

**Additional reports and decisions made**

Throughout the meeting, various updates were reported and decisions were approved that included:

- The board approved signs to deter overnight parking at Promontory Pointe parks.
- A recent cleaning and inspection of the B-plant water storage tank revealed that it will need a liner replacement sometime in the fall or later.
- Installation of the Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition system continued. A-Plant is expected to be completely “blanketed” in one to two months. New instrumentation will be installed at B-Plant in anticipation of improvements scheduled for the fall.
- The new flow meter was utilized to gauge water loss. Sexton estimated a preliminary loss of 1 percent—an excellent result.
- McGrady anticipated that the district’s new website, upgraded to be more user-friendly, was scheduled to be up and running March 14. The new website is located at [www.triviewmetro.com](http://www.triviewmetro.com). The mailing date for the district’s first newsletter was scheduled for March 16. Fiorito recommended including an educational item in each newsletter.
- The board approved a memorandum of understanding between the district and the Town of Monument for the construction of up to 300 feet of block wall along the outer perimeter of the

Public Works A-yard with the caveat that the district would not pay a use tax.

- McGrady presented the board a new budget format that separates revenue and expenses for Public Works, and parks and open space. This generated discussion of options for when and if a profit is realized.

The board adjourned at 6:57 p.m. and went into executive session for §24-6-402(4)(b)(e)(f) legal advice, negotiations and personnel.

After the executive session, McGrady announced that the board voted unanimously to retain water attorney Steve Sims of Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck LLP to assist Triview with a water court proceeding involving recently purchased shares in the Fountain Mutual Irrigation Co. Triview water attorney Chris Cummins had a possible conflict as it relates to this case. Sims has years of legal experience working for a number of municipal clients in Northern Colorado and across the western half of the United States. See <https://www.bhfs.com/people/attorneys/p-s/ssims> for more information on Sims’ professional history.

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The next Triview meeting will be held April 10 at 5 p.m. at the Fairfield Inn, Mt. Herman Conference Room, 15275 Struthers Road, Colorado Springs. Meetings are normally held on the second Tuesday of the month. Information: 488-6868 or see [www.triviewmetro.com](http://www.triviewmetro.com). See also “Triview Metropolitan District” on Facebook, or

[Twitter.com/@TriviewMetro](https://twitter.com/TriviewMetro).

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Sonja Search, CNA

*Donald Wescott Fire Protection District, March 15 and 20*

# District begins long-range planning and hears residents’ comments

By Jennifer Kaylor

The Donald Wescott Fire Protection District (DWF-PD) board met for a long-range planning work group on March 15. At the regular monthly board meeting on March 20, the directors voted to pay off the balance of the \$1 million construction loan on Shamrock Station 2 and order a new wildland fire brush truck.

Attorney Matt Court of Ireland Stapleton attended the meeting.

**March 15 work group: Where are we going ...?**

Accounting for current financial and material resources, using the district’s strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats (SWOT) assessment, factoring in the area’s rapid growth, and being guided by the mission statement, DWFPD staff developed short- and long-term goals based on the question, “Where are we going and what can we expect in the next 10 years?”

Chief Vinny Burns and Assistant Chief Scott Ridings established the goal to reduce call response times to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standard of 5 minutes 90 percent of the time, to improve the district’s ISO rating from the current 3. Lowering its ISO rating to a 1 or 2 may lead to lower homeowner insurance rates for district residents and potentially provide the district with leverage in merger talks.

Another goal is to build on the strong, long-held community rapport by eventually hiring a community risk reduction officer (CRRO) to manage community programs, assess training needs, and provide planning support. Working in cooperation with other fire districts to create a regional training center surfaced as a high priority in addition to collaborating with appropriate county entities to improve dispatch communications. Burns and Ridings expressed their objective to support paid staff with competitive pay and benefits and volunteer staff with expanded opportunities for growth and training. The chiefs developed a list of anticipated equipment and project needs, which was discussed in greater detail at the March 20 board meeting and is listed below.

**March 20 board meeting: Expenses prioritized and purchases approved**

Burns provided a list of roughly estimated equipment and project expenses spanning the next 10 years to give the board “food for thought.” The list reflected discussion generated from the March 15 work group session. Anticipated expenses for 2018 included:

- Type 6 Wildland Engine (commonly called a brush truck), \$170,000
- Personal protective equipment, \$70,000
- Wildland protective equipment, clothing, gear bags, etc., \$10,000
- Communication/station alerting, \$75,000

- Command vehicle, \$70,000
  - Water filtration system for Station 2, \$5,000
  - Electronic signs at both stations, \$16,000
  - Flagpole lights for Stations 1 and 2, \$5,000
  - Maintenance projects (to begin in 2018), \$13,000
- Additional expenses for 2019 and after included:
- 3,500-gallon tender (to serve homes without fire hydrants), \$250,000
  - Remodel Station 1 to reconfigure medical treatment room, kitchen, and bathrooms, \$50,000
  - HVAC system, \$10,000
  - Technology, i.e., drones, computers, \$30,000
  - New door installation to improve ingress and egress of Station 2, \$5,000
  - Wall enclosure for fire pump at Station 2, \$2,000
  - Boiler to heat coils under cement pads at Station 2, \$15,000
  - Classroom/community building, \$250,000
  - Truck exhaust system for Stations 1 and 2 (grant possibility), \$60,000
  - Engine, \$750,000

Ridings added that Wescott has been successful in receiving grant funds in the past and will continue to apply for grant support when applicable. Board Chair Greg Gent recommended that the expenses be itemized in the budget.

Burns addressed the topic of paying off the loan on Station 2, which Director Harland Baker had suggested at the February meeting. Burns stated that the current interest incurred is about \$6,000 per month, and a payoff at this time would save about \$350,000 over the life of the loan. Administrative Assistant Stacey Popovich stated that she received confirmation

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