

Woodmoor Water and Sanitation District, Dec. 9

# New rates, budget for 2020 approved

By James Howald

In addition to revising water and sewer rates for 2020, the Woodmoor Water and Sanitation District (WWSD) board also finished its work on the budget for the upcoming year at the meeting on Dec. 9. The board renewed three operating agreements and set a date to award the contract for the construction of the pipeline that will move water from Well 21, the district's newest well, to the processing plant. Finally, Assistant District Manager Randy Gillette told the board he was beginning to plan for the replacement of aging water mains.

## Modest changes to water and sewer rates approved

To complete its work on water and sewer rates for 2020, the board held a mandatory public hearing at its December meeting. The hearing was attended by Andrew Rheem and Hannah Palmer-Dwore of Raffetis Financial Consultants (RFC), the company assisting the district with its analysis of rates. Rheem and Palmer-Dwore previously attended the November board meeting to make preliminary recommendations about rates.

Rheem told the board that frequent rate analyses were valuable to ensure that costs are correctly allocated to the different classes of service users, and to help the district meet its service delivery goals while maintaining steady rates. Water and sewer rates are calculated separately, Rheem said.

Rheem told the board that good financial planning should provide enough revenue to fund operation and maintenance costs, address debt service payments, and provide for capital improvement projects such as additional wells and upgrades to treatment plants.

Rheem recommended a 2% increase to sewer rates for 2020, primarily to adjust for inflation.

Overall, Rheem recommended small changes to water rates in 2020 for most customer classes.

For residential users, Rheem recommended an increase of 1.9%, with no change to the district's Renewable Water Infrastructure fee (RWIF). The RWIF represents the costs of the district's acquisition of Woodmoor Ranch and its water rights. Rheem pointed out that residential water customers are subsidizing other customer classes, such as bulk and non-potable water customers, and that RFC's recommendations, if

accepted by the board, would reduce those subsidies.

The board decided to increase rates for irrigation customers by 2.9%. Bulk customers will see a 5% increase in 2020, since that service had the largest gap between cost of service delivery and cost to customers.

The board ended the public hearing on rates and voted unanimously to approve Resolution No. 19-06, which sets water and sewer rates for 2020.

## Public hearing on budget wraps up

A preliminary budget for 2020 was presented at the meeting in October. This budget received minor updates at the November meeting, and a public hearing on the budget was opened at the November meeting. District Manager Jessie Shaffer told the board that the only change to the proposed budget since November was the incorporation of the new service rates and the projected revenue that would result from those rates.

There were no comments on the proposed budget from the public at the meeting, but the Dixon and Brundrett families sent the board an email protesting the increase in rates and asking the board meetings to be held at times that would make it easier for them to attend.

The budget hearing was closed.

The board voted unanimously to approve Resolution No. 19-07, which adopts the budget and appropriates funds accordingly.

## Operating agreements updated

The board voted to renew three operating agreements:

- The management contract between WWSD and the Chilcott Ditch Company, in which the terms were unchanged.
- A contract with JVA General Consulting Services (JVAGCS) for surveying, cost estimates, and small designs, which sets a maximum annual fee of \$75,000.
- A contract with JVAGCS for work on the Central Water Treatment Plant, the Lake Pump Station, and the South Filter Plant.

## Date set to award pipeline contract

The board voted to meet on Dec. 12 at 1 p.m. to consider awarding the contract to build a pipeline between Well 21 and the water processing plant.

## Water mains show their age

Gillette told the board that the district maintains about 80 miles of water mains, and breaks are becoming more frequent as the system ages. Gillette estimat-

ed about 40 percent of the mains would soon need to be replaced.

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The next meeting is scheduled for Jan. 13 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](http://www.woodmoorwater.com) or call 488-2525 to verify meeting times.

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## Triview Metropolitan District, Dec. 11

# Rates up, mills down

By Jennifer Kaylor

At the Triview Metropolitan District's Dec. 11 board meeting, directors conducted a water and wastewater rates public hearing and received updates to the 2020 budget that included a decision to temporarily collect fewer mills from property taxes. The board also celebrated its Jackson Creek Parkway (JCP) widening project collaboration with the Town of Monument by presenting a certificate of appreciation to town Public Works Inspector Tom Martinez.

Vice President Marco Fiorito was excused.

Triview is a Title 32 special district within Monument that provides road, landscaping, and open space maintenance, and water and wastewater services to Jackson Creek, Promontory Pointe, Sanctuary Pointe, and several commercial areas.

The Dec. 11 board packet may be accessed via [www.triviewmetro.com/boardDocuments](http://www.triviewmetro.com/boardDocuments). The December board packet includes the Nov. 15 special meeting minutes in which Triview approved a water and sewer infrastructure agreement between Home Place Ranch LLC and Triview Metropolitan District.

## Resolutions set 2020 rates, budget, mills

No residents offered input during the water and wastewater rates public hearing, so without much ad-



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