

Woodmoor Water and Sanitation District, Oct. 14

Water line replacement planned

By James Howald

On Oct. 14, the Woodmoor Water and Sanitation District (WWSD) board discussed how to proceed with a project to replace a portion of a water line on Scrub Oak Way and heard a request from a resident to purchase some land belonging to the district. The board also began work on the 2020 budget and heard operational reports.

Water line replacement more costly than expected

District Manager Jessie Shaffer told the board that poor quality pipe was used when the original water line was installed in Scrub Oak Way, a residential street north of Higby Road and east of Fairplay Drive, leading to an excessive number of breaks in the line.

Shaffer said that replacing 1,000 feet of the original water line, which has been planned for some time, would cost more than the \$150,000 budgeted for the project primarily because the work would affect other utility lines installed above the water line. Shaffer asked the board to allocate \$395,000 for the engineering and construction and a 15 percent change order contingency fee.

Richard A. Hood, senior project engineer with JVA Consulting Engineers, advised the board that prices for the work had gone up since the project was first planned because material costs are higher, contractors are busy, and the project is a smaller one.

Hood said three bids were received and he recommended the bid from Redline Pipeline be accepted. Shaffer agreed with the recommendation, adding that Redline Pipeline had done other work for the district that was completed satisfactorily.

Shaffer said the district had considered two methods to replace the line: pipe-bursting, where the new pipe is installed inside the old pipe without digging a trench, and open cut, which does involve digging a trench. Open cut was the less expensive method, Shaffer said.

The board voted unanimously to proceed with the work.

Board considers sale of land

Resident David Easton told the board he would like to purchase or lease land owned by the district that is northeast of Monument Academy and south of South Park Drive and adjacent to his home. Easton said that Monument Academy parents are dropping their children off on South

Park Drive and having them walk through the land to avoid going through the Monument Academy car line on Highway 105.

Easton said when he bought his home 16 years ago he was aware there were utility easements on the land in question. Three years ago, one of his neighbors made a trail through the land in question to allow children to walk to Monument Academy. More children are now using the trail, and it is now used by bike riders as well, Easton said.

In a previous conversation about the land, Shaffer told Easton the district wanted to retain ownership. With that decision in mind, Easton asked the board to consider restricting access to the land and adding a sign explaining the access issue, with the goal of reducing foot traffic through the land. Easton offered to pay for the fencing and sign.

The board agreed to consider the matter in an executive session following the meeting. No decision was announced concerning Easton's request.

Work on 2020 budget begins

Shaffer presented a first draft of the 2020 budget to the board at the Oct. 14 meeting. The board scheduled a four-hour workshop on Oct. 28 to continue work on the budget.

The public hearing on the budget will be part of the November board meeting, scheduled for Nov. 11 at 1 p.m.

Highlights of operational reports

- Water use is down 7 percent for the year, and fewer tap fees than expected have been sold to date.
- Irrigation for the revegetation effort is winding down for the year at Woodmoor Ranch, and winterization efforts are underway.
- The state of Colorado inspected WWSD's sewer operations and found no issues.
- The Calhan Reservoir dam has developed leaks, and vegetation will be removed in November to al-

- low the leaks to be found
- The Beach at Woodmoor is expected to begin acquiring taps for new construction.

The next meeting is scheduled for Nov. 11 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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