the property tax revenue will flow to the Pinon Pines districts in 2017.

FLMD will hold and control all the public infrastructure and will provide all necessary utility and general governmental services to the residents of the Pinon Pines districts subject to the terms of an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) between the districts. From 2007 to 2014, FLMD financed construction of the public utility infrastructure through the use of Developer Advances provided to the district at 8 percent interest. FLMD has no outstanding general obligation debt, but the Pinons have already or will incur debt along the way as construction proceeds in each district.

The Upper Monument Creek Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility (UM-CRWWTF) is owned jointly by Donala Water and Sanitation District, Triview Metropolitan District, and FLMD. FLMD has contracted with Donala to operate the water and sewer systems. Donala operators and staff personnel will also provide meter reading and billing services, respectively, to Forest Lakes customers. FLMD has contracted with other providers for maintenance of the other infrastructure such as the Waterfront Park.

#### 2016 budget amendments due to bonds

On Dec. 5, after a public hearing at which no member of the public spoke, the board unanimously approved amended 2016 budgets for both FLMD and PPMD 1. Nichols said this was necessitated by the fact that they did "a pretty good-sized" bond issue in October. FLMD added a bit over \$6 million to its original budget, and PPMD 1 added two more funds and

the capital projects fund, which is the size of the bond issue, Nichols said. The 2016 amended budgets include:

FLMD – \$12.9 million

PPMD 1 general fund – \$19,000

PPMD 1 debt service fund – \$67,000

PPMD 1 capital projects fund – \$8.3 mil-

Nichols explained after the meeting that the bonds are limited tax general obligation bonds sold to bondholders in minimum increments of \$500,000. The total amount held is \$8.3 million, resulting in charges of 5.25 to 5.375 percent, and will eventually be paid back using revenue from the property tax mill levies in each district and the facilities development fees charged by PPMD 1.

#### Mill levies increased

The board considered a resolution to set mill levies for 2017 for PPMD 1, 2, and 3. (FLMD does not impose a mill levy.) They unanimously approved the resolution certifying 10 mills for operations and maintenance for the non-utility systems and 40 mills for debt service, totaling 50 mills each for PPMD 1, 2, and 3.

Stimple's comment was, "The mills will hopefully be stabilizing now."

### 2017 budgets and appropriations approved

No member of the public spoke at the public hearings on 2017 budgets for FLMD and PPMD 1, 2, and 3. Topics mentioned during the budget discussion covering all four districts included:

Loidolt: Fourteen homes are occupied now in the Forest Lakes development. We are now getting to the point where we will be able see approximately how much it costs to run the water and wastewater sys-

- Nichols: The surface water treatment plant will cost about \$6 million total, and \$4.5 million of that is included in the 2017 budget for FLMD, which will own and operate the plant. The drinking water plant, transmission line, and surface water intake from Bristlecone Lake will be started in 2017. Engineering is being done by Wright Water Engineers.
- Nichols: Money has been set aside for landscape maintenance, which will be performed by the same company that installed it, Bear Claw. They are required to maintain it for one year after they install it.
- Nichols: PPMD 1 is under construction now. It pays FLMD for expenses. I am still in the process of determining the methodology for allocating costs back to the three Pinons so that when assessed valuation is more substantial, this methodology will be in place.

Dykstra: PPMD 3 is the commercial section southwest of the intersection of I-25 and West Baptist Road. It will interact with all the retailers.

The board unanimously approved the resolution for adopting FLMD, PPMD 1, 2, and 3 2016 budgets, as presented. They also unanimously approved the corresponding resolution to appropriate funds for all four budgets. Nichols provided OCN with the following 2017 appropriation amounts:

FLMD - \$7.3 million

PPMD 1 general fund - \$ 13,000

PPMD 1 debt service fund – \$737,000

PPMD 1 capital projects fund – \$0

PPMD 2 general fund – \$ 6,000 PPMD 3 general fund - \$4,000

#### **Citizens advisory committee** for Pinon Pines residents

Nichols said that the FLMD service plan required an attempt to form a citizens advisory committee when there are more than 50 homes owned by third parties. She anticipated reaching that number of rooftops in PPMD 1 by next summer.



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## **Lewis-Palmer School District Safety Protocols**

Students and school staff require safe environments in order for undistracted learning to take place. Lewis-Palmer School District maintains a proactive stance around safety and security preparedness, reviewing and updating emergency plans annually and running drills monthly. LPSD also partners with local and county law enforcement and emergency responders in order to stay apprised of current safety protocols.

In January, Dennis Coates will fill Lewis-Palmer School District's new Chief of Safety and Security position. Deputy Coates, a School Resource Officer (SRO) with the El Paso County Sheriff's Office for seven years, has worked closely with LPSD staff and schools in this capacity over the past decade. Twelve of Coates' twenty years in law enforcement have

found his time spent on school matters. Additionally, Coates served as a DARE (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) instructor, police academy instructor, hostage negotiator, high school teacher, coach, and athletic director. These experiences equip him well to continue anticipating and meeting the safety needs of LPSD.

This expanded role allows Coates to oversee and coordinate the implementation and updating of emergency plans and the training of the District's SROs. Superintendent Karen Brofft says of Coates, "His leadership provides an even greater emphasis on the safety and security measures we need to consider." His personal experiences with LPSD students and staff along with his extensive knowledge of Colorado law and the Tri-Lakes and Colorado Springs area only

enhance Coates' preparedness for his new position. He relates, "I feel like I have been training for this position my entire career. I am grateful for LPSD's commitment to our students' safety."





## **LPSD Upcoming Events**

January 2: District Closed

January 2-6: Winter Break – No Classes

January 9: Students Return

January 16: District Closed

January 18: PLC Day – 2-Hour Delayed

Start Wednesday

January 19: Monthly Board of

Education Meeting, 6:00 p.m.

# Teacher Spotlight: Missy Monroe



Many Lewis-Palmer School District teachers begin their career with LPSD right out of college and stay for years. Missy Monroe, Social Studies teacher at Lewis-Palmer High School, is one of these individuals. She began teaching at LPHS when she was 22, straight out of UNC where she earned a BA in History and her certification in secondary education. A graduate of Woodland Park High School, she grew up as a rival of LPHS. She knew then that she wanted to be a part of LPHS because she and her classmates understood that LPHS was good at everything.

She loves teaching high school students and believes that they are the most passionate learners on the planet. Missy especially loves teaching her students about 20th Century History. She also teaches Street Law, an introduction to Criminal Justice which includes fieldtrips to the Citizen's Academy and the county jail. These visits spark intense class discussions.

Missy says her students are especially interested in the study of the French Revolution - fun facts and gruesome details hold their attention. Students perform skits and write papers from the perspective of a historical character.

Missy loves cooking (especially Cajun recipes) and loves traveling to historical sites. Crater Lake, along the Oregon coast, and Mount Rushmore are some of her favorite places to camp. She's a national park aficionado. When not traveling, she volunteers with Mill Dog Rescue and cooks once a month for people living at a Salvation Army home in Colorado Springs. Visiting Croatia and Dubrovnik is on her bucket list.