

monthly in the local newspaper to encourage residents to mitigate their properties.

Kovacs said the outlook for the next several years does not look any better, and to encourage participation, door hangers with pertinent information about community mitigation efforts might be helpful in communities without HOAs.

Chief's report

Kovacs said the following:

- Firefighter/Paramedic Eliza Norman has accepted a lateral position at Castle Rock Fire Department and will leave the district on July 10. The district wishes her the very best.
- A conditional offer of employment has been extended to a new firefighter recruit Spencer Crowe to replace Norman.
- Crowe will join firefighter recruit Andrew Dore at the Colorado Springs Fire Department (CSFD) fire academy on June 13.
- TLMFPD has adopted the DWFPD 500 series radio identifiers, making life a little easier with one less number.
- Battalion Chief Micah Coyle and Battalion Chief Scott Ridings had worked diligently with the dispatch team at the El Paso County Sheriff's Office to make the project a success.
- American Medical Response is finally making progress and getting its staff trained and out on the streets.
- The district completed 607 hours of training in April.

Note: For additional information see the DWFPD article on page 14.

Station 1 training center update

Bradley said there is a possibility that the

district could partner with the Town of Monument (TOM) on a different piece of property, but it is in its infancy. Meetings and planning continue to explore options, and the Station 1 training center committee will meet with consultants from WHP Trainingtowers, Kan., on June 6, to discuss site prep and engineering. The town site could require less engineering than the property at Station 1, keeping costs down for the district, said Bradley.

Kovacs said there could be a significant cost savings in a partnership with the TOM, and in addition to the training facility, an added fleet and facilities repair bay and a storage facility could be included.

Bradley said future training may not all take place on one geographic site, and the district could envision training at different locations instead of duplicating sites. Technical rescue training could take place at Station 1, and the burn training could take place somewhere else, such as Black Forest Fire Rescue Protection District, and other training could be with the CSFD and the Air Force Academy Fire & Emergency Services Department.

Regional cancer seminar

Kovacs said the Regional Cancer Seminar was successful and well attended with about 75 participants. The district is partnering with Dr. Alberto Caban-Martinez, assistant professor of Public Health Sciences, University of Miami, Miller School of Medicine to encourage retired Colorado firefighters to participate in an occupational cancer study. There is not a whole lot of peer reviewed data available within the fire service industry, and there is no national database to capture data after a firefighter has left the service, said Kovacs.

Agenda amendment

The board approved 5-0 an amendment to the agenda, adding the approval of the audit engagement letter (received on May 25) with certified public accountant Mitch Downs of Erikson, Brown and Kloster LLC.

Kovacs said the district would receive 90% of the Wescott budget when the full contract for services is complete, and the remainder will be retained for the DWFPD audit, and to "keep the lights on." There will not be a whole lot to audit in the future, said Kovacs.

The board approved the engagement letter for the 2021 audit 5-0.

Executive session—contract for services

The board moved into executive session at 7:55 p.m. pursuant to Colorado Revised Statutes Sections 24-6-402(4)(e) for the purpose of determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations, developing strategy for negotiations, and instructing negotiators.

The TLMFPD board took no action after the board returned to the regular meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Meetings are usually held on the fourth Wednesday of the month. The next regular board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 22 at 6:30 p.m. at TLMFPD Station 1, 18650 Highway 105. For Zoom meeting instructions, agendas, minutes, and updates, visit www.tlmfire.org or contact Director of Administration Jennifer Martin at 719-484-9011.

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



Above: From left are Fire Chief Andy Kovacs, Paramedic Eliza Norman, Mark Livingston, Firefighter Cancer Support Network, and Frank Leeb, deputy assistant chief of training, Fire Department of New York. The group was attending the Fire Service Occupational Cancer Regional Seminar at the Great Wolf Lodge, Colorado Springs, on May 13. Leeb was one of four guest speakers during the event. The national guest speakers spoke throughout the day on research studies about carcinogen exposures, risk factors and lifestyle changes, exposure reduction, and support after cancer diagnosis. The seminar was organized and sponsored by the Monument International Association of Firefighters, Local 4319.

Below: Dr. Alberto Caban-Martinez, DO, PhD, MPH, CPH, assistant professor of Public Health Sciences University of Miami, Miller School of Medicine, speaks to attendees during the event. Photos by Andy Kovacs.



Woodmoor Water and Sanitation District, May 9

Barrie Town joins board; supplemental water approved for Monument Junction west

By James Howald

At its May 9 meeting, the Woodmoor Water and Sanitation District (WWSD) appointed Barrie Town to the WWSD board. The board considered a second request from Elite Properties to supply supplemental water service to the Monument Junction west development and awarded a drilling contract for a new well. District Manager Jessie Shaffer updated the board on El Paso County plans to improve Highway 105 and explained to the board how that work would impact the WWSD budget. Finally, the board heard operational reports.

Town sworn in

Board president Brian Bush administered the oath of office to Barrie Town. Town was appointed to the board to replace retiring Director Jim Wyss. Wyss agreed to retire early and be replaced by Town as a means for the board to avoid paying for an election. The agreement also allowed Directors Daniel Beley, William Clewe, and Tom Roddam to be elected by acclamation. Town will serve until May 2023.

Monument Junction options second allotment of supplemental water

At its previous meeting, WWSD agreed to provide \$1.6 million per year in supplemental water service to Elite Properties for its Monument Junction east develop-

ment. Developers must purchase supplemental water, which is more expensive per gallon than standard water service, when they expect to need more water than the standard service, which is based on the size of their property, will provide them. In the case of Monument Junction east, Elite Properties decided to bypass optioning the supplemental water and instead to purchase it outright, thereby avoiding some fees.

At the May 9 meeting, Shaffer told the board that Elite Properties had made a second supplemental water request, this time for Monument Junction west, the portion of their project that contains both commercial and residential lots. The entire project will span Jackson Creek Parkway just south of Highway 105. Shaffer said the second request was to purchase water for some of the lots immediately, and to option the rest of the supplemental water. Shaffer said Elite Properties requested to purchase water for 260 apartment units and for a Whataburger fast food restaurant.

Shaffer said Elite Properties requested to buy \$2.8 million of supplemental water immediately and pay a \$73,000 option fee for additional water later. Tap fees would be in addition to these costs, Shaffer said, adding that each townhome would have its own tap while apartments

would have one larger tap per apartment building. He explained Elite Properties would be purchasing water at Tier 3 rates, the most expensive charged by the district at \$43,500 per acre-foot. The Tier 3 rate was a result of the project's high water demand coming from a relatively small amount of land.

The board voted unanimously to authorize Bush to sign the agreement when District Engineer Ariel Hacker completes her technical review.

Drilling contract for new well proceeds

Shaffer told the board that two bids to drill a new well, Well 22, had been received by the district: the first, from Hydro Resources, was for \$1.2 million, and the second, from Layne Western, was for \$1.4 million. Shaffer pointed out that Hydro Resources had drilled the district's last well successfully. Well 22 will be located on the south side of County Line Road, just east of I-25.

The board voted unanimously to authorize Bush to sign the agreement with Hydro Resources.

Highway 105 improvement moves up by year

Shaffer told the board that El Paso County had originally planned to improve Highway 105 between Jackson Creek Parkway and Lake Woodmoor Drive in 2024. Now

they intend to start in fall 2022, Shaffer said. WWSD budgeted funds to do the required utility locates to support the improvements, but Shaffer suggested the WWSD budget would need to be revised in light of the new schedule.

Highlights of operational reports

- Operations Superintendent Dan LaFontaine told the board that all meters were in operation and the month's unaccountable water was 4%.
- The Lake Pump Station has been affected by supply chain issues but would be in production by the end of May.
- At the May 9 meeting, which was before the last heavy snowfall, there was some concern that Woodmoor Lake was filling more slowly than anticipated. Ideally the lake will be refilled before the summer weather increases the demand for water.

The next meeting is scheduled for June 13 at 1 p.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 or call 719-488-2525 to verify meeting times and locations.

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

Donala Water and Sanitation District, May 19

Directors sworn in; audit shows financial health

By James Howald and Jackie Burhans
The Donala Water and Sanitation District (DWSD) board met on May 16 to swear in newly elected board members and elect board officers. The board heard a report on its 2021 financial audit. A representative to the Mountain View Electrical Asso-

ciation (MVEA) board was elected to represent the district, and the board heard an update on the status of Well 16A, currently being drilled. District Manager Jeff Hodge reported to the board on recent developments concerning the County Loop water reuse project.

The meeting ended with an executive session.

Vanderschuer and Miller sworn in

Board President Ed Houle administered the oath of office to Directors Wayne Vanderschuer and Ed Miller. Both

Vanderschuer and Miller are incumbents who were elected to an additional term on the board.

Later in the meeting, Houle was re-elected as president of the board for a term of one year because only one year remains in his term of office. Vander-