

### 2020 financial audit nears conclusion

Reporting that auditors had substantially completed their field work, McLeod acknowledged that the audit would not be finalized until Triview's August meeting. She confirmed that auditors did not find any material weaknesses or inefficiencies, had no disagreements with management, and there were no new or unusual accounting policies. Haynie and Co. planned to issue an unmodified decision on the financial statements, and the 2020 audit report would look similar to the 2019 audit report.

Financial highlights included year-over-year growth in total assets, largely due to acquisition of capital such as the Stonewall Springs Reservoir Complex. The net cash position was increasing, with similar trends in the revenue and expense statements, which reflects the financial health of the district.

The directors voted to approve the audit.

### Water expansion plans advance

Three of District Manager Jim McGrady's action items related in some way to the district's long-term water plan to expand and diversify water resources. Adding to the district's growing number of renewable water rights, he presented a purchase agreement for the Bale Ditch surface water rights on the South Arkansas River.

Cummins explained that the water rights had an expected annual yield of 72 to 102 acre-feet with an estimated cost of \$8,500 per acre-foot and added that it was a good value in the field for unchanged water rights of this scope. The Bale Ditch location provides the advantage of water flowing directly into the district's water storage account with the federal Bureau of Reclamation at the Pueblo Reservoir—once the contract is finalized—without having to meet exchange conditions on the Arkansas River. He explained that when the Bale Ditch rights are "in priority" water is taken in real time and not stored, which makes storage space available for other entities.

Another action item, Resolution 2021-07, provided approval and authorization for the district manager to sign the contract with the Bureau of Reclamation for long-term water storage at the Pueblo Reservoir. Steady progress has been achieved on this storage agreement over the past several months, and McGrady received confirmation that the bureau would likely complete the contract in mid-August. McGrady explained that the mandatory step of an environmental assessment was near completion after which a 45- to 60-day public comment period would ensue. With his original goal of having a storage contract by July or August, the added public comment interval pushes finalization of a water storage agreement to October. The resolution simply ensures that the district will be able to sign the contract and pay the fees as expeditiously as possible.

A third item pertained to a three-year water lease extension with Fontana Enterprises Inc. The opera-

tors of World Golf and Sand Creek Golf Club lease Triview's Fountain Mutual Irrigation Co. water to irrigate its south Colorado Springs facilities. McGrady and Cummins concurred that this final lease fit within the district's goals, but Fontana would need to find another water source after the three-year term.

The board approved all action items.

### Additional actions and updates

- Native Sun, the contractor hired by Triview to conduct the bore project under I-25, was unable to find 16-inch PVC pipe that could be available to suit the critical timing of the project. McGrady informed the board that 16-inch ductile iron pipe would be substituted. This section of pipe, called Segment D of the Northern Delivery System, extends from Jackson Creek Parkway under I-25 to just east of the Santa Fe Trail.
- Due to the district's growth and consequent projects, directors approved Resolution 2021-08 to implement an overtime reimbursement policy for utility inspections.
- Directors approved the purchase of a three-quarter-ton, four-door truck to replace a non-functional truck in its snow fleet. The replacement cost was unbudgeted, but staff and directors considered the \$40,000 municipal price to be fair and the new truck would provide more versatility beyond its snow plowing use.
- Parks and Open Space Superintendent Matt Rayno reported that the A-yard building is receiving its final application of stucco and anticipated that personnel would be able to occupy the building in mid- to late-August.
- The presence of a public works mechanic and the addition of a new lawn mower greatly improved landscape crew efficiencies, reported

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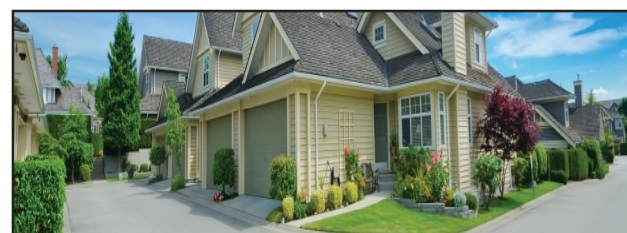
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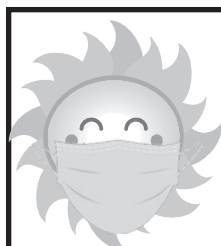
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