

## **Loup Power District June 28, 2006 Board Summary**

President/CEO Neal Suess discussed the open meeting law that was recently amended by the state legislature that will be taking effect on July 14, 2006. A copy of the legislative bill will be available on the side table in the boardroom as well as at the front desk. An Open Meetings Law Workshop sponsored by the Nebraska Association of School Boards will be held July 27<sup>th</sup> in Lincoln and August 1<sup>st</sup> in Norfolk.

President/CEO Neal Suess introduced Theresa Petr as the new Communications Coordinator for the District. The Board welcomed her to the District and she told the Directors about herself and discussed the Loup History Book and DVD that will go on sale this weekend at the Columbus Days Sesquicentennial events.

The status of the NEG&T-Loup contract negotiations was reviewed. The District has had legal representation to determine the District's rights when the NEG&T contract expires on 12/31/06. Under the terms of the Service Area Agreement between NPPD and the District, as well as the District's current long-term wholesale contract with NPPD, NPPD cannot provide wholesale or retail services in the Loup four county area. Currently the entire population base in the four county area can be used to develop Director subdivisions since the District provides wholesale service in each county. However, if the District does not provide wholesale service in a county, only those precincts in which the District provides retail service can be used to develop Director subdivisions. On June 19, 2006 the CPPD board voted to authorize CPPD to challenge the NPPD/LPPD service area agreement and to enter into a new contract to purchase their power through another supplier.

The acquisition of the firm of Fraser, Stryker, Meusey, Olson, Boyer & Bloch, PC (Fraser, Stryker) as legal council with attorney Steve Bruckner as lead attorney for appropriate representation in the Loup-NEG&T Contract Negotiations was approved.

Management attended the City of Clarkson town hall meeting on June 6, 2006. The meeting was well attended by the citizens of the community. A straw poll was held and the District's retail service agreement proposal was preferred by a vast majority of those in attendance. Management will continue to meet with the city as appropriate.

The Open Meetings Seminar was discussed. There is a \$100 fee for public entities to attend. All Board members are encouraged to attend.

White rock is being delivered for the next trail extension around Lake North and Lake Babcock.

The early retirement request for James Kampschneider effective December 1, 2006 was approved.

The NRECA employee insurance proposal was approved as offered with no changes to the program as it currently exists. The overall increase based upon no changes to the existing plan is approximately 6.5 percent or about \$105,000 for the period August 2006 through July 2007. Management will be preparing an overall salary review of all District employees and will include any proposed changes to employee contribution to the health insurance with that review.

Concern was expressed over the District's handling of the signage over the highway for the Chautauqua to be held in Albion.

The following OWP was approved

<b>W.O. No.</b>	<b>Description</b>
O.W.P. 874	This OWP will accumulate charges to replace breakers 302 and 306 for the City of Schuyler. The work will also include the installation of new switches, cables and arrestors. NPPD will be used to test the new breakers. The City of Schuyler will purchase the switches and breakers.

The costs of this work order are estimated. Billing to the City of Schuyler will be on actual cost basis.

The progress being made at the Headworks by Harwest was discussed. A zoning meeting was held and all went well. Harwest is anticipating the need for a full substation by October to begin operations. Harwest is expected to employ between 25 and 30 employees. Harwest has indicated they will be trucking the sand to Central City to be shipped out using Burlington-Northern as their rail carrier.