

New well proves successful
In his manager's report, Hodge told the board that the newly drilled Well 16A is expected to provide 700 gallons per minute for a daily total of 550,000 gallons.
Executive session
The meeting ended with an executive

session to consider contract negotiations for a long-term contract with Colorado Springs Utilities (CSU) allowing DWSD to use CSU's infrastructure to convey water owned by DWSD and to consider contract negotiations concerning the UM-CRWTF.

The next meeting is scheduled for Aug. 18 at 9 a.m. Generally, board meetings are held the third Thursday of the month at 1:30 p.m. and include online access; call (719) 488-3603 or access www.donalawater.org to receive up-to-date meeting information. The district office is located at 15850 Holbein Drive, Colorado Springs.

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Monument Sanitation District, July 20

NMCI participation drives wastewater realignment

By Jackie Burhans and James Howald
In July, the Monument Sanitation District (MSD) board addressed issues raised by the North Monument Creek Interceptor (NMCI) project. NMCI, led by Colorado Springs Utilities (CSU), proposed that sanitation districts in the northern part of El Paso County send their wastewater to a treatment facility in Colorado Springs that has excess capacity rather than treating it themselves, allowing districts that chose to participate to reduce processing costs.
In July CSU asked districts to document whether they would participate. MSD, after months of debate, elected not to do so, and made that official with a resolution passed at the July 20 meeting. Neighboring Donala Water and Sanitation District (DWSD) also opted out and requested that it be allowed to use the Tri-Lakes Wastewater Treatment Facility (TLWWTF), which is jointly owned by Palmer Lake Sanitation District (PLSD), Woodmoor Water and Sanitation District (WWSD) and MSD and managed by the Joint Use Committee (JUC), which has equal representation from all three owners. MSD Director Laura Kronick currently serves as the president of the JUC.
MSD says no to NMCI
The board discussed Resolution 07192022-1, which says MSD will not participate in NMCI because the project does not give the district adequate control over costs and does not provide a means for MSD to recapture and reuse

treated wastewater.
District Manager Mark Parker said that WWSD, PLSD and DWSD have all officially said no to NMCI. Triview Metropolitan District (TMD) and Forest Lakes Metro District (FLMD) will participate, he said. Parker added that CSU has never addressed questions about how radium and Technologically Enhanced Naturally Occurring Radioactive Material (TE-NORM) will be handled.
Director John Howe pointed out that TMD and FLMD would be responsible for much higher NMCI costs due to the non-participation of four districts.
Director Laura Kronick said that participating would be financially irresponsible because of uncertainty around costs.
The board voted unanimously for the resolution, pending a review by the district's lawyer.
DWSD asks to use TLWWTF
Parker told the board that DWSD General Manager Jeff Hodge had attended the last JUC meeting and had requested that DWSD be allowed to send its wastewater to TLWWTF, the treatment facility shared by MSD, PLSD and WWSD. Currently, DWSD treats its wastewater at a facility it shares with TMD and FLMD. Since both TMD and FLMD have elected to participate in NMCI, they will no longer need the treatment facility they share with DWSD, leaving DWSD to pay the entire cost of operating that facility.
Parker said there were two ap-

proaches to giving DWSD access to the TLWWTF: DWSD could become a fourth partner in the JUC or DWSD could become a customer of MSD and access the treatment facility through MSD's infrastructure.
Parker said he favored the second approach because having four partners raises the issue of tied votes that would slow decision making. He added that the partner approach would mean the JUC would have two large partners, WWSD and DWSD, and two much smaller partners, MSD and PLSD.
Parker also pointed out that adding DWSD as a user of the TLWWTF would advance the cause of water reuse since treated wastewater would remain local and could perhaps be recycled though Monument Creek.
Parker said that the TLWWTF had the capacity to handle DWSD's wastewater, and minimal infrastructure would

have to be built by DWSD, primarily a small number of lift stations. Parker said DWSD's participation would likely be three to five years in the future.
The consensus of the board was that bringing DWSD on as a customer was the best approach and that any final decisions would be made later.

Monument Sanitation District meetings are normally held at 9 a.m. on the third Wednesday of the month in the district conference room at 130 Second St., Monument. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Aug. 17. See <https://colorado.gov/msd>. For a district service map, see <https://colorado.gov/pacific/msd/district-map-0>. Information: 719-481-4886.
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