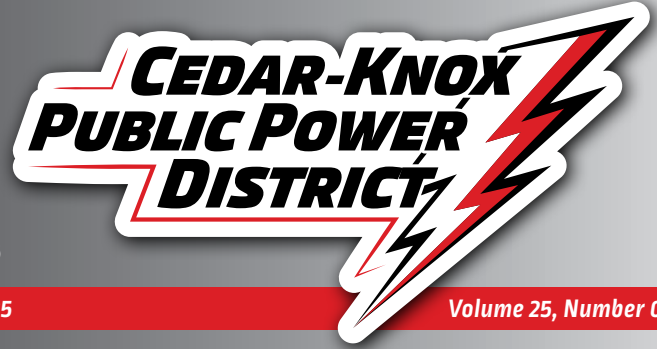


# CURRENT FLASHES

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APRIL 2025

Volume 25, Number 04

## FROM THE DESK OF THE MANAGER:

### CITY OF LAUREL SIGNS LEASE AGREEMENT WITH CKPPD

Cedar-Knox Public Power District (CKPPD) is pleased to announce the mutual signing of a new electrical lease agreement with the City of Laurel. For approximately the past year, the city has had an operations and maintenance contract with Cedar-Knox, while both parties took time to assess if a long-term solution could be reached. This new lease agreement will ensure the delivery of safe, affordable, and reliable power to the community while securing a long-term partnership aimed at delivering innovative, high-quality power with an unwavering commitment to customer service.

Under this agreement, CKPPD will manage the electrical infrastructure within the City of Laurel, while implementing a 3-to 5-year improvement plan to rebuild much of the distribution infrastructure. The rates will include a collection of a 12% Lease and 5% Gross Revenue Tax (GRT) and is modeled identical to the agreements used with all seven other towns within the district. The lease payment and GRT will come in as revenue to offset margin loss and eliminate all future electrical-related costs and expenses for the city. CKPPD does not retain any of these collected funds and acts as the pass-through entity to the city and county.

This arrangement also includes the purchase of the distribution substation and 1.74-mile sub-transmission line from Laurel, that feeds from CKPPD's existing supply line. CKPPD will then own, manage, and maintain the line and substation.

This understanding provides the City of Laurel value in receiving much-needed system upgrades, while reducing liability, current debt, and future cost for infrastructure enhancements. Other alternative CKPPD circuits will be coupled with the city distribution lines to furnish dependable back-up options for power.

CKPPD will benefit from increased reliability to the existing grid and added capacity options for the rural surrounding areas. This will contribute to back-feed options to three existing substations in the Laurel, Belden, and Coleridge areas to enhance reliability. While this increased capacity is not needed immediately, it will offer growth options in the future for both CKPPD and the City of Laurel. This will also aid current rates, by spreading the operational fixed cost expenditures across the expanded customer base.

We are excited to jointly enter into this agreement with the City of Laurel. Our mission statement is "Dedicated to providing innovative, safe, reliable, affordable service to our customers". The board consistently emphasizes the importance of good customer service, and we intend to share that with the residents of Laurel too.

The new electrical lease agreement is set to take effect April 25th, 2025 and will continue to serve as a model for a strong, collaborative relationship between the City of Laurel and CKPPD.



Mike Lammers

## FIELD DRIVEWAY CLEARANCE

We know that over the years, field entrances can change locations. They may move from low areas to tops of hills. Not only have field drives changed or moved, but your equipment may have gotten much larger, as well. As you enter your fields, observe and assess the clearance of the overhead power lines and your equipment.



If you have questions or concerns on your driveway clearance, please contact us at 402-254-6291 and we would be happy to take a look to see if changes are needed.

**THANK YOU, STAY SAFE!**



# MUTUAL AID

Cedar Knox was proud to send a dedicated crew on mutual aid to assist with storm restoration efforts at Burt County Public Power District (PPD) in Tekamah, NE following the snow, ice, and wind storm that hit on March 19th. This winter storm left significant damage and outages, and Cedar Knox was quick to respond, recognizing the importance of coming together with neighboring utilities to help restore power. Our team worked near Scribner, NE, in the wet and snowy conditions to help repair Sub Transmission and Distribution lines, clear debris, and get the lights back on.

We are fortunate that Cedar Knox did not experience the same weather-related issues or outages that other PPD's faced during this storm. However, we understand the critical nature of our role in assisting those who were affected, especially knowing that in times of need, other utilities have stepped up to support us in the past. We are grateful for this team's willingness to assist in the mutual aid and be part of the public power teamwork that exists within our state.



*Pictured: Eric, Zach M, Chase, Paul, and Nathan*



Here at CKPPD, we take pride in having some of the best linemen in the industry:

- ◆ Corey S. ◆ Tim L. ◆ Corey F. ◆ Reggie H. ◆ Tom P. ◆ Matt S. ◆ Troy J.
- ◆ Forrest D. ◆ Brad S. ◆ Nathan R. ◆ Eric B. ◆ John F. ◆ Dustin N.
- ◆ Jeff F. ◆ Chase D. ◆ Zach A. ◆ Paul B. ◆ Zach M.

Being a line worker requires a special kind of person—someone dedicated to safely restoring power, day or night, often in extreme weather conditions. The next time you see one of our CKPPD linemen, take a moment to thank them for the essential work they do. After all, they are the power behind your power! #ThankaLineworker #PowerOn

## APRIL IS SAFE DIGGING MONTH



April is Safe Digging Month. It is also a time that many of us are doing special projects around the house or on the farm. We urge you to take the necessary steps to do things safely and correctly, whether your project is big or small.

First off, please be sure that you dial **811** or **800-331-5666** to notify utilities of your planned work in advance. This is a service that will alert all companies (water, electric, communications) so they can mark underground lines, ensuring you can dig safely.

The next step is to be sure to wait at least two business days to begin your work. By following these simple steps, you can avoid costly mistakes that could become your responsibility. Stay safe and dig smart!

## NOTICE: FEE CHANGES

At the March Board Meeting, updates were made to the charges and fees associated with late payments. The revised charges and fees listed below will take effect on June 1st.

<b>Late Payment Charge</b>	5% of balance due or \$10, whichever is greater
<b>Reconnect Fee</b>	\$50
<b>Reconnect Fee After Hours</b>	\$100
<b>Failed Payment Fee</b>	\$15

As a reminder, if you're unable to pay your bill by the due date, please contact us. We're happy to provide an extension on your account to prevent disconnection; however, this will not exempt you from the late fees. Thank you for your attention to these updates. If you have any questions or need assistance, please feel free to contact us.

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*Make changes to your irrigation accounts such as your control option/rate before April 30th to avoid additional fees. Stop by the office or give us a call at (402) 254-6291.*

## FIND US ON FACEBOOK

We use Facebook to quickly communicate to our customers. Like and follow us on Facebook to be sure you are informed of important news.

