

DONALA (Cont. from p18)

ment is \$2.2 million, which will be divided between the facility's three owner districts: Donala (\$1.1 million), Triview Metropolitan District (\$1.0 million), and Forest Lakes Metropolitan District (\$100,000 to \$200,000.)

Petersen will present a proposed 2018 budget to these three owner districts by Sept. 15.

Development update

There had been no new communications from the respective developers of the county-approved Academy Gateway and golf course residential projects.

Petersen stated that Donala's contract with Forest Lakes Metro for having Donala's staff operate the Forest Lakes Metro water and wastewater services

is going well. No additional Donala staff members appear to be necessary at this time for providing this contract service to Forest Lakes Metro as the number of constructed homes continues to grow. The workload on Donala staff will decrease after construction is completed in a few years.

The meeting adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

The next board meeting will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Sept. 21 in the district conference room at 15850 Holbein Drive. Information: 488-3603 or www.donala-water.org. Regular meetings are normally held on the third Thursday of the month, except in June and November.

Jim Kendrick can be reached at jimkendrick@ocn.me.

Woodmoor Water and Sanitation District, Aug. 17

Regional water plan presented to the board

By James Howald

The Woodmoor Water and Sanitation District (WWSO) board heard a presentation from a representative of Forsgren & Associates concerning a proposed regional plan for managing water resources. The board also updated its budget and heard comments from the public.

To accommodate the schedules of the board members, the meeting was held on Aug. 17, one week after the usual date for the board's monthly meetings, which are typically on the second Thursday of each month.

Study shows water is growing scarcer as population increases

Will Koger, of Forsgren & Associates, an engineering company developing a water master plan for the region on behalf of the Pikes Peak Regional Water Authority (PPRWA), spoke to the board, focusing on Area 3, which includes Monument and Black Forest. One of the challenges facing the region, according to Koger, is the fact that while most of the people are on the east slope of the Rockies, most of the water is on the Western Slope, and it is difficult to move that water to the population.

Research done to develop the regional plan shows that the state's population will double by 2050, that the South Platte and Arkansas Rivers are already over-appropriated, and that there likely will be a 500,000 acre/foot water gap each year by 2050, if current

trends continue. Koger explained that an acre/foot of water was usually adequate for between two and three families for a year.

About 350,000 residents depend on the Denver Basin for water, but it is a non-renewable resource, Koger said. The life of this aquifer can be extended by pumping water back into it, he argued, but a long-range plan should acknowledge that this resource may be completely depleted by 2050. Denver Basin water should be conserved for use during droughts, according to Koger.

Koger commended WWSO for diversifying its water portfolio with renewable water and said that a regional approach to water management was the most cost-effective over the long run.

The PPRWA proposes pumping water from Area 1, which is near the Arkansas River, north to Area 3. Building the infrastructure to do this would take 15 to 20 years and cost about \$280 million, according to Koger.

Key to this strategy is the construction of a reservoir to hold 2,750 acre/feet of water at Home Place Ranch, which is just east of I-25 and south of Higby Road. The reservoir is projected to cost \$20.5 million and would store water for about \$7,500 per acre/foot. The land needed for the reservoir is currently owned by Challenger Homes, which plans to build houses there, according to Koger.

Water re-use and acquisition of rights to renewable water, such as the water from the JV Ranch, are also desirable strategies, Koger said.

Budget updated to reflect high tap fee revenues

The board reviewed their budget and made adjustments to reflect that tap fee revenues are \$1 million higher than expected, due to the rapid pace of residential construction, and construction costs were \$300,000 lower than expected. The district has total reserves of \$25 million, according to the updated budget.

The board voted to approve the updated budget as presented.

Resident requests well 20 site be more completely mowed

During public comments, resident Larry Johnson asked the district to mow a larger portion of the well 20 site, which is near the intersection of Fairplay Drive and Higby Road. Assistant District Manager Randy Gillette said he would work with staff to address this request.

The next meeting is scheduled for Sept. 14 at 1 p.m. Meetings are usually held at the district office at 1845 Woodmoor Drive on the second Thursday of each month at 1 p.m. See www.woodmoorwater.com or call 488-2525 to verify meeting times.

James Howald can be reached at jameshowald@ocn.me.

Lewis-Palmer D-38 Board of Education, Aug. 3 and 17

Policy discussion dominates board actions

By Harriet Halbig

The Lewis-Palmer Board of Education met in a special session Aug. 3 to discuss policy GBEB regarding behavior of personnel. The board's Aug. 17 regular meeting also involved decisions on policy.

Special meeting Aug. 3

Board Secretary Mark Pfoff requested the special meeting due to his concerns about staff behavior at non-academic events. Saying that he has received many complaints from parents about staff behavior at athletic events, he expressed concern that behavioral standards were not being enforced outside the classroom environment.

Policy GBEB was recently updated to include mention of profanity and gestures, but Pfoff still thinks that athletic coaches are not being supervised sufficiently. He pointed out that new teachers are continuously evaluated during their first three years of employment and suggested that

coaches should be similarly observed and evaluated by the athletic director or other administrative individual.

He acknowledged that such a procedure may already be in place, but suggested that the board somehow stress its support.

Board President Sherri Hawkins said that she didn't feel that this was the board's responsibility. She said that bullying or other abuse by coaches is already addressed in policy.

Superintendent Karen Brofft said that this level of observation may become burdensome.

Pfoff said that part of the problem is that, if complaints are acted upon, parents have no way of knowing. Consequently, parents feel that their comments are being brushed aside. He suggested that a survey be sent to parents of graduated students to learn of their opinions in the matter.

Or perhaps, he suggested,

the district could develop a program similar to Safe2Tell to make it possible to anonymously comment on non-academic staff. He said that all complaints should be documented by the athletic director, and that other non-academic advisers (such as the Distributive Education Clubs of America, forensics, or music) should be included in this treatment.

Director Sarah Sampayo commented that teachers undergo a probationary period, but coaches are under contract and therefore treated differently.

Brofft said that the process of recording complaints and their response is already part of the job of the athletic director.

Sampayo commented that the reason parents and others never hear of the consequences for misbehavior is that it is a personnel matter and therefore confidential.

Pfoff said that as a result,

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Contact Madeline for more information
719-884-8013 mvandenhoek@tomgov.org

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