

to build 19 homes. This creates a deficit of about 14 acre-feet of water to the 75 homes.

Shaffer explained to Beggs that he would have to go through the process of gaining a new supplemental water agreement

with district. Beggs stated he will provide Shaffer with the information needed to start the process. Shaffer will bring the updated information to the board at the February meeting.

Shaffer stated he met with

developer Riverside Development Co., which has a contract to purchase Misty Acres. The developer is seeking to develop Misty Acres Filing 2A. Riverside will request supplemental water service in February.

The next regular board meeting will be held at 1 p.m. Feb. 14 at the Woodmoor Water and Sanitation District Office, 1845 Woodmoor Dr., Monument. For information: 488-2525 or

www.woodmoorwater.com.
Candice Hitt can be reached at candicehitt@ocn.me.

Donala Water and Sanitation District, Jan. 17

Brown Ranch exclusion approved; plant operator honored



Above: On Jan. 17, Donala Water and Sanitation District Board President Bill George (left) honored Waste plant Operator Del Phipps as the district's Employee of the Quarter. Phipps, the plant's primary laboratory technician, was recognized for his major contributions toward the certification of the Upper Monument Creek Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility laboratory as well as process control and maintenance. *Photo by Jim Kendrick.*

the certification of the Upper Monument Creek Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility laboratory. He added that Phipps is the plant's primary laboratory technician and "deep into process control and maintenance."

This was the first Donala board meeting for new Assistant Manager Kip Petersen. All board members were present.

Brown Ranch exclusion approved

On Dec. 11, the Scholls petitioned Donala to have the 183-acre property known as the Brown Ranch, near the intersection of Higby and Roller Coaster Roads, excluded from the district. The petition noted that the Scholls had "determined such property is significantly problematic for service within the district."

The Donala district resolution and order excluding this property noted that the major portion of the Brown Ranch property to be excluded is outside the Arkansas River Basin. This could cause the potential loss of water service availability under the existing contractual agreements Donala has with Colorado Springs Utilities and a conflict with water court decree restrictions on the district's use of any renewable water outside of the Arkansas River Basin.

Only 45 acres of the Brown Ranch is in the Arkansas River Basin and eligible to be served with Donala water, because some of it would come from Donala's renewable water in the Pueblo Reservoir. The rest of the Brown Ranch is in the South Platte River Basin and would have to have its own entirely separate Donala groundwater system. No Arkansas River Basin renewable water can be transported by the Colorado Springs Utilities Southern Delivery System into the South Platte River Basin, including Donala's renewable Willow Creek Ranch water. This restriction is enforced by the federal Bureau of Reclamation and the Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District.

Duthie noted that this restriction also affects portions of Woodmoor Water and Sanitation District and the Town of Palmer Lake.

Donala applied to the District Court, Water Division 2, in Pueblo for a change in water rights to implement the exclusion agreement with the Scholls.

Duthie said the ranch was included in 2004. The Donala application to the water court notes that the Brown Ranch groundwater was decreed on

April 28, 2005, by the same court. These groundwater rights were conveyed to Donala.

Subsequently, the Brown Ranch water rights were incorporated into Donala's well fields, allowing withdrawal of the ranch water through wells located in other parts of Donala, in conjunction with a decreed augmentation plan for the non-tributary portions of the water rights.

The Scholls and Donala have agreed that Donala will retain the Brown Ranch Arapahoe aquifer groundwater rights and Donala well site 8A. Donala will reconvey the Brown Ranch groundwater rights in the Daw-

son, Denver, and Laramie-Fox Hills aquifers to the Scholls.

The Donala application states the district is seeking to have the water court remove the Brown Ranch groundwater rights in the Dawson, Denver, and Laramie-Fox Hills aquifers and the Donala well fields and to amend Donala's augmentation plan to reflect the removal of groundwater rights in these three aquifers.

The Scholls have agreed to pay Donala \$150,000 for the groundwater rights in the three aquifers to the Scholls when all the paperwork has been approved by the courts and signed by the judges.



Above (L to R): New Assistant Manager Kip Petersen attended his first Donala Water and Sanitation District Board meeting on Jan. 17. Petersen was welcomed by President Bill George and Directors David Powell, Ken Judd, Bill Denny, and Bill Nance (seated). *Photo by Jim Kendrick.*

By Jim Kendrick

On Jan. 17, the Donala Water and Sanitation District board unanimously approved the exclusion of the Brown Ranch. Randy and Margaret Scholl of Randal Construction Inc. will pay \$150,000 to Donala to buy back the groundwater rights under the ranch in the Denver, Dawson, and Laramie-Fox Hills aquifers. Donala will keep the ground-

water rights under the ranch in the Arapahoe aquifer as well as Donala's well site 8A and its associated access easements.

Waste plant Operator Del Phipps was honored as the Donala Water and Sanitation District Employee of the Quarter at the start of the monthly district board meeting. District Manager Dana Duthie said Phipps made "a real big contribution" toward

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