

turing this water is being discussed.

To solve this problem, a CSU-owned water tank at Highway 83 and Northgate Boulevard will connect to a pipeline that runs to Old Denver Highway. This creates interconnectivity with the town and other entities.

Tharnish also discussed water projects including the radium issue with Well 9. Ninety percent of the design of the filtration system is complete and is their highest priority. He expects to have a construction contract to the board in early 2021 with completion in August next year.

In the meantime, Well 3 had a pump and motor failure. Upon inspection, the team found a hole in the pipe that also requires repair. This well provides about 10% of the town's water. The cost for replacement and repair is \$95,000. Funds will come from the Water Enterprise Contingency Fund.

Tharnish said Well 8 also requires emergency repairs due to a pump failure. This well provides 20% of the town's water supply, and the cost to repair it could be as high as \$95,000 because of the extreme well depth. Public Works will ask residents to decrease their water needs for the next few weeks. The town will also reduce park and cemetery irrigation.

All of these requests were approved unanimously.

**Jackson Creek Parkway widening**

Town Manager Mike Foreman told the board the town's portion of the Jackson Creek Parkway widening project is moving forward. The segment of Jackson Creek Parkway from Higby Road to Highway 105 is owned by the town.

Triview Metropolitan District completed a widening project that spans from Baptist Road to Higby Road, converting the thoroughfare into a four-lane divided roadway.

The design phase of the project will be largely paid for by the Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments (PPACG), which is providing \$800,000 for the project with a 20% required match from the town.

The total cost to design and construct the road is estimated at about \$10 million, and the town is concerned about a shortfall of money. "We expect developer participation and additional PPACG funding, but we still forecast a shortfall in funding," said Foreman.

**Project updates veterans' memorial**

Michael Carlson proposed a Boy Scout Eagle project for the Monument Cemetery. Carlson's father is a

Vietnam veteran. The project would be complete in September with a planned ceremony on Oct. 3. Carlson has raised most of the \$40,000 required to build the memorial.

**Town manager's report**

- CARES Act checks will be going out to 30 local businesses starting next week.
- The board, town manager, attorney, and clerk attended a two-day retreat and training on June 26 and 27.

The meeting adjourned at 8:28 pm.

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The Monument Board of Trustees usually meets at 6:30 p.m. on the first and third Mondays of each month at Monument Town Hall, 645 Beacon Lite Road. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Aug. 3 Call 719-884-8014 or see [www.townofmonument.org](http://www.townofmonument.org) for information. To see upcoming agendas and complete board packets for BOT or to download audio recordings of past meetings, see <http://monumenttownco.minutesondemand.com> and click on Board of Trustees.

Allison Robenstein can be reached at [allisonrobenstein@ocn.me](mailto:allisonrobenstein@ocn.me).

**Palmer Lake Board of Trustees, July 9 and 23**

**Increased use of lake brings headaches for town**



**Above:** On July 2, Tri-Lakes area residents and others took advantage of the warm weather to get an early start on the Fourth of July weekend. The lake at Palmer Lake was teeming with fishermen, kayakers, paddleboarders, and those just enjoying a relaxing time along the beach and at the nearby playground. *Photo by David Futey.*

*By James Howald and Jackie Burhans*

The Palmer Lake Board of Trustees met twice in July: on July 9 and 23. The meetings were held in person at the Palmer Lake Town Hall.

In both meetings, issues and concerns arising from the high numbers of people visiting the lake took center stage. The board also considered requests for two special event permits and a vacation of a right of way. The board discussed how an ordinance concerning odor enforcement should be worded and enforced, and how an ordinance governing sexually oriented businesses should be written. A resolution permitting the town to set up an electronic sign was approved, and a business license was granted. A resolution to define criteria for lighting the town star was approved.

**Trustees ponder how to manage crowds at lake**

At the July 9 meeting, Interim Town Manager Bob Radosevich kicked off a lengthy discussion of how to manage the increased number of visitors to the lake. Radosevich mentioned trash, overcrowded parking, destruction of wildlife habitat, unattended campfires, and vandalism of the restroom facilities in his remarks. The restroom had to be closed to prevent vandalism, Radosevich said, adding that although porta potties were provided, some visitors to the lake refused to use them.

Radosevich suggested the Board of Trustees might consider requiring permits, fees, or banning watercraft at the lake altogether to reduce the number of visitors.

Trustee Glant Havenar told the board that in her experience asking visitors to obey the rules was not effective: "They flip us off and walk away." She also mentioned that abandoned fishing line, fishing hooks, and bait caused problems.

At the July 9 meeting, Mayor John Cressman expressed concerns about water quality in the lake.

Also at the July 9 meeting, Reid Wiecks, speaking on behalf of the town's Parks Commission, mentioned that the commission had previously drafted a resolution closing the lake to all boats, but that resolution had not gone forward. Managing the lake was

complicated, Wiecks pointed out, by the fact that El Paso County is responsible for the parking lot, the restroom, and the Santa Fe Trail that leads to the lake.

Cressman wrapped up the discussion of the issue at the July 9 meeting by saying he wanted to see more police enforcement at the lake, and that he wanted to get input from the town's restaurant operators about what rule changes might mean to their business.

At the July 23 meeting, Cressman said the water quality in the lake had been tested, and the coliform measurement was low, indicating acceptable water quality.

Trustee Mark Schuler asked if the use of the lake could be restricted to town residents. Town Attorney Matthew Krob said he would look into that. Havenar pointed out that the Colorado Department of Wildlife stocked the lake with fish, and that she believed that the number of agencies responsible for different aspects of the lake complicated any effort to restrict its use to residents only.

At the July 23 meeting, Parks Commission member Alicia Gaddi told the board that the water level in the lake is down 8 feet since last year, and for that reason the aerator had not been turned on. She said the commission had painted the pavilion and put on a new roof.

At the same meeting, Trustee Paul Banta said that the town would have to develop strategies to manage the lake that are "unpopular but effective." Banta has frequently argued in favor of limiting growth in the town and keeping it a small quiet town.

**Board votes on special event permits**

The board heard two requests for special event permits: the first from April Fullman on behalf of the Awake the Lake Committee and the second from Pat Lawcourt of Pikes Peak Roadrunners.

Fullman told the board her event was called the TRYathlon, that it had been held the previous year, and was a fundraiser for Awake the Lake. The event consists of a trip across the lake in an inner tube, a short run, and a short bike ride to the playground by the lake. The event had been re-thought in light of COVID-19 restrictions, she said.

Trustees Patricia Mettler and Susan Miner both

expressed concern about any event that encouraged crowds being held due to concerns about COVID-19. Trustee Bob Mutu spoke in favor of holding the event.

In the discussion of the event, it became clear that if 70 people participated and there were others at the lake not participating, the total number of people would exceed the recommendations for event size. Town resident Matt Stephen suggested that the lake be closed while the event was underway.

Following the discussion, Trustees Schuler and Mutu voted to hold the event, and Trustees Banta, Havenar, Miner, and Mettler voted no. Cressman also voted no. The permit was not approved.

Lawcourt told the board that her running event, called the Two Shoes Trek Challenge, was designed to be completely virtual—there would be no course marshals, no volunteers, and no aid stations. Runners who signed up for the event could run the course at



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**Val Ross-Coy**  
Broker Associate  
(719) 237-8787  
[vroyc@erashields.com](mailto:vroyc@erashields.com)  
[val.erashields.com](http://val.erashields.com)

