

complete by September's end.

A-Yard building nears punch-list status

After discussing the newly installed landscape enhancements and a planned retaining wall at the juncture of Leather Chaps Drive and Baptist Road, Rayno updated directors about the A-Yard building's progress. Current activities were tapping and mudding drywall

and installing electrical fixtures with the anticipation that the building would have power by the end of September. Next steps included adding plumbing fixtures and painting.

A higher-than-expected asphalt cost precluded the district from paving the A-Yard parking lot in 2021, stated McGrady, but recycled asphalt would be spread in parking areas

until paving could be completed in 2022. He further explained the tremendous importance of the A-Yard building in providing a safe and warm place to repair equipment because "crews have been fixing trucks in the mud for years" and confirmed that the building is coming along nicely, with mainly "punch-list stuff that needs to be completed." Expressing a desire

to show the new building, McGrady anticipated that the November Board of Directors' meeting would be conducted in the A-Yard building.

Triview board meetings are generally held on the third Thursday of the month at 5:30 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Oct. 21. The district office is located at 16055 Old Forest

Point, Suite 302. Check the district's website, <https://triviewmetro.com/>, or call 488-6868 for meeting updates and to confirm if the meeting will be in person or online/teleconference. See also "Triview Metropolitan District" on Facebook or [Twitter.com/@TriviewMetro](https://twitter.com/TriviewMetro).

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Donala Water and Sanitation District, Sept. 23

Special meeting to answer radium questions; grant for aquifer storage study

By James Howald and Jackie Burhans

The Donala Water and Sanitation District (DWSD) board canceled its regular meeting and instead held a special meeting on Sept. 23 to include a radium informational session to answer community concerns. The board also learned that it was awarded a grant to collaborate with Triview Metropolitan District (Triview) on an Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) pilot project.

Radium informational session

Board President Ed Houle noted that there were representatives from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE), and both LRE Water (LRE) and GMS consulting firms available to answer questions and concerns.

Houle said that board members live in the district with their families and are committed to delivering the best possible water and to transparency. District Manager Jeff Hodge said the dis-

trict staff are water professionals who remove solids out of water, starting with bacteria and now including radionuclides. Hodge said that Office Manager Tanja Smith, Christina Hawker, and Victoria Clark-Powell have fielded 90% of customer calls and concerns about radium.

Hodge explained that the district is high on a mesa, and groundwater is harvested from solid rock 1,000 to 1,500 feet deep in aquifers that are millions of years old. Wells introduce air into the aquifer, which speeds up the process of releasing radionuclides. The district's Holbein Plant recently measured 6.7 picocuries per liter (pCi/L), which exceeds the CDPHE maximum. Only the Holbein Plant exceeds the limit, and its water is primarily used in the summer for watering. The sampling was taken at the plant before it goes into the tank and is mixed and then sent out to customers. Samples were also taken recently at the street outside of some homes; the results

should be back by the week of Sept. 27 and will be posted on the web.

Hodge noted that the physical plant removes some solids using manganese and that the staff is meeting with consultants to determine the blend of well water from both of its plants and the surface water it owns to make the best water for residents. DWSD owns water rights from a 700-acre ranch it purchased in Leadville. Surface water comes from snow melt that contains no radium. The water flows down to Pueblo and then is sent up to DWSD via the Southern Delivery System. The district pays Colo-

rado Springs Utilities (CSU) to treat, convey, and deliver the water it owns.

Hodge said that, since DWSD has exceeded this rolling annual average, the state gives them five years to comply. The board takes this situation seriously and sent out letters that committed to a two-year timeframe, he said. Although it does take time to address, he said the numbers are dropping, and hopefully the district will have the numbers below the limit much sooner.

During the question-and-answer portion, the following points were made:

- The skin does not absorb radium, so bath-

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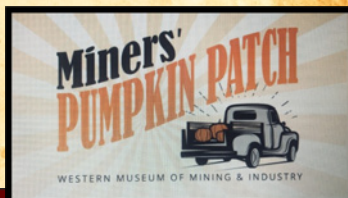
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