

company currently building homes in Willow Springs, did not object to the inclusion of the property, Parker told the board, adding that the property could connect to the wastewater infrastructure used by Willow Springs or could build a lift station and connect to a line in place on Mitchell Avenue. Parker said the Town of Monument was considering annexing the property and GMS Engineering LLC, the district's consulting engineers, recommended including the property in MSD's service area. No objections to the inclusion were heard, and the board voted unanimously in favor of the petition granting inclusion.

New development likely to be annexed by town

Parker told the board that Monument Ridge West, a proposed residential development just south of County Line Road and west of I-25, will likely be annexed by the Town of Monument and will be added to MSD's service area, requiring the construction of a lift station.

Parker said MSD had received a request for inclusion from Monument Ridge West LLC, the developer, and it was being reviewed by the district's lawyer. A pub-

lic hearing and vote would be required to complete the inclusion, he said.

Wagons West infrastructure approved

The board voted unanimously to approve the wastewater infrastructure for the Wagons West neighborhood, which is west of Old Denver Road and just north of the ice rink. The approval took the form of a bill of sale whereby the district took ownership of the sewer lines and lift station that the developer built for the neighborhood.

Manager's report notes maintenance issues

Parker told the board that an inspection of a sewer main on Raspberry Lane had detected an imminent risk of failure. The main was clay pipe, he said, and he recommended lining the pipe, which is under new asphalt.

The maintenance needed on Raspberry Lane launched the board into a discussion of the maintenance costs that result from residents disposing of grease and other materials that will not dissolve by pouring them down their sinks or flushing them down toilets. So-called "flushable" wipes clog lift stations and valves because they do not dissolve after they are flushed the way other paper products do. Grease is another issue

that raises maintenance costs. Parker told the board about a clogged line in the Wakonda Hills neighborhood that was almost completely blocked with grease, which is unusual in a residential neighborhood. He said an effort would be made to determine which residences were responsible for the unusually large amount of grease.

The board discussed how to educate customers about proper disposal of grease, wipes, and other durable materials that increase maintenance costs.

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 Sept. 21. 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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Donala Water and Sanitation District, Aug. 18

New member appointed to board

By James Howald and Jackie Burhans

The August meeting of the Donala Water and Sanitation District (DWSD) board opened with the appointment of a new member. The board awarded a contract to recoat the Latrobe water tank. General Manager Jeff Hodge updated the board on the implementation of new billing system software. In his Manager's Report, he addressed several operational issues. Finally, Brett Gracely, of LRE Water, reported on developments with the district's plans to implement Aquifer Storage and Retrieval (ASR) technology.

Kenneth Judd appointed to board

Kenneth Judd took the oath of office, administered by board Vice President William George. Judd was appointed to fill the vacancy when Ed Houle resigned from the board because he moved out of the district. George commented that Judd had previously served nine years on the DWSD board.

Latrobe water tank to be rehabbed

The board considered five bids to recoat the Latrobe water storage tank, which stores water from the district's R. Hull treatment plant and from Willow Ranch. The bids ranged from \$241,120 to \$489,000. Hodge said that, in addition to the Latrobe tank, the two tanks that store water from the Holbein Treatment Plant also need recoating, but the Latrobe tank was the highest priority.

The base bid was for the Latrobe tank only, Hodge said, and he recommended the board accept the bid of Swedish Industrial Coatings LLC, which was the lowest of the five bids. A contract for the two Holbein tanks may be awarded if funds are available.

The board voted unanimously to approve the recommended bid.

Manager's report

Hodge told the board that the implementation of the new billing software from Tyler Technologies was going well and was running in a hybrid mode with the previous software. The reports in the August board packet included information from both systems, he said. The new

system will provide greater detail. Hodge complimented Christina Hawker on the extra effort she made to implement the new software and on her sense of humor. A new customer portal would be implemented, he said, and customers using their credit cards to set up automatic payments would need to re-register in the portal because the district can't retain credit card information.

The upgrades to the Holbein treatment plant are complete, Hodge said, and new radium samples have been sent for analysis, with results expected in four to five weeks. Those samples will help establish the direction for reducing radium in treated water, he said.

Hodge reported on some of the district's wells. Drilling is complete for Well 16A, the district's newest well, and the district is working with GMS Engineering Inc. on a water line to connect the well to the distribution system. Well 1A is out of service due to an above-ground electrical issue. Equipment for Well 1A was damaged in transit and will have to be replaced by the manufacturer, he said.

Study of ASR moves forward

Gracely told the board that LRE was proceeding with its study of ASR. The technology requires an Underground Injection Control permit from the Environmental Protection Agency. Gracely said ASR would allow Donala and the Triview Metropolitan District to work together and to manage their wells jointly using the concept of a well field, which would treat the two districts' wells as a unified system. The accounting model for such a system was part of the study and would be complex, Gracely said. The study is funded by a grant from the state, he said.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, Sept. 22 at 1:30 p.m. This meeting was delayed one week to accommodate a regional meeting the board will attend. 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 locat-

ed at 15850 Holbein Drive, Colorado Springs. James Howald can be reached at jameshowald@ocn.me.

Jackie Burhans can be reached at jackieburhans@ocn.me



Above: At the Aug. 17 Donala Water and Sanitation District board meeting, District Manager Jeff Hodge reported that its ranch had acquired a new guard. He shared this photo of an as-yet-unnamed badger closely monitoring the entry point to Willow Creek Ranch near Leadville. The 711-acre ranch, acquired in November 2008, provides water rights to a renewable water source to augment Donala's wells in the Denver Basin aquifers. For more information, see <http://www.donalawater.org>. Photo courtesy of Donala Water and Sanitation District.

Triview Metropolitan District, Aug. 18

2021 audit receives "clean opinion"; sewer cleaning truck approved

By Natalie Barszcz

At the Triview Metropolitan District meeting on Aug. 18, the board received the 2021 audit presentation and amended the 2021 budget. The board approved the purchase of a sewer cleaning truck and the repurchase of land. It also heard about a 10-year plan to upgrade neighborhood parks, and the planned 2024-25 chip and overlay seal in Promontory Pointe and Remington Hill. The board held an executive session to discuss multiple topics.

2021 audit

Christine McCleod of Haynie and Co., CPA & Management Consultants, thanked District Manager James McGrady and District Administrator Joyce Levad for helping during the audit and said there is nothing to prevent filing the audit with the state in compliance with the Sept. 30 extension. There were no significant audit adjustments or any disagreements with the management. The district received an unmodified or "clean opinion" for the 2021 audit.

McCleod also said the district gained a capital asset increase in 2021 from water revenues, taxes, and developer fees increasing revenue.

McGrady said the district had a mill levy increase in

2021, contributing to the increase in revenue.

Director James Otis said the financials are great, and he thanked McCleod, district accountant Cathy Fromm, and McGrady for being smart with the money that the district had when McGrady became the district manager.

Vice President Marco Fiorito said there is a night and day difference in the district finances from 2016 to 2022.

The board unanimously accepted the audited financial statements.

2021 budget revision

President Mark Melville requested the board review and consider approval of resolution 2022-08, a resolution of the TMD Board of Directors amending the 2021 budget. McGrady said the Stonewall Springs Reservoir created an additional expense that could not have been foreseen, and smaller capital improvement projects that went over budget for a total of about \$6.2 million.

The board unanimously approved the amended 2021 budget.

Note: The Aug. 18 agenda and board packet may be accessed at <https://triviewmetro.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Triview-Board-Packet-for-8.18.2022-Website-Reporter-2.pdf>.

Financial update

McGrady said that according to the intergovernmental agreement between the Town of Monument (TOM) and Triview Metropolitan District, the TOM was scheduled to transfer about \$303,779 to the Triview ColoTrust District Fund on or before Aug. 31.

Note: The 2022 budget, 2021 budget revision, and the July financial statement can be viewed at www.triviewmetro.com.

Sewer cleaner proposal

McGrady said every year the district contracts sewer cleaning service for about \$180,000 to \$250,000. The high cost of a contract service coupled with the price of diesel has the district considering the purchase of a sewer cleaning truck. Due to the terrain and the ever-growing size of the district, owning a truck would be much more cost effective. The district searched for a used sewer cleaning truck, but could not find anything worthy of spending money on. A new purchase will take a year to receive within the district.

Otis said the truck could also be used by neighboring districts and it would pay for itself in about three years.