated an article from a recent newsletter written by Gwen Kautz of Dawson Public Power District titled "Between the Lines: What happened to the merger?" and referenced a recent letter to the editor from Gary Robison (Citizens Opposed to the Merger). Brundage will e-mail the Directors a copy of that letter. Director David Nelson commented on diking efforts he has observed in the river north of Minden in what appears to be an attempt to remove vegetation.

LEGAL UPDATE: Charles Brewster provided an update about the automobile accident involving a District employee and an uninsured driver. The closing on the Ivers' land last week went well. He continues dealing with FOIA requests and an issue with an area feedlot that discharged wastewater in a District irrigation canal. He commended Scott Dicke for his work to obtain the necessary landowner easements for the E65 Siphon project.

PERSONNEL: None.

OUT OF STATE TRAVEL: None.

WORKSHOPS, SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES:

- a. 2023 NWRA/NSIA Joint Convention, November 19-21, 2023 in Kearney

BOARD SUB-COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND OTHER IMPORTANT UPCOMING EVENTS: A Water Services Committee Meeting will be held in Holdrege on November 1, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. A Land and Recreation Committee Meeting was scheduled in Gothenburg on November 14, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.

MANAGEMENT REPORTS:

- a. Mike Drain reported on behalf of Cory Steinke about bridge work, the Phillips Canyon boat ramp project, preparing for the Johnson Lake outlet inspection, and Lake Ogallala dewatering.
- b. Mike Drain reported on behalf of Tyler Thulin that Lake McConaughy is at elevation 3,234.4, 966,200 acre-feet, and 55% capacity. Inflows to Lake McConaughy are around 1,200 cfs and there are no outflows due to the fish kill project at Lake Ogallala. He expects around 400 cfs to be released starting next week to meet the FERC minimum diversion requirements. Johnson Lake started its drawdown earlier this week, and Plum Creek and Gallagher Canyon lakes began their drawdown today to reach normal winter elevations.
- c. Scott Dicke displayed a photo of Elwood Dam which is constructed with a soil cement product. The Water Services Committee will consider 2024 irrigation rates at their meeting on November 1, 2024. Photos were viewed of crews working to slip line culverts on the E65 canal north of Bertrand, excavation work along the back of Elwood Dam, and liner repair near the head end of the E65 canal.
- d. Alex Linden conducted a tour with students from the Curtis College of Technical Ag, attended an ESU11 Job Fair event, and will assist with an indoor tail gate event for Public Power Day in Lincoln at the Husker football game tomorrow.
- e. Eric Hixson continues working on the power purchase agreement for J-1 and J-2 hydros and negotiating with NPPD regarding Kingsley Hydro expenses.
- f. Rochelle Jurgens is working on the 2024 budget, holding employee meetings regarding benefits and the wage survey results, and attended the PCDC annual banquet last night in Holdrege.

- g. Anton Hassebrook stated that while Kingsley Hydro was in an outage, a redundant air compressor for the governor was installed. Transformer testing will be conducted soon. During the Jeffrey Hydro outage, a governor oil pump failed. Fortunately, the pump was shut down before any damage occurred, but he will be seeking bids to rebuild the governor pumps at all supply canal hydros. A transformer was rebuilt at Jeffrey and electric testing at J-1 and J-2 hydros indicated results that will require the rebuilding of transformers next year.
- h. Dusty Way and staff met with Rubicon this week to view a demonstration of their accounting software that integrates with their canal automation system. Rubicon is preparing a quote for the software. He announced the Water Leasing Program sign-up period starts November 1 and ends December 15, 2023 for the 2024 season.
- i. Steve Osterbuhr discussed efforts to remove silt from the canals, repair structures, and clean an area where a feedlot spilled waste into the canal.
- j. Devin Brundage suggested holding a Public Relations meeting soon as part of the upcoming website update. A proposal from Tri-Basin NRD will be shared with the Water Services Committee at their upcoming meeting. The Nebraska Supreme Court ruled the interveners in opposition to the Platte to Republican Diversion Project have no standing, and therefore, Director Riley of NDNR will have the authority to decide if and how the project moves forward.

The meeting adjourned at 1:28 p.m.

MINUTES OF REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
THE CENTRAL NEBRASKA PUBLIC POWER AND IRRIGATION DISTRICT
HOLDREGE, NEBRASKA
NOVEMBER 6, 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 October 30, 2023, and through legal publication in the Holdrege Daily Citizen on October 30, 2023, the Kearney Hub and North Platte Telegraph on October 31, 2023, and the Lexington Clipper-Herald on November 4, 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 October 16, 2023 giving the time, date, and place of this meeting.

The following Directors were present:

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

Also present were the following:

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

Others:

Carson Messersmith	John Thorburn, Tri-Basin NRD
	Nolan Little, Tri-Basin NRD

* * * * *

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. Board President Rowe announced the meeting was open for business and proceeded with roll call.

PUBLIC INPUT: John Thorburn introduced Nolan Little as the new assistant manager at Tri-Basin NRD. The NRD is currently accepting tree orders and will participate in the Gateway Farm Expo later this month.

CONSENT AGENDA: Devin Brundage provided an overview of the items on the Consent Agenda which were presented and discussed at the October 27, 2023 Committee Meeting of the Board.

The Board 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 October 2, 2023**
- **Approval of Minutes of Committee Meeting of the Board of Directors held October 27, 2023**
- **Approval of the November Disbursements:**

Hydro Division:

Check # 70807-VOID; Check #s 71057 through 71280 & 8901115 through 8901144 (Accounts Payable) \$5,521,982.69

Payroll \$550,121.41

Kingsley Division:

Check # 3586-VOID; Check #s 3591 through 3606 (Accounts Payable) \$120,940.21

Glendo Division:

NONE \$NONE

- **Approval of Supplemental Work Order No. 107436 – Overrun on labor and equipment expenses for Mako Chi Mni Geotube Project (\$124,000.00)**
- **Approval of Purchase Requisition No. 20034 – Purchase chemicals under SEPRO CIM Service Contract (\$67,789.32)**
- **Approval of Purchase Requisition No. 20220 – Dawson County Department of Roads for Bridge Project BRO-7024(25) (\$163,003.34)**
- **Denial of the variance application for 3 Plum Creek Canyon Dr. 12A, Plum Creek Lake due to the dock width exceeding 8’ and violating Section 5.2.2.4. Water-Based SWAF of the Permitting Procedures**
- **Denial of the variance application for 9 and 10 East Shore, Johnson Lake for the replacement shed due to it violating Section 6.2. Lot Line Construction Setbacks of the Permitting Procedures and the Johnson Lake Residential Lease Agreement**
- **Approval of the variance application for 116 Mallard Beach, Johnson Lake for the second story addition which will extend approximately 1.5’ into the Lot Line Construction Setback, conditional on their neighbors’ written consent to the project**
- **Approval of the variance application for 24 Perch Bay, Johnson Lake for the after-the-fact construction of a roof eave overhang that extends approximately 1’ into the Lot Line Construction Setback, but to recommend Board denial of the portion of the application for the concrete step that extends approximately 4’ into the Lot Line Construction Setback**
- **Approval of the Johnson Lake Development, Inc. Services Agreement for 2024 as presented**

It was moved by Director Mueller and seconded by Director Boyle 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, S. Olson, Rowe, Shepherd, and Soneson. None voted no and the motion was declared carried.

WORK ORDER/PURCHASE REQUISITION SUMMARY: None.

WATER SERVICES COMMITTEE (11/1/23): Director Knoerzer and Scott Dicke reported on the discussions held at the recent meeting.

BID TAB – REPAIR OF FOUR 10 HP XX WOODWARD GOVERNOR PUMPS: Eric Hixson presented bids from Heritage Hydro Governor in the amount of \$79,500.00 and Emerson in the amount of \$125,960.00 to overhaul, repair and test four 10-hp governor pumps for the Jeffrey and J-1 hydros. After checking references, staff recommended accepting the bid from Heritage Hydro.

It was moved by Director Bogle and seconded by Director Dudley Nelson to accept the bid from Heritage Hydro Governor in the amount of \$79,500.00 for the overhaul, repair and testing of four 10-hp governor pumps for the Jeffrey and J-1 hydros. Upon voting on the motion, the following Directors voted therefore: Bogle, Boyle, Dahlgren, Knoerzer, Mueller, David Nelson, Dudley Nelson, R. Olson, S. Olson, Rowe, Shepherd, and Soneson. None voted no and the motion was declared carried.

SUPPLY CANAL BRIDGES: Cory Steinke was unable to attend this meeting due to illness. He will present this topic at the November 17, 2023 Committee Meeting of the Board.

POWER PURCHASE CONTRACT – MUNICIPAL ENERGY AGENCY OF NEBRASKA (MEAN): The agreement was made available to directors through the board website for review. Brundage discussed the highlights of the agreement with MEAN and the projected generation and revenues from the J-1 and J-2 hydros.

It was moved by Director Dudley Nelson and seconded by Director Bogle to approve the Power Purchase Contract with Municipal Energy Agency of Nebraska (MEAN) as presented, subject to final legal review. Upon voting on the motion, the following Directors voted therefore: Bogle, Boyle, Dahlgren, Knoerzer, Mueller, David Nelson, Dudley Nelson, R. Olson, S. Olson, Rowe, Shepherd, and Soneson. None voted no and the motion was declared carried.

2024 BUDGET: Rochelle Jurgens presented the highlights of the 2024 budget. A full review will be provided at the November 17, 2023 Committee Meeting of the Board.

2024 WATER SERVICE RATES AND SUPPLY: Dicke provided an overview of the discussions concerning water rates at the Water Services Committee meeting held on November 1, 2023. A presentation was made and discussions were held concerning the District's revenue sources and the role of water service rates in that mix. Information was presented regarding the District's options to fund large capital expenditures, such as the Kingsley Dam facing project and the Elwood siphon project, and how they could impact water rates. Dicke provided information related to revenue and expenses for water service deliveries. This included an analysis indicating a water rate of approximately \$41.00 would provide revenue adequate to cover only the costs of delivering water from the irrigation system headgates based on historical trends and 2024 projections. Staff noted that they will recommend 2024 be a full irrigation delivery year. The board requested the topic be revisited at the November 17, 2023 Committee Meeting of the Board with potential action to be taken.

A break was taken at 10:20 a.m. The meeting resumed at 10:34 a.m.

LEGISLATION: Alex Linden reported the District will host a legislative reception at The Cornhusker in Lincoln, NE on January 16, 2023. Mike Drain discussed the bi-partisan Senate bill SB2994 that would amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to support upgrades at existing hydroelectric dams to increase clean energy production, improve the resiliency and reliability of the United States electric grid, enhance the health of the Nation's rivers and associated wildlife habitats, and for other purposes. Currently the legislation would provide a thirty-percent investment tax credit, with direct pay for tax-exempt entities like Central, for investments in hydropower dam safety improvements, like the Kingsley dam refacing project. He spoke with aides from Congressman Adrian Smith's office to assess his level of support for the bill. Drain noted Smith's office indicated to him that he would want to hear from constituents if they are interested in him supporting the bill. Drain suggested the directors write a letter of support to Congressman Smith.

It was moved by Director Shepherd and seconded by Director Soneson to authorize Board President Rowe to send a letter in support of SB2994 to Congressman Adrian Smith on behalf of the entire board. Upon voting on the motion, the following Directors voted therefore: Bogle, Boyle, Dahlgren, Knoerzer, Mueller, David Nelson, Dudley Nelson, R. Olson, S. Olson, Rowe, Shepherd, and Soneson. None voted no and the motion was declared carried.

WORKSHOPS, SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES:

- a. 2023 NWRA/NSIA Joint Convention, November 19-21, 2023 in Kearney – Alex Linden received notification today that this conference has been moved from the Holiday Inn to the Younes South Convention Center in Kearney, NE
- b. 2024 Four States Irrigation Council, January 17-18, 2024 in Fort Collins, CO

PERSONNEL: None.

DIRECTORS' ATTENDANCE: All directors were present.

BOARD COMMENTS: Director Shepherd went on a pheasant hunt yesterday where he met a District employee who was very complimentary about how Devin Brundage handled the merger process. Directors Knoerzer and Boyle toured the work being done at Elwood Dam last week with Scott Dicke. Director David Nelson would like to revisit developing more cabin areas around the lakes.

LEGAL UPDATE: Charles Brewster had nothing new to report.

MANAGEMENT REPORTS: The following were presented:

- a. Tyler Thulin reported Lake McConaughy is at elevation 3,234.6, 970,000 acre feet, and 55.8% capacity. The inflows to Lake McConaughy are approximately 1,300 cfs and outflows are around 775 cfs (325 cfs to meet FERC minimum diversion requirements and 450 cfs to refill NPPD's system). Johnson Lake was lowered approximately 13' to prepare for the J-1 outlet inspections starting this week. Jeffrey Lake should be back to a normal elevation by tomorrow.
- b. Mike Drain received reports of people operating ATVs on the lakebed at Johnson Lake, but he reminded directors there is no policy to prevent that activity. He reminded directors that the Kingsley Dam refacing evaluation by consultants will be very thorough and take many months to complete.
- c. Scott Dicke stated the Phelps headgate was painted. He offered to give directors a tour of the excavation work being done at the Elwood Dam. The Bureau of Reclamation WaterSmart grant application for the E-65 Siphon project will be submitted by LRE Water today.
- d. Rochelle Jurgens reported payments of irrigation bills are being steadily received and are due by the end of November.
- e. Eric Hixson stated Kingsley Hydro was back in full service as of last Monday following the outage. The J-1 hydro is undergoing its annual inspection and new pipes for cooling water are being installed.
- f. Alex Linden obtained a signed agreement from Unanimous, the firm selected to update and improve the District's website design.
- g. Scott Dicke reported on work planned to the E67 headgate while Johnson Lake is low for the hydro outages. He met with the contractor for the Elwood Dam seepage mitigation project last week and continues negotiations with landowners for the E65 Siphon project. The system experienced 3 days of excess flows last week that brought in 1,500 acre feet of recharge, which brings the total amount of recharge for the year to 17,000 acre feet. He is considering budgeting for a potential canal lining project. He expects Tri-Basin NRD to send a contract proposal for additional recharge.

- h. Devin Brundage participated virtually in the Southwest Power Pool’s quarterly meeting last week and has been working with Eric Hixson to utilize Evergy as the market participant for the short-term marketing of Jeffrey hydro generation starting January 1, 2024.

ADJOURNMENT: It was moved by Director Knoerzer and seconded by Director Mueller to adjourn the Regular Business Meeting of the Board at 11:13 AM. Upon voting on the motion, the following Directors voted therefore: Bogle, Boyle, Dahlgren, Knoerzer, Mueller, David Nelson, Dudley Nelson, R. Olson, S. Olson, Rowe, Shepherd, and Soneson. 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, Pres