

Hildebrandt said, "The money tree is getting bigger and the money need greater, too."

**Wescott merger update**

Truty said at this point TLMFPD would refrain from requesting approval from the board to proceed with the Donald Wescott Fire Protection District (DWFPD) merger discussion until they had discussed the legal issues in executive session.

The board members went on to discuss their biggest concern—finances and in particular the financial impact to train new volunteers to the same certification standards of TLMFPD staff on fire, EMS, and wildland fires. Hildebrandt noted the variables in certification among the Wescott volunteer staff, and Smaldino commented that "It could become a sticking point in moving the organization forward."

Director Terri Hayes stated that some staff already have full-time careers and may not want to go through further training. Hildebrandt voiced concern over liability issues with unqualified volunteers.

Smaldino said, "Wescott typically conducted a 12-week internal training for 192 hours and TLMFPD staff currently spend 17 weeks at an external academy, completing 750 hours of training." Hayes said, "Wescott should be getting their own certification." Smaldino commented, "At the end of the day it all needs to add up right."

**Health insurance changes**

Truty announced that health insurance expenses would not increase next year. Administrative Assistant Jen Martin explained that Kaiser Permanente is now offering TLMFPD two plans even though they have fewer than 50 personnel. This provides options to upgrade to

a plan with a greater number of providers. TLMFPD currently pays 96 percent of the insurance costs, with personnel paying the difference depending on which level of plan they choose. Martin said, "Having the second option for expanded providers is absolutely a benefit to those with health issues and children."

**Community thanks**

Truty thanked Random Acts of Kindness for the First Responder Barbecue event held on Oct. 13.

Martin and Hankins thanked Dana Goodfellow of Mutual Security Mortgage and former firefighter Ryan Graham of The Platinum Group Realtors for purchasing 600 pumpkins and Tractor Supply for hosting a Pumpkin Patch event in collaboration with TLMFPD and the 4319 Monument Firefighter's Association. Hankins said, "This was the second annual community event

that will continue." "It is great for the community," said Hildebrandt.

The regular meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m. and the board moved to go into two executive sessions: 1) Pursuant to CRS 24-6-402(4)(b) to receive legal advice and 2) Pursuant to CRS 24-6-402(4)(e) to instruct negotiations on possible future arrangement with DWFPD.

Truty informed OCN that no votes or announcements were made after the executive session.

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Meetings are usually held the fourth Wednesday of each month. The next meeting is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Nov. 14 at TLMFPD Station 1, 18650 Highway 105. For information, contact Jennifer Martin at (719) 484-9011. For upcoming agendas, see <http://tlmfire.org/board>.

Natalie Barszcz can be reached at [nataliebarszcz@ocn.me](mailto:nataliebarszcz@ocn.me).

**Woodmoor Water and Sanitation District, Oct. 8**

**Rehab center requests supplemental water service**

By James Howald

At its Oct. 8 meeting, the Woodmoor Water and Sanitation District (WWSD) board heard a request from Mountain Springs Recovery (MSR) for the district to provide additional water to its proposed facility, and evaluated the four-day work week schedule the district has been using for the last four months. Also, district staff presented operational reports.

**Board approves supplemental water request**

Jared Raymond and Tom Kearns of MSR gave the board an overview of

the proposed drug and alcohol recovery center their company is putting in place at 1865 Woodmoor Drive, in the buildings that previously were a Ramada Inn Hotel. Raymond said the facility would be for inpatients only, and the license was currently under review by the state of Colorado.

When its license is in place, patients will begin to be treated in March or April of 2019, Raymond said, initially in two of the facility's five buildings. Raymond expects to start with 54 patients, on opening, and to add patients to the other three buildings in a phased approach. There will be additional inspections of the facility as the three other buildings are deployed. Raymond said he anticipated El Paso County's review of the project would be completed in November.

District Manager Jessie Shaffer told the board the site has been in use as a hotel since 1974, its water use was grandfathered in, and the standard water service for the site's five-acre lot was 2.5 acre-feet per year, established in 1974. When the use of the property changed from hotel to treatment center, WWSD wrote a letter to the county indicating WWSD was not committed to supplying water to MSR, Shaffer said.

MSR was requesting to purchase from WWSD up to 14.056 acre-feet of supplemental water, with the first 1.162 acre-feet to be purchased initially and the remaining 12.894 acre-feet to be under option for future purchase when required by the expansion of the treatment center, Shaffer told the board.

The supplemental water service would be phased in as the center grows, Shaffer said, with 3.8 acre-feet reserved for the second phase, and 9.056 acre-feet reserved for the third phase.

Shaffer said district policy allowed customers to contract with the district for supplemental water if the customer could provide data justifying the increased use. The data provided by MSR was based on their facility in Bastrop, Texas, Shaffer told the board.

MSR was also requesting a "pay as you go" agreement that would allow WWSD to charge it a fee to reserve water for future needs, Shaffer said.

In response to a question from board member Brian Bush, Shaffer told the board that MSR could cancel the reserved supplemental water if they chose to do so in the future.

The board voted unanimously to provide the supplemental water service as requested.

**Question about Walters property**

During public comments, resident Bill Kennedy asked the board if water is available if houses are built on the Walters property, which is in south Woodmoor just northeast of Lewis-Palmer High School. Shaffer said there is no commitment from WWSD to supply water to any residential development on the property, but water service could be requested if the property is developed. WWSD already owns the property's water rights, Shaffer said, adding potential use for the property is included in the district's Long Range Plan.

**Four-day work schedule pilot to continue**

Shaffer gave the board some preliminary results from the pilot of the four-day work schedule that has been in place since June. Overtime is down, Shaffer said. There have been no customer complaints about the schedule, according to Shaffer. Staff reported scheduling personal issues, such as doctor visits, was easier under the new schedule, and Shaffer said he believed the staff wanted to continue the new schedule.

Shaffer recommended that the pilot continue through January so that its impact during the winter months could be assessed.

**Highlights of operational reports**

- Unaccounted water is steady at 7 percent.
- Aeration of Woodmoor Lake has improved the taste and odor of the district's water.
- Improvements to the water augmentation station on the Chilcott Ditch should be complete this year at a price of \$500,000.
- Drilling for Well 21 is complete, and the drilling rig and sound walls have been removed.
- Work on the district's infrastructure on Monument Hill Road was scheduled to begin in late October.
- WWSD will hold a public hearing on its budget on Nov. 12 at 1 p.m. at their next monthly meeting.

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The next meeting is scheduled for Nov. 12 at 1 p.m. Meetings are usually held at the district office at 1845 Woodmoor Drive on the second Monday of each month at 1 p.m. See [www.woodmoor-water.com](http://www.woodmoor-water.com) or call 488-2525 to verify meeting times.

James Howald can be reached at [jameshowald@ocn.me](mailto:jameshowald@ocn.me).

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People of all faiths and cultures are welcome to visit or attend classes and workshops.

**ADVENT RETREAT: "A PILGRIMAGE THROUGH THE ADVENT SCRIPTURES"**  
Saturday, Dec. 8, 2018 *Please bring your own lunch, as lunch is not provided*  
9:00 am to 1:00 pm  
Fee: \$45.00  
Presenter: Sister Marilyn Carpenter, OSB

Register early at [www.benethillmonastery.org](http://www.benethillmonastery.org)  
Multi-day pay an additional \$3.00

Retreat Description: During this retreat we will pilgrimage through the Advent readings to ultimately answer the questions: How does this affect my life today? This Advent? My on-going spiritual journey/pilgrimage? All faith traditions are welcome.

Sister Marilyn Carpenter has a degree in Liturgical, Sacramental and Pastoral Theology from St. Meinrad's School of Theology. She uses these skills for creative rituals, retreats and parish classes: RCIA, Baptism, Sacrament of Anointing and Pastoral Care of the Sick, and Healing Prayer Ministry.

Contact: Sister Ana Cloughly, OSB; [ana@benethillmonastery.org](mailto:ana@benethillmonastery.org); (719) 633-0655 Ext. 138  
Register online at: [www.benethillmonastery.org](http://www.benethillmonastery.org) or call 719.633.0655 Ext. 132

**Alpaca Holiday Extravaganza**

Join the Southeastern Colorado Alpaca Breeders celebration of the 13th Annual Holiday Alpaca Extravaganza.

- + Meet alpacas and experience the luxury of alpaca
- + Alpaca garments, fashion apparel & accessories will be available for early holiday shopping.
- + Crafters will find fleeces, roving, batts, and yarn in a wide variety of colors.

This FREE event is open to all.

**Mark Your Calendar**

**Saturday, Nov. 17 from 9AM to 5PM**

**Sunday, Nov. 18 from 10AM to 4PM**

Black Forest Community Club is located at 12350 Black Forest Rd. just north of Shoup Rd. For latest information see our web page at <http://secab-extravaganza.weebly.com/> or call 719-495-6693