

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service regarding the Endangered Species Act, particularly as it relates to the protected Preble's meadow jumping mouse as a listed species.

- Outstanding technical issues shall be corrected prior to plat recordation.
- As identified by the Development Guidelines, careful siting of the home sites is to be incorporated by the builder so that the natural features such as drainage ways and vegetation can be preserved.
- School fees in lieu of land dedication for one lot will be paid at time of recordation of the final plat.
- Lots in excess of the original 42 are subject to the Transportation Impact Fee.
- No direct lot access to Misty Acres Boulevard will be allowed during construction.
- A cost analysis to improve the landings up to county road standards should be done prior to the May 28 BOCC meeting.
- Private roads shall be designated private by conspicuous signage on each road and a notation in the plat.

Notations approved:

- According to the El Paso County Land Development Code, approval of the Preliminary Plan will expire after 24 months unless a final plat has been approved and recorded or a time extension has been granted.
- The Countywide Transportation Fee resolution does not require this development to pay any additional transportation impact fees because it was platted prior to the fee program's implementation.

The site has already been graded and roads constructed as 24-foot-wide curb and guttered private roadways in an uncompleted project started by a previous developer. There will be no grading by the current developer other than the completion of a detention pond south of the site.

County Engineer André Brackin rejected the applicant's request to convert the roads to county maintenance, since they are not constructed to county standards for public streets. They are too steep in some places and are too narrow for on-street parking, and the multiple deviations cannot be upgraded in an economically efficient way for the developer.

The developer created the Misty Acres 2B Homeowners Association (HOA) to do road repair and snow

removal for these private streets. The developer will pull out of this HOA as soon as there are enough residents to take control. Residents of Misty Acres 2B will pay dues to that HOA as well as to the Misty Acres Metropolitan District, which will maintain drainage and buffer tracts, although several homeowners requested that those remain in private hands.

The development will be served by Woodmoor Water and Sanitation District, Tri-Lakes Fire Protection District, Mountain View Electric, and Black Hills Energy Inc.

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

## County OKs transfer of Monument Hill Country Club liquor license

By Kate Wetterer

The El Paso Board of County Commissioners approved the reassignment of Monument Hill Country Club's hotel and restaurant liquor license to Touchstone Golf LLC on June 11. Touchstone Golf filed the application on behalf of the country club, serving as receivers for the company.

The liquor license is now under new ownership, as are the premises. This transfer was approved without contention. The applicant is in good standing, filling all

requirements.

The golf course is up and running again, having been temporarily shut down due to lack of funding for the amount of water required for maintenance. All other member services remain available at the club despite changes in management. The club is located at 18945 Pebble Beach Way, Monument.

Kate Wetterer can be reached at [katewetterer@ocn.me](mailto:katewetterer@ocn.me).

## County forms recovery committee for Black Forest Fire

By Joel Quevillon

El Paso County budget and information coordinator El Paso County has established a Long Range Recovery Planning Committee for Black Forest. The committee will oversee the county's participation in the long-range planning of the recovery, restoration, and rebuilding efforts within the Black Forest burn area.

Commissioner Darryl Glenn will chair the committee and Commissioner Amy Lathen will be the co-chair.

"We are now entering a critical planning stage in the recovery process," Commissioner Glenn said. "The county is committed to establishing a collaborative process with our citizens to assist in the recovery, restoration, and rebuilding process within the Black Forest burn area."

Glenn added, "Information from this group will be

disseminated via our normal communications channels and through the recently established HOA/neighborhood communication network."

The committee includes representatives of both of the state's U.S. senators, U.S. Rep. Doug Lamborn, state Sen. Kent Lambert, state Reps. Amy Stephens and Dan Norburg, and the county Sheriff's Office.

The following is a preliminary list of community members assigned to the committee: Edward Bracken, Donna Arkowski, Carolyn Brown, Judy von Ahlefeldt, Leif Garrison, Laura Carno, and Sean Perkins.

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For more information, contact Dave Rose, county public information officer. Phone: 520-6540, cell: 337-9239, [DaveRose@elpasoco.com](mailto:DaveRose@elpasoco.com).

## June Weather Wrap

By Bill Kappel

Overall, it was a hot and dry June around the region, as temperatures averaged around 3 degrees warmer than normal and precipitation was about 50 percent of normal. These hot, dry, and at times windy conditions played a major role in the devastating Black Forest Fire and the many other wildfires across the region during the month.

Temperatures during the first couple days of June were actually cooler than normal, but unfortunately this cool air wasn't accompanied by moisture. Highs started off well below normal on the 1st with mid-60s, then warmed into the mid- and upper 70s on the 2nd. Also, our last freeze of the season occurred on the morning of the 1st, as low temperatures dipped all the way into the upper 20s.

Temperatures warmed quickly on the 3rd, with highs reaching the mid-80s. Unsettled conditions moved in over the next few days, with areas of morning low clouds on the 4th and afternoon rain showers. Low clouds and fog and some light rain continued to affect the region on 5th. This held temperatures down to well below normal levels, with upper 40s to low 50s common on the 5th. Mild and dry weather then returned for the remainder of the week. Highs were in the mid 70s from the 6th through the 8th, with morning sunshine and partly cloudy skies by after-

noon. Warm weather ended the weekend, with mid-80s common again on the 9th with plenty of sunshine.

Hot, dry, and windy weather led to the worst of all situations during the second week of June. Temperatures reached into the mid-80s on the 9th, then the upper 80s and low 90s on the 10th and 11th. These hot temperatures combined with gusty winds and very low relative humidity to produce extreme fire behavior. These conditions continued over the next two days, allowing the Black Forest Fire to become devastating and very difficult to control. Some relief finally moved in over the remainder of the week, first in the form of lighter winds and afternoon thunderstorms on the 14th. The storms put down a quick shot of moisture across the area. Temperatures cooled over the next two days, with low 80s for highs, and relative humidity levels rose. Winds again were much lighter. All these factors allowed firefighters to get the upper hand on the fire and just in time, as hot and dry conditions again took hold of the region for most of the rest of June.

Highs consistently reached into the upper 80s and low 90s from the 19th through the 28th. The hot weather peaked from the 26th through the 28th, with highs in the low 90s—near record territory. Fortunately, winds were generally well behaved over this period. No rain fell during this time, which is fairly unusual for June, because we

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