

Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Protection District, April 25

District audit keeps getting better, auditor says

By Bernard L. Minetti

RubinBrown company auditor Julia Stone declared that the district audit “keeps getting better and better each year” during her April 25 presentation to the Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Protection District board. She added that it was a “clean audit.”

Stone pointed out several minor items to the board for review. She said that the ambulance revenues should be kept on an accrual basis rather than a cash basis. This would give a truer picture of fund status. The audit was done on a “test basis,” meaning that the auditors did not examine every item because the time required to complete the audit would be excessive. She noted that the items that were examined would “give a reasonable basis to form an opinion.” She also added that what were origi-

nally called “reserve funds” are now called “restricted funds.”

Stone said she found that the largest expenditure was for personnel salaries and related costs, which was followed by administration and insurance costs. Depreciation of capital assets was also a large expenditure item.

She said there were no significant changes from last year in assets and liabilities, including capital assets. She added that 3 percent of expenditures must be set aside for the TABOR tax-limitation reserve.

The net assets of the district were just over \$2 million, which was a decrease from last year of just over \$50,000.

The board accepted the

auditor’s report, which is on file at the district administration offices.

Treasurer’s report

The treasurer’s report noted that year-to-date, the district had received 40.70 percent of property tax revenues, which amounted to \$1.2 million. Specific ownership tax revenues received were 27.45 percent of the budgeted amount, or \$68,442. This was a \$24,766 decrease from the same time last year. Ambulance revenues were \$128,397, down slightly from the budget projections.

Administrative expenses were up due to payment of liability insurance and maintenance contracts. Gas expense for Station 2 continues to run high

along with high water and sewer expenses at Stations 1 and 2.

District Training Officer Mike Keough said total personnel training hours for the first quarter amounted to 480. Of that, 317.5 hours were fire/all hazard specific, 107 hours were EMS specific, and 55.5 hours were for physical fitness.

Director Roger Lance asked Keough about the maintenance of proficiency levels of the fire personnel on the new fire equip-

ment vehicle. Keough said there were no set hours required for proficiency maintenance for any of the platforms. He noted that seasonal qualifications were ongoing and that personnel maintained individual qualifications. Battalion Chief Mike Dooley stated that his shift participated in cross training on the various platforms and equipment last year.

Fire Chief Robert Denboske introduced John Vincent, who



Above: Fire Capt. John Vincent has been named fire marshal for the district. The fire marshal, among other things, is responsible for educating the public in fire safety issues, performing fire inspections of buildings, fire safety code enforcement, and liaison with the public in education on fire safety. Photo by Bernard Minetti.

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