



Above: Monument Mayor Travis Easton (left) presented a plaque honoring Town Clerk Scott Meszaros' four years of service to the Town of Monument at Meszaros' last Board of Trustees meeting on March 19. Meszaros took over the position of Town Administrator in Meeker, Colo., on April 1. *Photo by Jim Kendrick*

Car show permit approved

The Tri-Lakes Cruisers Car Club's application for its 11th annual car show on June 12 was unanimously approved. The show will close off an additional section of Washington Street on the south side of Second Street, down to the first residential buildings. The show will also close Second Street from Front Street to Jefferson Street and Washington Street a half block on either side of Second Street. The closure lasts from 6 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Four contracts approved

The board approved four resolutions to separately approve four "on-call consulting engineering services" contracts with:

- Jacobs Engineering Group (renewal)
- Nolte Vertical Five (renewal)
- URS Consultants Inc. (new contractor)
- Forsgren Associates Inc. (new contractor)

Mayor Easton and Trustee Gingrich abstained in each of the four 5-0-2 votes of approval.

Two liquor licenses were unanimously approved. A new license was approved for a new restaurant called Fuji Mountain Japanese Cuisine being built at 16064 Jackson Creek Parkway. A special liquor license was approved for St. Peter Catholic Church for its school and parish "Hoe-Down" to be held for parishioners only from 5 to 10 p.m. on April 22.

In other matters, the board unanimously approved Treasurer Pamela Smith's January sales tax report.

Monument Board of Trustees, April 2

New town clerk and police officer sworn in

By Jim Kendrick

On April 2, Cindy Sirochman changed job titles from Monument's code enforcement officer to town clerk, replacing Scott Meszaros. She was sworn in by Town Attorney Gary Shupp. Officer Andrew Romano was sworn in by Monument Police Chief Jake Shirk. His mother, Catherine Romano, pinned on his new badge.

Chief Shirk said, "In the seven years I've been here, to the best of my recollection, this is the first time that I have ever received a phone call from the police chief of the academy where it was highly recommended that I should consider this young, young, young gentleman as my police officer. He tested with us and did very well and it is my honor to hire him as our newest police officer."

Mayor Travis Easton stated that the absences of Trustees Gail Drumm and Jeff Kaiser were excused.

Trustee comments

Easton stated that he had met with officials of Lewis-Palmer School District 38 to organize a student council liaison group. The group will help students shadow town staff and trustees or serve as interns to gain real-world

Trustees' comments

Trustee Jeff Kaiser asked about progress on management issues with Triview Metropolitan District. Green said the Triview board might not be ready to operate independently by March 31. It has made job offers for a district manager and to hire some town employees who had been working for the district under intergovernmental agreements.

Kaiser asked Drumm if he had any updates on his gathering of data on town cemetery operations and his cemetery master plan. Drumm said he had not heard anything and did not have anything for the board to look at.

Trustee Tommie Plank said she went to the "very well attended" El Paso County open house in Town Hall on March 15 on converting the Willow Springs Ranch to a county park. The county will be proceeding on obtaining funding to purchase the property.

Mayor Easton asked the staff if it could offer any spare office equipment to the Town of Green Mountain Falls, noting that an arson fire destroyed its town hall.

Easton said he met earlier in the day with several other regional mayors in Denver to discuss an agreement with the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) regarding a memorandum of understanding on the amount of state funding the region should be receiving—9.5 percent of \$1 billion annually instead of the current 4 percent. The 11-person board for this region's CDOT transportation district is being reapportioned. This board only has one commissioner representing the Tri-Lakes region. El Paso County is the most populous county.

Easton noted that CDOT had made its first reimbursement payment, \$3 million, of the \$16 million the state owes the Baptist Road Rural Transportation Authority for widening of Baptist Road east of the I-25 interchange.

Easton asked consensus on supporting the addition of a direct flight by Frontier Airlines from Colorado Springs to Washington, D.C.

Staff reports

Tom Kassawara, director of Development Services, reported that seven or eight qualified applicants had applied for the town's vacant planner position. Easton asked, "Is it a needed hire right now?" Kassawara replied that several applications for new building are pending. Drumm said, "I think you need to leave the job open for six months and see where our economy is going with the dip in our sales tax."

Kassawara also noted that the Fountain Creek Watershed Flood Control and Greenway District is looking for funding for a development study, but no major activity in drainage projects is planned in the short term. External grants will be needed for such a large project. Each member of the district would receive a piece of the grant money for its own drainage projects.

Tharnish asked if there were any questions on his initial written reports as Public Works director. The board said the length and detail of his reports amounted to a good summary.

Dominguez asked Police Chief Jake Shirk about speeding on Second Street that had been reported to him. Shirk said he had received no complaints about any speeding. Green said it is hard to speed with all the stop signs.

Green said the Triview board was making a good faith effort to successfully split apart from the town staff. Triview is short several vehicles it needs.

Green distributed a worksheet on tax revenues of towns and special districts in the county.

Green noted that this would be Scott Meszaros' last board meeting as town clerk. "He is going to be the town manager of Meeker and all the elk are scared," referring to his avid pursuit of hunting. Green said he had done an "incredible job" in organizing the town's records and conducting the office in a professional manner.

Easton presented a plaque to Meszaros for his service to the town.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Jim Kendrick can be contacted at jimkendrick@ocn.me.



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