

## Tri-Lakes Joint Use Committee, July 10

## New officers elected

By Jim Kendrick

On July 10, the Tri-Lakes Wastewater Treatment Facility Joint Use Committee (JUC) elected officers for the next two years. Woodmoor Water and Sanitation District JUC representative Jim Whitelaw was elected JUC president. Palmer Lake Sanitation District JUC representative Dale Smith was elected vice president. Monument Sanitation District JUC representative Chuck Robinove was elected secretary/treasurer.

The election followed the tradition of a six-year cycle that rotates each of the three JUC officer positions through the three owner districts every two years, after special district board elections are held. This year, it was Woodmoor's turn to have its JUC representative become president. The outgoing president rotates into the vice president position to ensure an experienced person is running the meeting in the president's absence. The outgoing vice president rotates into the secretary/treasurer position.

At this meeting, Whitelaw and Robinove were absent due to an out-of-state vacation and an illness, respectively. Smith, who had been president for the past two years, chaired the meeting as vice president. Director Tommy Schwab, Woodmoor's alternate JUC representative, and Director Dave Joss, Monument's alternate JUC representative, filled in for Whitelaw and Robinove.

The Tri-Lakes facility operates as a separate public utility and is jointly owned, in equal one-third shares, by Monument Sanitation District, Palmer Lake Sanitation District, and Woodmoor Water and Sanitation District. The three-member JUC acts as the board of the facility and consists of one director from each of the three owner districts' boards: Robinove, Smith, and Whitelaw. Typically, several other district board members, including the JUC alternate representatives and the district managers from each of the three owner districts also attend JUC meetings to ensure in-depth knowledge of facility operations on the district boards and continuity of informed decision-making by the JUC.

## Financial reports

Burks noted a bill for \$4,431 for lining the interior of Monument's south metering vault with a plastic material to protect the concrete walls and some internal measurement components from deterioration caused by hydrogen sulfide gas in the raw influent wastewater. Flow rates are continuously measured by the metering vault's flume to automatically calculate the district's monthly billing for wastewater treatment.

The JUC unanimously accepted the June financial report and the accounts payable lists for each of the three owner districts as presented. The JUC also unanimously accepted the facility's final 2011 audit report as distributed electronically by auditor John Cutler. Cutler will forward hard copies of the now-accepted 2011 audit to the state, the facility, and each of the owner districts.

## District manager reports

Monument District Manager Mike Wicklund, Palmer Lake District Manager Duane Hanson, and Woodmoor District Manager Jessie Shaffer each reported that their district collection systems had been running smoothly for the past month and that there were no problems to report to the JUC. Wicklund noted that some asphalt repairs were

being performed, under warranty, that morning to some roads that were upgraded in Wakonda Hills by Monument during the recent collection system expansion.

## Plant manager's report

Tri-Lakes Facility Manager Bill Burks gave the monthly in-depth technical report on his treatment plant's operating performance. He also discussed the staff's monthly analysis of the districts' influent flows and discharged treated effluent, particularly the highest-interest heavy metals, including mercury, sulfates, total phosphates and total nitrogen (which includes measurements of total inorganic nitrogen, nitrates, nitrites, and ammonia concentrations).

The average concentration of total inorganic nitrogen (TIN) in discharged treated wastewater effluent for May was 7.5 parts per million (ppm.) The TIN limit in the facility's new five-year discharge permit, which expires at the end of 2016, is 23 ppm. In July 2013, the new TIN discharge limit that is being implemented by recently ap-

proved state Control Regulation 85 will drop to 15 ppm. No new capital expense will be incurred by this new Reg. 85 TIN limit.

However, the new interim value discharge permit limit in the recently approved Regulation 31 is 2.1 parts per million (ppm) for total nitrogen (TN), which requires an even smaller concentration of TIN. There is no technology available today that will allow the Tri-Lakes facility to comply with this Reg. 31 interim value discharge



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## How to avoid being forced to work forever because of the economic meltdown

By Jim Leaser

The effects of the recent economic Tsunami of too much debt, risk-taking and out-of-control spending that caused the Great Recession are continuing to exact their pound of flesh from many hard-working Americans. Many baby boomers have been crushed... losing huge chunks of their retirement savings. How are you weathering this economic storm and how prepared are you for the road ahead? If you are waiting for things to return to "normal." I wouldn't hold your breath hoping for that to happen.

This has been one of the craziest times in the economic history of our country and the world. The stock market has broken records for the biggest up and down days. The banks are being bailed out and propped up by the government. General Motors, one of America's iconic companies, was rescued from the brink of going out of business by the American taxpayer. And yes, many retirees, and people who were planning on retiring soon, have taken HUGE hits on their retirement savings.

Now, many of us are facing the harsh reality of extending our time in the workforce just to pay the bills and put more away for the future. With so many businesses having major layoffs supporting high unemployment rates, just keeping a job may be more challenging than ever before.

## Will you be forced to work longer than your parents did?

No matter what age you are now, with all that is going on in the world today, you have to be concerned about your economic future. You may be thinking about whether or not you will have enough money to last you during your retirement years. And with the way the stock market has been rising and plunging lately...you may have even experienced great losses to your retirement savings.

As a matter of fact, many people, on the edge of retirement have lost as much as 45 to 50 percent of their retirement savings with the recent turmoil in the markets.

## So, what will your savings really be worth?

Inflation is an evil villain that every American should be deeply concerned about. With the cost of virtually everything from food to fuel rising faster than incomes, you have to wonder...how long will your money really last? What kind of lifestyle will your savings provide for you during your retirement years? Stories are already popping up about retirees cutting and not buying their necessary medication, and believe it or not, there are even rumors of seniors eating cat food just to survive.

## How prepared are you?

There are many obstacles you may face that have the potential to wipe out your retirement savings. How would you survive a severe illness, premature death, or investment losses financially speaking? With a little planning and a better understanding of the rules of the

game, your retirement years can still be golden. As Benjamin Franklin once said about getting rid of your worries, "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."

## Free book paves your path to a stress-free retirement!

With the advice given in the book, *Essential Lessons*, you'll discover ways to insulate yourself, and your money, from the potential troubles you may face in the years to come. And for a limited time, you can get this book absolutely FREE! In this book, you will learn how money works so you can prepare to weather future economic storms. Remember, knowledge could be the power you need to help protect your family from potential and unknown future misfortune.

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This free book, *Essential Lessons*, has been thoughtfully crafted to show you how to think and survive in a tough economy. While reading this book, you will be shocked to realize that there are many financial pitfalls that exist in the world of finance and retirement today.

Some snafus are government-imposed, while others may come from negligence or mistakes from trusted advisors. But regardless, this book shines the light on some of the dangers that lurk in the dark, giving you the tools and knowledge to make the proper plans to protect yourself and your family.

It is written in plain English so you don't have to be a lawyer to comprehend it. The stories and examples throughout the book leave you with a clear understanding of what could go wrong in the future and how you could avoid a great deal of suffering.

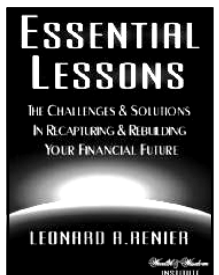
There are so many financial pitfalls that can spoil your retirement and potentially send you to the poor house! As you breeze through this book, you will have a better idea of where you are financially.

If you are not where you want to be, this book will help show you options to get you where you want to go quickly and efficiently. You will also discover simple solutions to grow your money so you can avoid being forced to extend your working years!

To receive your free copy of this eye-opening book, just call our automated hotline now at **719.785.3104**. And the best thing is there's no one on the telephone to hassle you.

One caveat. The supply of these books is limited...and strictly given out on a first-come, first-served basis. So it's best to call now while supplies last.

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