

Board plans future of non-potable water service

Non-potable water, sometimes called raw water, is not treated before it is delivered to customers and is typically used for irrigating greenspaces and athletic fields. In WWSD it is delivered through dedicated pipelines. WWSD charges lower rates for non-potable water than it does for treated water that is safe for human consumption.

District Manager Jessie Shaffer explained to the board that at present WWSD has two customers for non-potable water: Village Center, a residential development at the northeast corner of Highway 105 and Knollwood Drive, and Lewis-Palmer High School (LPHS). Shaffer said other customers have expressed an interest in switching to non-potable water for irrigation.

Shaffer summed up the district's policy on non-potable water by saying if a customer can use it, and the customer is located close to the non-potable pipelines, the district will provide it to that customer, but the district will not build additional infrastructure to make it available to all who might want it. Some customers are planning together to share the cost of new pipelines to deliver non-potable water, he said.

Shaffer said the district's policies for non-potable water are based on the amount of undeveloped land in the district years ago. It was anticipated these estimates and policies would be re-examined when pumping stations were upgraded. Shaffer emphasized the issue before the board was pump design and capacity and said the existing non-potable pipelines were adequately sized for the anticipated demand.

Richard Hood, of JVA Consulting, pointed out that how the district chooses to proceed on the issue of non-potable water will impact the specifications for the pumps at the Central Water Treatment Plant (CWTP) and the South Water Treatment Plant (SWTP). He outlined three scenarios for the water treatment plants:

- The district continues to provide 400 gallons per minute (gpm) of non-potable water through only the SWTP at a capital cost of \$132,700.
- The district provides 700 gpm through the SWTP and 400 gpm through the CWTP at a capital cost of \$152,375.
- The district provides 800 gpm through the SWTP and 300 gpm through the CWTP at a capital cost of \$158,000

The first scenario would not allow for any new customers, Hood said. The second scenario could support more than six new customers for non-potable water, and the third scenario could support more than eight new customers. All three scenarios would involve changes to the pumps at the treatment plants, according to Hood.

Shaffer and Hood recommended the board use scenario two for planning purposes. Shaffer also asked the board to consider adding policy limitations on non-potable water service to allow more customers to use it,

suggesting a 50 gpm per customer limit on non-potable use. Board President Brian Bush pointed out that WWSD could also manage use by other methods such as imposing schedules for use of non-potable water use to keep demand within capacity.

Shaffer said WWSD had discussed with Lewis-Palmer School District 38 (LPSD38) the possibility of the school district moving to non-potable water for the fields at LPMS, but the cost to the school district had ended the discussion. The school district would have to pay for booster pumps to run their sprinklers on non-potable water, Shaffer said.

Bush proposed, with the support of the other board members, that scenario two be used as a basis for planning at the water treatment plants.

Pumping capacity considered

Hood outlined for the board issues related to pump capacity at the LPS, highlighting the relationship between the district's non-potable water strategy and pump capacity issues at the LPS. Upgrading the LPS is one of the capital improvement projects the district currently has under way.

At present, Hood said, the LPS has two pumps, both of which supply the SWTP. Planned upgrades will increase the number of pumps at the LPS to six: three supplying the SWTP, two supplying the CWTP, and one swing pump that can supply either of the treatment plants. These changes improve redundancy and reliability. Currently there is a pipeline that conveys non-potable water from Woodmoor Lake to the SWTP and some customers receive non-potable water from that pipeline, Hood said.

Hood said JVA had planned pump capacity based on estimates of future non-potable water demands provided by Shaffer. Hood focused on the CWTP and presented two scenarios for that treatment plant:

- No future non-potable water delivered by the CWTP.
- 300 gpm of non-potable water delivered by the CWTP.

Shaffer said the big policy question is the likelihood that LPSD38 will want to move to non-potable water for all its fields, not just those at LPHS. If they did so, the school district would save money on water and WWSD would save costs at their water treatment plants, he said.

Bush said he saw two approaches to the issue of non-potable water: rates for potable water increase and motivate customers who are irrigating with potable water to switch to cheaper non-potable water, or the board decides to require all irrigation to be done with non-potable water to preserve water processing capability. He argued in favor of adding the ability to convey non-potable water to the CWTP, because WWSD could design in the flexibility now to increase non-potable water service at a future time at a low cost.

The board concurred with Bush that the ability to convey non-potable water should be added at the CWTP

to prepare for future customers of non-potable water to be served from that plant.

Board passes resolution regarding land purchase

At a previous meeting, the board approved the purchase of a small piece of land adjacent to LPMS. Shaffer told the board the title company used to complete the transaction had asked for a formal resolution approving the purchase be voted on by the board.

The board voted unanimously to pass the requested resolution.

Insurance dividend distributed to employees

Shaffer told the board that due to fewer insurance claims filed by WWSD employees in the previous year, the district had received a dividend from the Colorado Employer Benefit Trust, the public institution that provides employee benefits such as health insurance to WWSD employees, amounting to \$585 per employee. The cost of the benefits is paid by employees, Shaffer said. He asked the board for direction on what to do with the dividend.

The board voted unanimously to distribute the dividend back to the district's employees.

The next meeting is scheduled for Feb. 8 at 1 p.m. Meetings are usually held on the second Monday of each month at 1 p.m. Meetings are currently held at the Woodmoor Barn Community Center rather than the district office; please see www.woodmoorwater.com or call 488-2525 to verify meeting times and locations.

James Howald can be reached at jameshowald@ocn.me.

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

What regulations will be coming down the pipe?

By Lisa Hatfield

The Tri-Lakes Wastewater Treatment Facility (TLWWTF) Joint Use Committee (JUC) met on Jan. 12 to review facility operations and discuss possible new regulations by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE).

TLWWTF 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: WWSD board Director Lee Hanson, JUC president; PLSD board member Reid Wiecks, JUC vice president; and MSD Treasurer John Howe, JUC secretary/treasurer. The meeting was held at TLWWTF, with several in attendance in person while others attended via Zoom.

Plant manager report

Facility Manager Bill Burks' comments included:

- The new \$23,500 ultraviolet disinfection propane backup electric generator was installed.
- He sent a copy of the 2021 TLWWTF annual budget to the Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA).
- The plant continues to discharge effluent that is well within specific state-permit limits for specific effluent constituent nutrients, metals, suspended solids, pH, and E. coli.
- TLWWTF continues to perform additional regular baseline samples of influent, effluent, and three locations upstream and downstream of the facility's discharge pipe on Monument Creek for other met-

als and nutrients not listed on the facility's state discharge permit.

- Congratulations to recently hired operator Doug Johnson for passing his Class D state wastewater certification for TLWWTF, the first permit a new operator can obtain from the CDPHE.

Stakeholder updates

Burks said the Jan. 5 Arkansas River/ Fountain Creek Coalition for Urban/Rural River Evaluation (AF CURE) meeting discussion included:

- Concern about anticipated decisions on Colorado state Regulation 31 (Basic Standards and Methodologies for Surface Water) proposals at the February meeting of Colorado Water Quality Control Commission (WQCC), as proposed by this department's Colorado Water Quality Control Division (WQCD).
 - AF CURE's ongoing multi-year wastewater nutrients modeling project looking ahead to having accurate data for several years before regulation compliance decisions at future WQCC meetings.
 - TLWWTF's multi-year periphyton sampling result for December was much better than state and EPA water quality maximum concentration limits.
- MSD Environmental Compliance Coordinator Jim Kendrick reported on the Dec. 9 statewide Colorado Wastewater Utility Council meeting, including:
- CDPHE WQCD Acting Division Head Nicole Rowan said the division would have trouble implementing new per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) regulations due to severe budget and staffing shortages.
 - PFAS include over 4,700 environmentally persis-

Specializing in Residential Cleaning *A Gift of Time*

Overwhelmed? Want your home spic and span?

Call Stacy today!
(719) 930-2178
www.agiftotime.us

Weekly • Bi-weekly • Monthly • Move-outs • Move-ins.



OFFICE SPACE AVAILABLE AT THE BARN AT WOODMOOR

- Office 9: 149 sq ft 13'x11' \$275/mo
- Office 8: 188 sq ft 17'x11' \$350/mo
- Office 7: 172 sq ft 15.5'x11' \$400/mo with exterior entrance/exit.
- Office 10: Approx. 400 sq ft 30'x15' \$650/mo with a separate interior and rear building entrance/exit.

Quiet professional spaces, perfect locale with tenant/customer parking. Ideal for telework, flexible workspace or small business. Minimum one year lease or at the option of lessor. Tenant public liability insurance coverage required for lease term. Gas, water, and electric included in lease price. Access to restroom and kitchenette available. Please contact WIA at 719-488-2693, Amber at ext 6 or Denise ext 5.

FACINELLI MOTORS

\$3 OFF Oil Change
\$10 OFF \$100 Service
Good through 2/28/21.

We are here for our loyal customers taking precautionary steps to keep everyone healthy! We are offering no contact payments over the phone and sterilizing all cars before repairs.

QUALITY AUTO REPAIR
SUBARU • HONDA • TOYOTA
CALL TODAY 488-6729
706 Westward Lane
Palmer Lake

