

ahead from the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway for the survey work to begin for the bore project under Station 1.

- Each participant in the TOM's pipeline project is required to pay for its own site survey.
- The bore is estimated to cost about \$50,000 in addition to the survey fee.
- The district will eventually move from well water and be connected to the Town of Monument

for its water supply at Station 1. See www.ocn.me/v21n7.htm#tlfmfpd.

The board approved up to \$25,000 for the survey work to be completed for Station 1, 4-0.

The special meeting adjourned at 9:05 a.m.

Meetings are usually held on the fourth Wednesday of the month. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, Nov. 17 at 6:30 p.m. at TLMFPD Station 1,

18650 Highway 105. For Zoom meeting instructions, agendas, minutes, and updates, visit www.tlfire.org or contact Director of Administration Jennifer Martin at 719-484-9011.

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Woodmoor Water and Sanitation District, Oct. 10

Irrigation water policy examined

By James Howald

At its October meeting, the Woodmoor Water and Sanitation District (WWSD) board considered a request from the Village Center Metropolitan District (VCMD) to change its policy on delivering non-potable water used for irrigation. The board also scheduled a workshop and public hearings on the 2022 budget and on changes to rates and fees, and rescheduled its November board meeting. Finally, the board heard operational reports.

Change to irrigation water schedule requested

Forrest Hindley, president of the VCMD, asked the board to consider a different method for calculating the allotment of non-potable water VCMD receives.

WWSD calculates VCMD's irrigation water allotment based on Grass Irrigation Demand (GID), a standard that calculates the water required to irrigate Kentucky bluegrass. WWSD uses three blocks to price irrigation water:

- Block 1, which covers 0 to 80% of GID, is sufficient to maintain healthy green grass, and costs \$3.55 per irrigated acre.
- Block 2, which covers 80 to 100% of GID, is sufficient to maintain grass in its greenest possible state and costs \$5.54 per irrigated acre.
- Block 3, which covers more than 100% of MGID, is essentially wasted, and costs \$9.68 per irrigated acre.

Hindley pointed out that VCMD's Block 1 allocation for August was too low, moving VCMD's usage for August into the more expensive blocks. Hindley said the allotment for August assumed that it was typically a rainy month, when in fact that has not been the case since 2014, according to his research. Hindley asked the board to consider averaging VCMD's usage over June, July, and August to allow more of its usage to be billed as less-expensive Block 1 water.

District Manager Jessie Shaffer said that originally VCMD qualified for WWSD's more-expensive Modified Grass Irrigation Demand (MGID) standard based on the number of acres it irrigated. Due to VCMD's expansion of irrigated acres, on May 1 WWSD determined VCMD qualified for WWSD's GID standard, and water based on that standard is less expensive, Shaffer said. WWSD discussed Hindley's conclusion about monthly rainfall amounts with BBA, its consultants, who explained GID was based on long-term numbers, on other factors such as hours of sunlight, altitude, and climate, and on a technical measure called the Blaney-Criddle Equation that calculates evaporation. Shaffer said granting Hindley's request would undermine the carefully developed GID structure WWSD had put in place and could potentially affect billing for other customers of irrigation water.

Board President Brian Bush said the decision before the board was whether to redesign its GID policy in conjunction with BBA or leave the current policy in place. Bush pointed out that the development of the

GID structure was a considerable benefit to the district's irrigation water customers. Shaffer added the current method promoted conservation. Shaffer also pointed out that VCMD planted fescue grass, which requires less water than Kentucky bluegrass, so the current standard used by WWSD was already supplying more water than VCMD needs.

The consensus of the board was to leave the current policy in place.

Budget workshop scheduled

The board scheduled a workshop meeting on the 2022 budget for Nov. 1 at 8 a.m.

November board meeting rescheduled

The board rescheduled its November meeting from Nov. 8 to Nov. 15 to allow Raftelis, the district's financial consulting company, more time to develop rate changes.

Hearings on 2022 budget and fees scheduled

The board decided to hold two public hearings—the first on the 2022 budget and the second on rates and fees for 2022—during its board meeting on Dec. 13 at 1 p.m.

Highlights of operational reports

- Woodmoor Ranch is wrapping up its summer operations, and the Chilcott Ditch has been shut down for the year.
- Both re-use studies—the Colorado Springs Utilities re-use study and "The Loop"—are proceeding on schedule and on budget.
- Colorado is getting higher-than-expected tax revenue from online betting, and some of that revenue is earmarked for water projects in 2022.
- The Central Water Treatment Plant (CWTP) is still operating at a reduced capacity as its upgrades are completed.
- A lightning strike damaged a sewer service lift station.
- The schedules for upgrades to the CWTP and for the construction of the Lake Pump Station are tightly coupled and the CWTP will soon be shut down entirely to allow the contractor to complete its upgrades.
- Woodmoor Lake should begin to be refilled by the end of the year and should be 66% refilled by June 2022.
- The water tank re-painting project is substantially complete.

The next meeting is scheduled for Nov. 15 at 1 p.m. Meetings are usually held on the second Monday of each month at 1 p.m., but the November meeting was delayed to allow consultants additional time to work on rates for 2022. Meetings are held at the district office at 1845 Woodmoor Drive; please see www.woodmoorwater.com or call 488-2525 to verify meeting times and locations.

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Tri-Lakes Wastewater Treatment Facility Joint Use Committee, Oct. 12

Master plan update scheduled for 2022

By Lisa Hatfield

The Tri-Lakes Wastewater Treatment Facility (TLW-WTF) Joint Use Committee (JUC) met on Oct. 12 to discuss the first draft of the 2022 budget and decided to update its existing engineering master plan to help with future capital decision-making.

TLW-WTF is owned in equal one-third shares by Monument Sanitation District (MSD), Palmer Lake Sanitation District (PLSD), and Woodmoor Water and Sanitation District (WWSD).

The three-member JUC acts as the board of the facility and consists of one director from each of the three owner districts' boards: PLSD board member Reid Wiecks, JUC president; MSD board Treasurer

John Howe, JUC vice president; and WWSD board Secretary/Treasurer William Clewe, JUC secretary/treasurer.

WWSD Manager Jessie Shaffer suggested that Facility Manager Bill Burks add a line item to the 2022 budget for an update to the facilities engineering master plan. The board consensus was to take a holistic view of treating phosphorus and nitrogen nutrients to maintain compliance with Colorado Regulation 85 and Colorado Regulation 31, and also consider Technologically Enhanced Naturally Occurring Radioactive Materials (TENORM) and Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS).

Shaffer said the impetus for his suggestion was

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