

way. The board cancelled the annual Donala staff campout at the ranch due to the fire risk and drought conditions.

Additional arsenic treatment required

New tighter arsenic restrictions will be imposed on UMCRRWTF in October 2019—8.7 micrograms per liter. (<https://www.ocn.me/v18n6.htm#dwsd>)

Designs for the new construction to provide the additional treatment are underway by engineering consultant GMS Inc. On May 17, consulting engineer Mark Morton of GMS briefed the board on improvements that have been designed for the UMCRRWTF arsenic pilot plant. He discussed progress to date on determining treatment options, potential costs, and timelines. He reviewed new state arsenic regulation requirements and the facility's new compliance schedule for meeting the new UMCRRWTF arsenic effluent discharge limit of 8.7 micrograms per liter by Sept. 30, 2019.

The arsenic comes from Denver basin groundwater wells. Donala is

now using more renewable surface water, which has no detectable arsenic, to dilute arsenic. Triview Metropolitan District is planning to use renewable surface water in the future to dilute arsenic. Forest Lakes Metropolitan District is planning to dilute arsenic as well. There will be a risk of an arsenic violation at UMCRRWTF if surface water flows are interrupted and any of these three UMCRRWTF co-owner districts have to revert to dependence on groundwater wells.

Meeting with Triview board proposed

The board agreed to propose a long-term planning discussion about water and wastewater during a special board-to-board meeting between the Donala and Triview boards on Sept. 26. If that date turns out to be acceptable to Triview's directors, Petersen and Triview District Manager Jim McGrady will determine a time and agenda for this special meeting.

Capital construction update

Beers Construction Co. was to begin construction by July 23 for the replace-

ment of service lines and saddle taps near Gleneagle Drive from the Donala main to the curb stop where the corrosive soil has compromised the integrity of the existing equipment. This construction was scheduled to last about three weeks.

Global Underground has started to mobilize its equipment near the R. Hull water treatment plant for its large 120-day boring project to connect this plant to the Jessie Drive booster station.

A preconstruction meeting will be set with Pate Construction for the 120-day water main replacement project along Gleneagle Drive from Westches-

ter Drive to Sun Hills Drive. The tentative start date for this project is Aug. 6.

For more information on these three projects, see www.ocn.me/v18n7.htm#dwsd

The meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

The next board meeting will be held at 1:30 p.m. Aug. 16 in the district conference room at 15850 Holbein Drive. Information: 488-3603 or www.donala-water.org. Meetings are normally held on the third Thursday of the month.

Jim Kendrick can be reached at jimkendrick@ocn.me.

Palmer Lake Town Council, July 12 and 26

Well fails; council declares water emergency

By James Howald and Jackie Burhans
The Palmer Lake Town Council ordered sweeping water restrictions on July 26 because of a well failure. The first meeting of the month, on July 12, was a regular council meeting and the second, on July 26, was a working session, but Mayor John Cressman welcomed comments from the public at both meetings, and several votes were taken at the second meeting. The council plans to hold two meetings—one regular council meeting and one "voting work session"—going forward, with public comments at the working session allowed at the discretion of the mayor.

At the meetings, the council continued to work on issues that have concerned the town in some cases for years, such as how to manage the town's water supply, how to regulate sales of marijuana within the town limits, and how to protect the town from fire and plan for the Palmer Lake Volunteer Fire Department. In addition to those issues, the board banned dogs from reservoir hiking trails and heard noise complaints from a number of residents about a concert at The Villa Restaurant.

Council declares emergency water use restrictions

Cressman told the council on July 26 that one of the two wells that supply water to the town had developed a problem with its pump and was operating at greatly reduced capacity. That well had been the more productive of the two prior to the pump failing, Cressman said. The reduced production from the well raised the possibility that the town would run out of water and it might take three months to fix the problem, he said.

In response to this, the council considered resolution 13, which prohibits the approval of any new taps, effectively ending any new construction in the town. The resolution also forbids landscape watering, car washing, and any other non-essential use of water such as sidewalk washing and the filling of fountains without aquatic life. It also prohibits restaurants from serving water unless it is requested by a customer.

Cressman emphasized this resolution was intended to deal with the problems created by the well pump failure and would be in effect only until the pump could be repaired.

Council member Paul Banta pointed out the town had three sources of water: the two wells and the reservoirs. One of the wells was operating at 20 percent efficiency, he said, and the other had been at 100 percent before the pump failure and now was close to

producing nothing. He added that only a limited amount of water could be drawn from the reservoirs by law.

The council voted unanimously to approve the resolution, which took effect immediately.

Dogs banned from reservoir trails; fines doubled to \$800

The council has worked for some time on the issue of how best to manage the town's reservoirs which, in addition to providing the town's drinking water, have also traditionally been used for recreational purposes, such as fishing. The trails adjacent to the reservoirs are popular with hikers, who often bring their dogs and fail to clean up after them, potentially reducing the quality of the town's drinking water. Hikers also start illegal campfires, increasing the danger of wildfire that could lead to contamination of the water supply.

Last year, the council closed the reservoir trails to hikers altogether, but outcry from the community led the council to reverse that decision.

At the second meeting in July, the council took action on this issue by approving resolution 12, which prohibits hikers from taking their dogs on the reservoir trails and increases the fine for doing so to \$800.

The council heard comments critical of this restriction from residents who wanted to continue to hike with their dogs along the reservoir trails, and from residents who suggested other ways to manage access to the trail and to parking at the trailhead. Several residents emphasized the importance of consistent enforcement of laws banning dogs and campfires.

Recreational marijuana sales heads to ballot again

At the July 12 meeting, the council heard from two local business people, Melissa Woodward of Premier Organics LLC and Dino Salvatori of Palmer Lake Wellness, who told the council they were collecting signatures with the intention of putting an initiative on the ballot in November that would reverse the town's prohibition of the sale of recreational marijuana. Woodward asked the council to consider waiving the requirement to collect signatures to put the initiative on the ballot. Salvatori emphasized the tax revenue that recreational sales could bring to the town.

The council declined the request to waive the signature collection. Council member Glant Havenar told Woodward that she was entitled to try to put the initiative on the ballot, but that Havenar did not want to see recreational sales and did not support waiving the requirement to gather the required number of signatures to put the initia-

Looking for Trees?

Add locally grown trees to your piece of Black Forest.

Let us bring the forest to you with our transplant service.

Trees4tomorrow.com
719-495-2445



ROCKY MOUNTAIN MUSIC ALLIANCE

MAGICAL EVENINGS OF BEAUTIFUL MUSIC

Music of Mozart, Mahler and Mendelssohn

Dr. Zahari Metchkov, piano
Geoffrey Herd, violin
Ekaterina Dobrotvorskaia, viola
Max Geissler, cello

Sept 1, 2018 at 7 PM

www.RMMAConcerts.org

Tickets: \$12+ online; \$15 at door; Students FREE

New Venue!

The Church at Woodmoor

18125 Furrow Road, Monument, CO

