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**Drone regulations left to FAA**

Lowe said that in response to public comment and questions about drones on Oct. 3, planner Robert Bishop had researched the applicability of a town ordinance regarding use of drones. Staff conclusion was that it would be best for the town not to try to write its own ordinance but instead to defer to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) rules. People with questions about appropriate use of drones should see [https://www.faa.gov/uas/getting\\_started/](https://www.faa.gov/uas/getting_started/).

**Getting connected with town notices**

Community Liaison Specialist Madeline VanDenHoek presented the trustees with information they had requested about how residents received news about the town and its events. She said the monthly newsletter, social

media, and local print media such as Our Community News help people find out about social events, projects, parks, new developments, new stores, community activities, and volunteer opportunities. See the first page of [www.townofmonument.org/](http://www.townofmonument.org/) to get more connected with various town notifications.

At 8:32 p.m., the meeting went into executive session for a conference with the town attorney on receiving legal advice on two specific litigation matters. Town Clerk Sirochman told OCN that no announcements or votes were made when the meeting returned to public session.

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Lisa Hatfield can be reached at [lisahatfield@ocn.me](mailto:lisahatfield@ocn.me).

**Monument Board of Trustees, Nov. 21**

**Emergency water interconnection study approved**

By Lisa Hatfield

At the Nov. 21 Monument Board of Trustees meeting, the trustees approved a work order agreement for Forsgren Associates to develop preliminary drawings for constructing an emergency waterline interconnection to Woodmoor Water and Sanitation District (WWSD).

It was a short, polite meeting, unlike the acrimonious Nov. 7 meeting.

**WWSD emergency interconnection**

Public Works Director Tom Tharnish presented a resolution approving a work order agreement with Forsgren for the Woodmoor Emergency Interconnect as the board had requested. After a few questions, it was approved 7-0.

For a cost not to exceed \$30,000, Forsgren will study compatibility constraints between the town and WWSD's water systems to include project management, determination of connection point, determination of water quality compatibility, preliminary design, and a cost estimate.

**Note:** This current agreement does not authorize any actual construction of the interconnection with WWSD. Forsgren has estimated construction would then cost about \$737,000 and would take one to 1 1/2 years to complete once it is begun. That estimate included \$105,000 in engineering costs, a \$105,000 contingency line item, \$50,000 for the intergovernmental agreement (IGA), and \$100,000 for various permits (Colorado Department of Transportation, 404 Wetland, 1041 County, etc.).

If completed, this interconnection would only be used in case of emergencies as defined in the IGA. See [www.ocn.me/v16n9.htm#mbot0801](http://www.ocn.me/v16n9.htm#mbot0801) and [www.ocn.me/v16n11.htm#mbot1003](http://www.ocn.me/v16n11.htm#mbot1003).

**Board comments**

Trustee Jeff Bornstein asked about what happens if there is only one bid for a capital project. Town Manager Chris Lowe said if the staff and engineering estimate indicated it was a realistic bid, that would not hold up the process. Town Attorney Gary Shupp said the trustees could reject "any and all bids," too.

Mayor Jeff Kaiser lauded the "official dissolution of BRRTA, once its true purpose was done. This is the way government should really work." See related *BRRTA celebration article on page 21*.

Trustee Shea Medicott said he and Lowe had a very productive 4.5 hour meeting recently. It included an idea for "first and second readings" of ordinances that would allow the trustees to have more time to process informa-

tion presented in new ordinances, both those requested by trustees and those suggested by staff. Lowe said this could be accomplished with a discussion item on each meeting agenda, and there was consensus from the whole board to try this out.

**Board authorization items**

As noted during public comments at the Nov. 7 meeting, the Village Center Metro District (VCMD) is in financial trouble and is asking the town for help. The board authorized VCMD time for a 20-minute presentation to the board as soon as it can be scheduled. See related *Nov. 7 Monument Board of Trustees article on page 1*.

**Checks over \$5,000**

As part of the consent agenda, the following checks over \$5,000 were unanimously approved:

- Triview Metro District, sales, motor vehicle, regional building use tax – \$167,726
- Berkadia Finance Co., annual debt payment on 1979 GO water bond – \$6,725
- U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1997 Rural Water Loan final payment – \$19,999
- Wells Fargo Capital Leases, semi-annual lease payment – \$39,071

Public comments on water reuse plant, Santa on Patrol During public comments, resident Nancy Swearengin reiterated the importance of spending the money to build a water reuse plant sooner rather than later. This would take the stress off the aquifers, which are being depleted, and allow the town time to find and purchase a long-term renewable water source, she said.

Police Chief Jake Shirk asked for residents to donate toys for distribution to local children in the Santa on Patrol event. For details, see the related *Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Protection District article on page 19*.

**"Who woulda thunk it?" as my mom says**

**Editor's note:** Astute readers who saw the Nov. 7 Board of Trustees meeting article might be wondering at this point, "Well, what happened?" The answer is, "Good question." As the meeting drew to its rapid conclusion, no one mentioned the Nov. 7 meeting, the attempt to unseat Mayor Kaiser and Mayor Pro-Tem Don Wilson, or the direction by four of seven trustees to Town Attorney Gary Shupp to come back to the board with an ordinance giving the board the authority to reverse a board appointment of a sitting trustee to mayor and/or mayor pro-tem and then immediately appoint a currently seated trustee to re-fill the newly open position(s). In the absence of an ordinance, they expected a legal explanation of why this could not be done.

At 7:06 p.m., the meeting went into executive session to receive legal advice on pending litigation. Code Enforcement Officer Laura Hogan told OCN that the board did not take any action or make any announcements after the executive session.

After the meeting adjourned, the board conducted a 2017 budget workshop that was open to the public.

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