

Progress Continues on Rebuilding Holt County Levees

(KTNC) - Work continues to rebuild and strengthen levees in northwest Missouri that were damaged in last summer's record Missouri River flooding.

A bid was awarded Tuesday to repair the levee in the Corning Levee District in northwest Holt County. The levee runs south from the Holt County border with Atchison County to the mouth of the Big Tarkio River.

Holt County Clerk Kathy Kunkel says they got three good bids to fix the structure, with grant funds to pay for the repairs. (play audio :30 "than we thought.")

According to Kunkel, Ideker's bid was for \$552-thousand, much less than the original estimate of nearly one million dollars to rebuild the levee. She says they'll use the balance of the funds to improve the quality of the levee.

The Holt County levees managed by the Corps of Engineers have either been repaired or have repairs well underway. Two other levees not managed by the Corps of Engineers – Levee District 15 and the Big Tarkio Levee and Drainage District – are ready to go to bids as soon as plans are approved.

Kunkel says good progress has been made on repairing the levees just one year after they were inundated by floodwaters. (play audio :39 "funds elsewhere.")

As a bonus, Kunkel says thus far all the bids that have been received to repair levees in Holt County have come in under estimates. They hope to use excess funds to make additional improvements to the rebuilt levees.