

Petersen stressed that no final decisions have been made, stating that there are many unknowns yet to be resolved. See www.ocn.me/v18n12.htm#msd.

New director appointed

Three candidates were interviewed during the meeting for the vacant position left by Director Bob Denny's resignation in October. Following discussion among board members, Kevin Deardorff was appointed for the remainder of the term, which runs until May 2020.

Additional items

- Petersen reported that demand on the district's water supplies has reduced to seasonal numbers, with most irrigation having ceased. He said that water is currently being produced by

the R. Hull water plant and Willow Creek Ranch.

- The board heard that the capital project tying together the Jessie Booster station and the R. Hull plant has been completed. Work to treat for arsenic at the R. Hull plant is moving forward, with consultants GMS reverse engineering the timeline to ensure that the October 2019 deadline is met.
- Petersen reported that the Gleneagle water main replacement project is continuing. Work has moved from the easterly terminus at Mission Hills Road down to the Gleneagle/ Westchester area. The work on Struthers Road to replace the 6-inch water main with an 8-inch pipe has been

completed.

- Petersen provided Colorado's most recent U.S. Drought Monitor report. While the Front Range has seen a reduction in the drought classifications, the southwest part of Colorado remains in exceptional drought. Petersen said that while snowpack reports are positive, it is too early to make any predictions on what this winter will bring.

The meeting adjourned at 3.55 p.m.

The next board meeting will be held on Jan. 17 at 1:30 p.m. in the district conference room at 15850 Holbein Drive. Information: (719) 488-3603 or www.donala-water.org. Meetings are normally held on the third Thursday of the month.

Helen Walklett can be reached at helenwalklett@ocn.me.

Woodmoor Water and Sanitation District, Dec. 10

Board wraps up work on 2019 rates and budget

By James Howald

At its December meeting, the Woodmoor Water and Sanitation District (WWSD) board did a final review of water and sewer rates for 2019 and concluded its work on the budget for 2019. The board also approved the management contract between the Chilcott Ditch Co. and the district. The board heard an update on the revegetation project underway at the Woodmoor Ranch (previously called the JV Ranch). Finally, the board heard reports from district staff.

Water and sewer rates remain unchanged

The December meeting began with a public hearing on proposed water and sewer rates for 2019. Richard D. Giardina of Raftelis Financial Consultants, the company that advises WWSD on rates, told the board that, based on the guidance Raftelis had received from the board, and in accordance with the preliminary review of the rates from the November board meeting, Raftelis recommended no changes to water and sewer rates for 2019. He added that the district could afford to reduce the Renewable Water Infrastructure Fee (RWIF) by \$1 a month, to \$41.

There were no comments from the public on the proposed water and sewer rates for 2019.

After concluding the public hearing, the board voted unanimously to approve Resolution No. 18-06, making the proposed rates final.

Proposed budget for 2019 approved

The board heard a presentation of the second draft of the budget for 2019 at its previous meeting in November. Details about the 2019 budget can be found in the December issue of OCN. See www.ocn.me/v18n12.htm#wwsd.

At the December meeting, the board continued the public hearing from the previous month on the proposed budget; there were no comments from the public.

The board voted unanimously to approve Resolution 18-07, which finalized the budget for 2019.

Contract with Chilcott Ditch Co. renewed

District Manager Jessie Shaffer asked the board to consider an updated contract between WWSD and the Chilcott Ditch Co. Shaffer told the board the company uses district staff and reimburses the district for the costs of doing so. Few changes were made to the new version of the contract, Shaffer said.

The board voted unanimously to approve the contract as presented.

Revegetation efforts proceed apace

Paul Flack of RBI Inc., the company hired by WWSD to manage the revegetation efforts at Woodmoor Ranch, updated the board on progress made in 2018 and set expectations for how the work will proceed in 2019.

Because WWSD is converting the water rights at the ranch from agricultural purposes to municipal purposes, the district is required to revegetate the land with native plants and grasses to prevent soil erosion.

Flack told the board that he expected to continue irrigating at the ranch through Veterans Day, by which time the grasses will have gone dormant for the winter.

The revegetation project seeded and irrigated 235 acres in 2018, Flack said, and did weed control on 1,500 acres, fertilized 52 acres, and did pest control, primarily for grasshoppers, on 200 acres. In all, 890 acres of land were revegetated as required in 2018, Flack said.

Flack said he thought 50 percent of the district's commitment to revegetate will be completed by the end of 2019. He also said the board's decision to lease a portion of the ranch to a solar energy company would reduce the acreage that the district must revegetate.

Flack said the revegetation should be completed in four more years.

Highlights of staff reports

- District Assistant Manager Randy Gillette told the board that the improvements to the augmentation station that diverts water from Fountain Creek to the Chilcott Ditch are proceeding as planned. The improvements include reinforcing the banks 120 feet upstream and 80 feet downstream of the station to prevent erosion from flash floods from disabling the station.
- Pump testing is complete at Well 21, the district's new well in Misty Acres. Test results show the well is producing at or above 300 gallons per minute.

The next meeting is scheduled for Jan. 14, 2019 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.woodmoorwater.com or call 488-2525 to verify meeting times.

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Tri-Lakes Wastewater Treatment Facility Joint Use Committee, Dec. 11

Biosolids unexpectedly high for Palmer Lake Sanitation

By Lisa Hatfield

The Joint Use Committee (JUC) of the Tri-Lakes Wastewater Treatment Facility (TLWWTF) discussed heavier-than-expected biosolids loading from Palmer Lake Sanitation District on Dec. 11.

TLWWTF operates as a separate joint venture public utility and is owned in equal one-third shares by Monument Sanitation District (MSD), Palmer Lake Sanitation District (PLSD), and Woodmoor Water and Sanitation District (WWSD).

The three-member JUC acts as the board of the facility and consists of one director from each of the three owner districts' boards. JUC President and MSD board Chairman Ed DeLaney was excused, and PLSD

Vice Chairman Patricia Smith, who is JUC vice president, ran the meeting. WWSD board Director Lee Hanson, JUC secretary/treasurer, attended. Other board and staff members of the three owner districts also attended, including MSD Manager Mike Wicklund, PLSD Manager Becky Orcutt, and WWSD Assistant Manager Randy Gillette.

Excess use compensation formula

Facility Manager Bill Burks said for the first time, PLSD was the district with the highest measure of pounds of biological oxygen demand (BOD) per day of all three districts. This was an unexpected spike for PLSD and was also a surprise since PLSD owns the smallest percentage of BOD capacity of all three districts.

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