

Forest Lakes Metropolitan District and Pinon Pines Metropolitan Districts 2 and 3, Feb. 7

## Contract for an emergency interconnection approved

By Natalie Barszcz

The Forest Lakes Metropolitan District (FLMD) and the Pinon Pines Metropolitan Districts (PPMD) 2 and 3 combined boards met via teleconference for a "special meeting" on Feb. 7 to approve a contract for an emergency interconnection and approve an independent engineering report for the public infrastructure in the Falcon Commerce Center.

Treasurer Douglas Stimple was excused.

The board approved the minutes from the Dec. 6

meeting, 3-0.

**Emergency interconnection contract**  
District Manager Ann Nichols requested the board approve a contract for Global Underground Corp. to install an emergency water interconnection with the Town of Monument (TOM), and said:

- FLMD has been working on the emergency interconnect for months with the TOM.
- The developer of Willow Springs Ranch did a lot of work because they needed water.

- There is an Intergovernmental Agreement with the TOM, and the total cost of \$73,800 will be split 50/50.
- FLMD will bill the TOM for its half of the cost.

The board approved the bid and delegated Nichols to sign the notices to proceed with the contract, 3-0.

**RE Tech engineer report**  
Nichols requested the board approve the RE Tech independent engineer report for the Falcon Commerce Center Phase 1 installation of public infrastructure.

District Counsel Russell A. Dykstra of Spencer Fane LLP said the report had been reviewed, and he recommended the board approve the certification.

The board approved the report, 3-0.

Tom Blunk of CP Real Estate Capital, representing Forest Lakes LLC and Forest Lakes Residential Development, said he appreciated the board meeting at short notice to approve the items.

The meeting adjourned at 4:13 p.m.

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The meetings of FLMD and PPMD 1, 2, and 3 are usually held quarterly or when necessary, 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, [annicholsduffy@aol.com](mailto:annicholsduffy@aol.com).

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Woodmoor Water and Sanitation District, Feb. 14

## Board amends sick leave policy

By James Howald

At its Feb. 14 meeting, the Woodmoor Water and Sanitation District (WWSD) board aligned its personnel policies with a state law recently revised in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. District Manager Jessie Shaffer said he had requested confirmation from the Tri-Lakes Wastewater Treatment Facility (TLW-WTF) Joint Use Committee (JUC) that it would continue to accept radium-tainted backwash wastewater from WWSD treatment facilities. The board heard operational reports. The meeting ended with an executive session.

### State law requires additional sick leave

Shaffer told the board a state law, SB 20-205, had become effective on Jan. 1, requiring WWSD and other employers to provide 80 hours of emergency sick leave to employees in addition to any accumulated sick leave they had already earned and required the district to change how regular sick leave is accumulated.

The 80 additional hours of sick leave are provided once per public health emergency, he said, adding COVID gave rise to the only public health emergency declared in the last 100 years. The ad-

ditional hours of sick leave must be used for COVID-related quarantining, diagnosis, preventive care, treatment, or to care for a family member with COVID.

Shaffer said district employees currently accrue sick leave at the rate of four hours per month up to maximum of 48 hours per year.

District Attorney Erin Smith said the 80 additional hours of sick leave are intended to address the situation where an employee has not yet accumulated enough hours of sick leave to quarantine, if required, without sacrificing financially. She added the state law requires

sick leave to accumulate at the rate of five hours and 20 minutes per month, slightly faster than the rate WWSD currently specifies. The yearly limit remains unchanged, she said.

Smith explained that when an employee requires sick leave, hours normally accumulated would be used before the 80 additional hours.

In response to a question from Director Tom Roddam, Shaffer said unused sick leave was paid out when the employee leaves the district. Employees are also paid each year for any hours they have accrued above the maximum. Shaffer said employees would not be reimbursed if any of the 80 additional hours go unused.

President Brian Bush said he wanted to make it clear to employees they should stay home if they are sick but that district policy should provide a financial incentive for employees not to use unneeded sick leave.

The board voted unanimously to approve Resolution 22-04, which brings district policy into line with state law.

### Radium in backwash raises concerns

Shaffer told the board he had requested that the JUC, which operates the TLW-WTF, document its willingness to receive backwash wastewater from WWSD treatment plants. This water is produced when treatment plant filters are cleaned and contains particulates that include radium. Shaffer said backwash was regulated by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) standard for wastewater. It leaves the treatment plant and goes to the TLWWTF where it is treated to remove particulates, biosolids, and radium.

Shaffer explained that the water WWSD delivers to


customers is treated to remove iron and manganese, and this treatment also removes some of the radium present.

Shaffer said WWSD's backwash wastewater contains enough radium that CDPHE requires the district to demonstrate that it can keep the radium level stable over time. CDPHE also requires the entity that receives WWSD's wastewater, in this case TLWWTF, document its willingness to receive the wastewater.

Shaffer concluded by saying there was no cause for concern at this time, and the JUC would continue to monitor radium levels

### Highlights of operational reports

- Shaffer mentioned SB22-114 Fire Suppression Ponds Water Rights, a bill under consideration in the state Legislature, that could allow Woodmoor Lake to be used as a source of water to fight fires.
- The Central Water Treatment Plant upgrade project is almost complete and was expected to undergo final testing during the week of Feb. 28.
- The Lake Pump Station construction is on track to complete by the beginning of June.
- The refilling of Woodmoor Lake is ahead of schedule, with 112 acre-feet currently stored.
- The bidding package for an additional well is being prepared and should be published in late February.
- The Cloverleaf development, being built on a portion of the land previously known as the Walters property, purchased supplemental water service.
- The Monument Junction West development,



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## MVEA BOARD NOMINATIONS

2022

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During the Annual Meeting on June 2, 2022, held at the Limon Public Schools building in Limon, two directors will be elected to the Mountain View Electric Association, Inc. Board of Directors from the following districts:

District 3: Elbert and surrounding areas to include a portion of Black Forest (incumbent Errol Hertneky)

District 5: Elliott, Fountain, Falcon and surrounding areas (incumbent Kevin L. Paddock)

The "Procedure for Director Elections and Member Voting" is available on MVEA's website at [www.mvea.coop/annual-meeting](http://www.mvea.coop/annual-meeting).

To view a territory map with districts, visit [www.mvea.coop/territory-map](http://www.mvea.coop/territory-map).

Are you interested in being an MVEA Board of Directors candidate? A candidate must be an MVEA member and reside in the district where there is a vacancy. Visit MVEA's Annual Meeting web page at [www.mvea.coop/annual-meeting](http://www.mvea.coop/annual-meeting) for additional candidate requirements. Click on "By-laws" and go to Article III, Section 2. A member interested in nomination should contact the MVEA Board Nomination Information Line at (719) 494-2528 and leave a message. You will be contacted to verify your membership, district, and to begin the nomination process. A member may seek election by nomination by the nominating committee or nomination by petition.

- To be nominated by the nominating committee, please contact the MVEA Board Nomination Information Line at (719) 494-2528. If seeking election by nomination through the nominating committee, a candidate questionnaire must be received by MVEA to be submitted to the committee by 5:30 p.m., Thursday, March 10, 2022.
- To be nominated by petition, you must have the petition signed by 15 MVEA members. Petitions and procedures will be made available by contacting the MVEA Board Nomination Information Line at (719) 494-2528. The petition, along with a completed candidate questionnaire, must be received by MVEA by 5:30 p.m., Thursday, March 31, 2022.


A candidate questionnaire must be completed for either nomination by the committee or nomination by petition. If you have questions, please contact the MVEA Board Nomination Information Line.

Nominating Committee • • • District 3: Jean Mikita • District 5: Dennis Carter

MVEA Board Nomination Information Line

Tel: (719) 494-2528

Email: [candidate@mvea.coop](mailto:candidate@mvea.coop)



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