

This puts data into the hands of customers so they can better manage their water consumption and pinpoint leaks if they are present. The momentum at which new meters were being installed increased from eight per week to about 40 per week. There is a possibility of bumping installations up to 70 per week.

- District personnel contact customers who have excessive water use to determine if a leak or leaks exist.
- If a customer discovers a leak, Triview is willing to adjust a water bill if proof of the leak is provided. McGrady described proof as a plumber's receipt, an irrigation company's invoice, or something similar to show that a leak repair was completed.
- McGrady also developed a spreadsheet to serve as a model for calculating water application needs using the turf square footage and the number of irrigation applications per month. The spreadsheet reveals the amount of water needed for each application. The spreadsheet will be available under the conservation tab on the district's website.
- District staff members are also able to help customers reprogram their irrigation clocks and check for leaks or pressure issues. Triview staff members are not professional plumbers and cannot fix the leaks but can advise customers on how to determine if leaks are an issue.
- The conservation information on the website will be revised to be more user friendly and current.

McGrady explained that the rate increase was necessary in meeting the district's future needs as determined by a comprehensive rate study. Triview's goal is to transition to a renewable water supply because, unlike nonrenewable from the Denver Basin aquifer, it can be used and reused until extinction. The Denver Basin aquifer will become unproductive, but no one knows when that

will happen. The district has acquired enough acre-feet of renewable water to supply customers' needs when the district is fully developed, but additional challenges such as transporting, tracking, and capturing the water must be solved. The rate increase also supports Triview's participation in regional water and wastewater projects.

**Resolutions support water and wastewater projects**

The meeting agenda included two resolutions. Directors voted to ratify Resolution 2020-07: "... approving the purchase of water and water rights, land, and mineral rights from the Stonewall Springs Quarry LLC, Stonewall Water LLC and Stonewall Springs Reservoir Company." The board had approved this purchase at its May meeting. See <https://www.ocn.me/v20n6.htm#tvmd>. The vote at the June meeting was conducted to satisfy terms of the title company. **Correction:** In OCN's June issue, the cost of Triview's purchase was incorrectly published as \$9,505,500. It actually was \$19,505,500. OCN regrets the error.

The second resolution stipulated an interim wastewater conveyance and treatment agreement between Triview, Colorado Springs Utilities (CSU), and Donala Water and Sanitation District. See related Donala article on page 21.

McGrady spelled out the logic behind the agreement, which allows CSU to construct a temporary pipeline and lift station to the Donala lift station, which will pump CSU's wastewater to the Upper Monument Creek Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility (UMCRWWTF) using an estimated 1 million gallons of Triview's excess capacity. Triview is a one-third partner-owner of the treatment facility with Donala and Forest Lakes Metropolitan District.

The gesture prevents CSU from having to build its temporary pipeline through endangered Preble's jumping mouse habitat which would require a lengthy National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process and

expedites the construction of the U.S. Air Force Academy's Visitors Center. The temporary pipeline gives the AFAVC the ability to proceed with construction while the potential wastewater regionalization project called the North Monument Creek Interceptor (NMCI) completes its two- to three-year NEPA study. Once complete, the NMCI would provide wastewater services to the AFAVC, thus the temporary status of the pipeline and treatment by the UMCRRWWTF.

McGrady requested that directors authorize him to sign the agreement if it is not substantially changed by Donala or CSU. He expressed confidence that the NMCI would be built and, if not, Triview would give a one-year notification to CSU to find another alternative.

"We believe this is the neighborly thing to do," stated McGrady.

**Meetings return to Tuesday evenings**

Personal obligations for two directors caused the board to revisit the evening on which board meetings are held. The board voted to switch the meeting night to the third Tuesday of the month for the remainder of 2020.

At 6:46 p.m., the board entered executive session §24-6-402(4)(b)(e) legal advice, negotiations. The board did not take actions or make decisions following the executive session.

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The next Triview board meeting is scheduled for 5:30 p.m. July 21. Check the district's event calendar at <https://triviewmetro.com/home> or call 488-6868 for meeting schedule updates and to confirm if the meeting will be in-person or via conference call. In-person board meetings are held at the district office, 16055 Old Forest Point, Suite 300, Monument. See also "Triview Metropolitan District" on Facebook or [Twitter.com/TriviewMetro](https://twitter.com/TriviewMetro).

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**Donala Water and Sanitation District, June 18**

**Water and wastewater solutions working smoothly**

*By Jennifer Kaylor*

Newly appointed President Ed Houle took the helm of the June 18 Donala Water and Sanitation District Board of Directors meeting. General Manager Jeff Hodge and Superintendent of Water Operations Mark Parker provided operational status updates.

**District wells and water plants meet increased water demand**

Parker reported that water demands increased substantially from April to May—16.9 million gallons to 36.6 million gallons, respectively. The district's renewable water source, Willow Creek Ranch, supplied 45% of the May consumption, and the remaining 55% came from Donala's wells. Parker projected a total water consumption of about 42 million gallons for June, basing his estimation on the 21.1 million gallons used from June 1 to the date of the board meeting.

Wells and water plants that had minor malfunctions in May were primarily returned to functional status, stated Parker. The R. Hull plant—although awaiting a part that would enable the plant to return to full capacity—met the increased demand due to the round-the-clock efforts of the plant operators. Parker expected the necessary part to arrive in a day or two. With the combined work of the Holbein and R. Hull Plants, he expressed confidence in meeting the 2020 summer water needs. Well four received its requisite repairs and was up and running. Well seven remained out of service. The district is waiting for the well to be assessed by Donala's contracted engineer who was unavailable for a quick response due to COVID-19-related emergencies.

**Arsenic disposal concerns diminish**

Although the residual management facility—a structure designed to convert liquid waste, the byproduct of treated well water, into solid waste—is unfinished, the district's temporary solution for reducing the arsenic discharge into Monument Creek achieved success. Instead of sending waste from treated well water to the Upper Monument Creek Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility (UMCRWWTF), the district collected and held the liquid waste in an onsite holding tank that was built as part of the facility's infrastructure. Upon completion of the residual management facility, the stored waste will be processed and made viable for hauling to an appropriate landfill for disposal. *For more information about the residual management facility, see the Donala's May OCN article at <https://www.ocn.me/v20n6.htm#dwsd>.*

The district initiated the new procedure June 15, and Donala's following arsenic discharge readings at

the UMCRRWWTF measured at zero. Parker confirmed that wastewater treatment facility partner Triview Metropolitan District supports the reduced arsenic discharge goal with low arsenic levels in its influent flows sent from its infrastructure to the wastewater treatment facility. The third and final UMCRRWWTF partner, Forest Lakes Metropolitan District, draws only surface water and, therefore, does not contribute any arsenic with its influent wastewater flows.

The main component of the residual management facility, a press, was expected to arrive at the district by July 2. Parker estimated that the press could be installed, plumbed, and operational by July 15 if the shipping date held firm. Hodge commented that final permitting steps for hauling the solid arsenic waste had been obtained but a letter of credit or surety bond had yet to be accomplished.

**Regionalization and temporary pipeline collaboration discussed**

Six northern El Paso County wastewater districts, including Donala, are cooperating with Colorado Springs Utilities (CSU) in a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) study to determine the feasibility and environmental impacts of building a regional wastewater pipeline called the North Monument Creek Interceptor (NMCI). This pipeline would transport wastewater flows from the six Tri-Lakes wastewater districts to the J. D. Phillips Water Resource Recovery Facility in Colorado Springs for treatment.

Hodge expressed gratitude for the solid relationship established with CSU as well as CSU's careful and thorough pace in conducting research on the NMCI. The speed of progress on the NEPA study would likely accelerate once COVID-19 concerns have abated, he said, and more detailed progress updates would be available.

Later in the meeting, Parker responded to questions regarding a related topic: possible construction of a temporary pipeline from the UMCRRWWTF to the U.S. Air Force Academy Visitors Center (AFAVC). It is expected that the AFAVC will connect to the NMCI when the regional pipeline is constructed, but the slow nature of the NEPA study and construction could delay wastewater services to the AFAVC by five years or longer. The temporary connection to the UMCRRWWTF would provide wastewater treatment capability to the visitors' center sooner. For more information, see <https://www.ocn.me/v20n4.htm#tvmd> and the Triview article on page 20.

Parker acknowledged that many technical concerns and questions needed to be addressed. Although the idea originated as an offer of excess capacity from

Triview to the AFAVC, Hodge expressed a willingness to explore the opportunity and possibly keep the cost and revenue tracking contained in Donala's in-house accounting procedures. Donala is the administrator for the UMCRRWWTF.



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