- All four of the Flying Horse North development meetings were attended by district staff.
- A team of three personnel with a Type 3 engine returned to the Marshall Fire in Boulder County for an additional five days in early January.

Operations update

Langmaid said the nine staff members who were sick in January due to COVID-19 had returned to work, and now the district is heading in the right direction, not only as a department but also as a community.

Langmaid said the following:

- The merger between TLMFPD and DWFPD is moving along, and the combined district plans to put a third ambulance in service at Station 5 (formerly "Shamrock" Station 2) on Highway 83/Stage Coach Road.
- The combined district needs more staffing, and they are looking at response timelines.
- TLM/DWFPD have also seen a significant increases in EMS calls for service in 2022.
- Until Station 5 reopens, Black Forest will be impacted without a second tender available. See the DWFPD article on page 11

and the TLMFPD article on page

Station 2 update

Langmaid said the retaining wall along the exterior stairs at Station 2 is now completed, and some landscaping and drainage will need to be corrected. The parking lot and the locker rooms have yet to be completed. The district is waiting to see what the Fly $ing\,Horse\,North\,developer's\,plans\,are$ for a future fire station before a commitment is made for a full renovation of Station 2, said Langmaid. See www. ocn.me/v22n2.htm#bffrpd.

The meeting adjourned at 7:54

p.m.

Meetings are usually held on the third Wednesday of every month at Station 1, 11445 Teachout Road, Colorado Springs. Meetings are open to the public via Zoom until further notice. The next regular meeting is scheduled for March 16 at 7 p.m. For joining instructions, updates, agendas, and minutes, visit www.bffire.org or contact the Administrative Officer Rachel Dunn at admin@bffire.org or call 719-495-4300.

Natalie Barszcz can be reached at nataliebarszcz@ocn.me.

Monument Board of Trustees, Feb. 7

Remote participation approved; Hayes recognized for supporting 2F

By Allison Robenstein During the Feb. 7 Monument Board of Trustees meeting, a remote participation policy was approved despite continued issues with microphones that have left virtual participants unable to hear throughout numerous board meetings.

Remote participation for board members

Town Attorney Joseph Rivera explained that the intent of the remote participation policy for the board is to ensure everyone can participate meaningfully. The request was approved 6-1 with Trustee Darcy Schoening voting against.

Oaths of office for **Monument police**

Chief Sean Hemingway introduced two new police officers and promoted another. Hemingway said newly promoted Sgt. Michael Case joined Monument police in 2012 and has served as patrol officer, trainer, and training coordinator. Maxwelle Ellis retired from the U.S. Army, receiving awards for his work fighting the global war on terrorism. Cory Yarborough also served in U.S. Army and holds a degree in criminal justice.

Terri Hayes recognized for work on ballot issue 2F

Terri Hayes, president and CEO of the



the Tri-Lakes Chamber of Commerce for her efforts to help pass the 2F ballot issue sales tax measure to increase the police budget by \$1.6 million. Photo by Jackie Burhans.

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Tri-Lakes Chamber of Commerce, Economic Development, and Visitor Center was recognized by Hemingway for being an ambassador to the community and advisor to the Police Department. She was particularly helpful in guiding the 2F Issue Committee, rallying community support for the ballot issue, and for educating voters.

QuikTrip approved

The final plat for QuikTrip was approved despite Schoening voting against the request. The request was heard at the Planning Commission's Jan. 12 meeting. See Vol. 22 No. 2 -February 5, 2022 (ocn.me). According to the planning meeting, QuikTrip will build an 8,000-square-foot store in the Falcon Commerce Center. The convenience store and gas station is known for offering made-to-order food. Charitable donations are part of the organization's mission. Additionally, QuikTrips are registered as Safe Places.

Planning Director Meggan Herington explained that the Planning Commission had put some conditions on approval that were impossible to meet. Specifically, Herington said that despite a traffic study showing the future need for a traffic signal now, CDOT will not put one in until

the actual traffic patterns show the need.

One member of the public spoke against approval of this request, saying his own traffic study showed the need for a signal now.

Monument Junction West moves forward

The preliminary/final plat for Monument Junction West Filing No. 1 was approved. Doug Stimple, CEO of Classic Homes, urged the board to pass this request because his team needs to begin building the new development's infrastructure. The town approved Classic Homes to begin grading.

Resident Kenneth Kimple asked the board to reject the request, saying, "Do not put the cart before the horse." He was referring to the need to widen Jackson Creek Parkway before development begins. Kimple said the final plat cannot impede the orderly growth of infrastructure.

When Stimple said Classic Homes would just develop the roadway, it became apparent the request would go through.

The meeting adjourned at 9:18

Allison Robenstein can be reached at allisonrobenstein@ocn.me.