

vice, rather than just one remaining district operating the plant.

- The most prudent economical approach would be to close the UMCWTF and have CSU process the wastewater.
- A smaller pipeline than originally proposed would come up to the plant from CSU and just take wastewater for TMD and FLMD. DWSD uses a different area of the UMCWTF plant to process wastewater.
- An independent consultant will be selected to conduct a feasibility study that will clearly show that the NMCI pipeline is the most economical way to

proceed.

- The final analysis between the two approaches will need to be made by an independent consulting firm. A consultant will be selected at the UMCWTF Joint Operation Meeting on Oct. 15.
  - The design of the pipeline is expected to be completed in late summer or early fall 2023, and then the district will know the final cost.
- The board approved the \$90,000 for the design, 3-0. Board President George Lenz thanked Nichols for keeping the process going. The board also approved 3-0, for the FLMD and

PPMD 2 and 3 minutes for the “special meetings” held on July 11 and 28.

The meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

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Meetings are usually held quarterly on the first Monday of the month at 4 p.m. Until further notice, meetings will be held via teleconference due to COVID-19 distancing protocols. Meeting notices are posted at <https://forest-lakesmetrodistrict.com>. For general questions, contact Ann Nichols at 719-327-5810, [anicholsduffy@aol.com](mailto:anicholsduffy@aol.com).

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### Woodmoor Water and Sanitation District, Sept. 12

## Long-range plan turns away from additional wells

By James Howald

The Woodmoor Water and Sanitation District (WWSD) board met on Sept. 12 to hear presentations from consultants who have been helping the district revise its long-range plan. It voted on a resolution setting fees for irregular or unique structures, and it heard operational reports.

### Wells to play lesser role in long-range plan

Dan Niemela and Rachel Frei, both representing BBA Water Consultants Inc., and Richard Hood, project manager at JVA Consulting Engineers, reported to the board on their work to update the district’s long-range plan, which is updated every five years. Their presentations addressed ground and surface water, conservation, water storage, and the role additional wells will play as the WWSD service area builds out.

Niemela told the board that some previous projections of water resources were too optimistic. Aquifer tests done by the state found more impact from wells than expected. The district’s long-range plan done in 2006 predicted a need for many wells. In 2011, the district purchased the Woodmoor Ranch (previously known as the JV Ranch) and acquired the ranch’s surface water rights, which currently make up the bulk of the district’s renewable surface water resources. Niemela said surface water from the ranch is enough to meet the district’s demand.

Niemela said drilling new wells was becoming prohibitively expensive and riskier, and existing wells were beginning to fail. Ten of the district’s wells that draw on the Denver Aquifer are beyond their expected usable life, and the district has already used the best well sites. Arapahoe wells provide the most economical water. Peak demand during warmer months tends to drive well drilling, he said, adding that drilling a well that is only needed for a few high-demand days each year is not economical.

The Arapahoe Aquifer is declining by 16 feet a year, Niemela said.

Hood focused on the district’s customers and told the board for planning purposes JVA was using Single Family Equivalent (SFE) as a standard for planning. The district’s single-family, multi-family, commercial, and school customers would be translated into this standard. The district currently has 4,358 SFEs, he said. The district should expect quite a bit of growth, Niemela said. Future development of the Wissler Ranch should be included in plans for growth.

District Manager Jessie Shaffer said the district planned for two eventualities: build out within the current legal boundaries and build out if adjacent properties, such as Wissler Ranch, request inclusion in the district. Hood said complete buildout within current boundaries would be 6,481 SFEs and buildout if nearby properties are included could be as high as 7,815 SFEs.

Hood said average water use per SFE is declining due to conservation. In 2006, SFE usage was 314 gallons per day; in 2022 it has declined to 272 gallons per day. He credited efficient appliances, waterwise irrigation, consumer awareness and tiered rates that charge heavy consumers a premium for the greater usage.

Both Hood and Shaffer said peak demand days were driving infrastructure planning. The peak day demand factor has declined slightly since 1997, they said.

Hood said the district would need additional storage capacity. He recommended planning for an additional storage tank in the northern part of the district.

Rachel Frei gave details about the district’s current and proposed wells. Well 20 was very productive, she said. Well 21 was also good, but Well 22, the district’s newest well, is producing 40% less water than expected.

Frei said the wells in the southern part of the district are more productive than models predicted. She recom-

mended two locations in the south for new wells.

Frei said the district does an excellent job with data collection, which enables better planning and delivery.

Niemela said the district should be thinking about local re-use projects that would reduce water loss and pumping costs. Those projects could provide the equivalent of three to five Arapahoe Aquifer wells, he said, but would require additional treatment at the district’s two treatment plants.

### Fees for unique structures set

The board unanimously passed a resolution setting fees for unique structures. This policy change resulted from a request from The Country Club at Woodmoor to connect two restrooms on their golf course to the district’s water and sewer service.

### Highlights of operational reports

- Operations Superintendent Dan LaFontaine reported one service line break and three service failures during the previous month.
- Woodmoor Lake is expected to be completely filled by May 2024.
- Well 19 is expected to be back in service soon, and Well 22 should be in production by summer 2023 after the construction of a pipeline to connect it to the Central Water Treatment Plant.
- The Monument Junction and Cloverleaf developments are moving forward, and water and sewer infrastructure is being built.

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The next meeting is scheduled for Oct. 10 at 9 a.m. Meetings are usually held on the second Monday of each month at 1 p.m. at the district office at 1845 Woodmoor Drive; please see [www.woodmoorwater.com](http://www.woodmoorwater.com) or call 719-488-2525 to verify meeting times and locations.

James Howald can be reached at [jameshowald@ocn.me](mailto:jameshowald@ocn.me).

### Tri-Lakes Wastewater Treatment Facility Joint Use Committee, Sept. 20

## 2023 budget planning begins; costs increasing

By Lisa Hatfield

The Tri-Lakes Wastewater Treatment Facility (TLWWTF) Joint Use Committee (JUC) met on Sept. 20 to review the 2023 budget draft, monthly discharge monitoring report, and Northern Monument Creek Interceptor (NMCI) project.

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: MSD board Treasurer Laura Kronick, JUC president; WWSD board Secretary William Clewe, JUC vice president; and PLSD board member Reid Wiecks, JUC secretary/treasurer.

### Budget draft presented

Bill Burks presented his first draft of the 2023 budget to the JUC members. His comments included:

- Sludge removal cost per dry ton has increased noticeably, and population growth means greater volume of sludge to be removed each year from the activated sludge lagoons.
- TLWWTF needs to increase biosolids testing from one to four times a year.
- Chemical costs are increasing.
- It’s difficult to find inventory to replace district vehicles.
- Cost of Living Adjustments (COLA) are approaching 8%.

The JUC made suggestions on several items to add to next month’s revised draft.

### Manager reports

MSD Manager Mark Parker said line cleaning has started, and he’s doing emergency sewer line repairs on a clay tile pipe on Raspberry Lane. The new Willow Springs lift station is well underway and might start up by January.

Jeff Halbrook said PLSD is upgrading from 12-inch to 18-inch sewer line all the way from Palmer Lake to TLWWTF.

**Note:** Multiple segments of the PLSD sanitary sewer lines are over capacity and areas may be running as much as 94 percent full, prompting a system-wide engineering review and this upgrade. See [www.ocn.me/v18n12.htm#plsd](http://www.ocn.me/v18n12.htm#plsd).

WWSD Manager Jessie Shaffer said builders are installing water and sewer infrastructure along Cloverleaf Road and along Jackson Creek Parkway south of Highway 105.

Burks presented the monthly discharge monitoring report (DMR), and all sampling results were well within required Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) discharge permit limits for TLWWTF and other baseline sampling.

### NMCI and other considerations

Burks’ additional comments included:

- It’s not clear which northern El Paso County sanitation districts plan to participate in NMCI. See [www.ocn.me/v22n8.htm#tvmd](http://www.ocn.me/v22n8.htm#tvmd) and [www.ocn.me/v22n8.htm#flmd](http://www.ocn.me/v22n8.htm#flmd).
- MSD, PLSD, and WWSD are not going to join NMCI but will stay with TLWWTF.
- Burks will write a letter to Donala Water and Sanitation District inviting it to use TLWWTF as a customer of MSD. Donala is co-owner of the Upper

Monument Creek Regional Waste Water Treatment Plant (UMCRWWTF). See [www.ocn.me/v22n8.htm#dwsd](http://www.ocn.me/v22n8.htm#dwsd).

- Changes to the Family and Medical Leave Act are complicated, and it’s hard to figure out how or whether special districts want to opt in or out.
- Five OCN representatives toured TLWWTF in September. He said they were impressed with how much is accomplished at the facility.
- JUC members should send him any updates to the master plan by the end of September.

MSD Environmental Compliance Coordinator Jim Kendrick summarized the deliberations and concerns of the September Colorado Water Quality Control Commission meeting.

Burks summarized items discussed at the Sept. 6 Arkansas Fountain Coalition for Urban River Evaluation (AFCURE) meeting.

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The next meeting is scheduled for 10 a.m. Oct. 11 at the Tri-Lakes Wastewater Treatment Facility, 16510 Mitchell Ave. Meetings are normally held on the second Tuesday of the month and are open to the public from all three owner-districts. For information on virtual meeting access, call Burks at 719-481-4053.

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### Triview Metropolitan District, Sept. 15

## Contract awarded; district receives funding

By Natalie Barszcz

At the Triview Metropolitan District (TMD) meeting on Sept. 15, the board held an executive session to discuss the main Construction General Manager Contractor (CMGC) award for the Northern Delivery System (NDS) pipeline project. The board also heard the district had received long-awaited funding for a water tank and that one small section of the NDS pipeline in the northern

portion of the district would be finished by late October.

### Executive session

The board moved into an executive session at 7:17 p.m. subject to Colorado Revised Statutes 24-6-402(4)(a), (b), (e), to receive legal advice regarding acquisitions and negotiations, regarding the NDS CMGC Services, water litigation matters for 2022, and property transactions and instruction to negotiators.