

ment. The Planning Commission unanimously approved the proposal with no conditions on July 11. The board unanimously approved Amendment 4.

Labor Day parade and street fair approved

The board unanimously approved a resolution authorizing the temporary closing of Second Street from Mitchell Avenue to Beacon Lite Road from 9 a.m. to noon on Labor Day, Sept. 3, and the issuance of a special event parade permit to the Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Protection District for conducting the Strength Through Unity Parade. The railroad has agreed to cease operations at the Second Street crossing for an hour to facilitate the parade.

Tri-Lakes Office Manager Jennifer Martin thanked Monument Town Manager Cathy Green, Director of Downtown Development Vicki Mynhier, and Police

Lt. Steve Burk for their assistance in helping her coordinate this parade. The 30 confirmed parade vehicles will stage at 9:30 at the former Lake of the Rockies campground site on the east side of Monument Lake. Other participants in the parade Martin noted were Care and Share, the Red Cross, School District 38, the Public Works department, and TV stations.

Martin explained "how I came up with this idea" for the parade. The Tri-Lakes district employees "had been through a lot the past couple months" with "the enormous stress" of the "extremely lengthy" investigation and termination of the former fire chief, Robert Denboske. She said the district is in "a better place," that "all the employees support the termination. We're very thankful to our board for that. We're moving forward." Martin also noted the continuing "interpersonal issues" among the members of the district

board. "They have to learn to agree to disagree and deal with their personality conflicts."

The purpose of the parade is to support the 40 firefighters of the Tri-Lakes district "that go on all of our calls" to "serve all of you guys," not the board. She noted her pride in their efforts during the Waldo Canyon Fire and all of the relationships the firefighters attempted to form but "weren't formed because of our previous leader." Since Denboske's departure these relationships have now been formed with Chief Jake Shirk and the Monument Police Department and the other members of the emergency services group that Tri-Lakes formed, including town officials, Public Works, and District 38 under the motto "Strength Through Unity."

An open house will be held at Station 1, 18650 Highway 105, immediately after the conclusion of the parade until 12:30 p.m. to "have a stationary event to view the vehicles up close." Parking for the open house will be provided by Pinz Bowling Alley.

The board unanimously approved a resolution authorizing the temporary closing of Front Street between First and Third Streets from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Labor Day, Sept. 3, and the issuance of a special event permit for the Monument Celebration Festival to the Tri-Lakes Chamber of Commerce. This festival substitutes for the Fourth of July street fair that was cancelled due to the Waldo Canyon Fire. Crossing guards will be provided for pedestrians crossing Second Street after the conclusion of the parade.

The board also unanimously approved a resolution approving the temporary closing of the adjacent alley west of St. Peter Church at 55 N. Jefferson St. and the church parking lot to the north on Aug. 11 for a 100-year anniversary celebration that was postponed from June 18 due to the Waldo Canyon Fire.

Renewable water proposal endorsed by staff

Green introduced water broker Gary Barber, president of the Two Rivers Water Co., who gave a slide presentation titled "A Permanent Water Supply Solution" for the town regarding a portfolio approach for the town to purchase rights to renewable water assets. Green noted that he is the former manager of the Palmer Divide Water Group and Pikes Peak Regional Water Authority, as well as chair of the state's Arkansas River Basin Roundtable. Barber was accompanied by his Two Rivers associate, Kirsty Cameron. Barber noted that he has made a similar presentation to Cherokee Metropolitan District.

Two Rivers has been raising capital, buying farms, and building a portfolio of water assets for 18 months. The six elements of a potable water supply system are water supply rights, storage for delivery, transmission pipelines, potable treatment, storage, and distribution to water taps.

Colorado Springs Utilities' Southern Delivery System (SDS), which Barber

used for one example of a portfolio approach, will store imported reuse water from the Frying-Pan Arkansas, Twin Lakes Tunnel, Blue River, and Homestakes projects in high mountain reservoirs such as the Homestake, Montgomery, Williams, and North and South Slope Reservoirs. The stored water will be pumped through the Otero, Blue River, and Homestake Pipelines.

He also described a Two Rivers mutual ditch company model that would transport excess Two Rivers ditch water made available from the farms it owns by performing rotating farm field fallowing in the lower Arkansas River valley and selling/delivering the water that is temporarily not being used for field irrigation to Two Rivers shareholders.

Barber proposed that the town purchase shares of Two Rivers' water supply system portfolio. One share would equal one acre-foot of deliverable renewable water on a not-for-profit wholesale basis. Two Rivers can provide financing through Wedbush Securities Inc. in a public-private partnership to convert Monument's groundwater into a "drought-proof" water reserve and assist with obtaining grant money.

Barber stated that independent water ownership is a prerequisite in the current window of opportunity for participation in SDS now that the long-term economic downturn in the real estate market for Banning-Lewis Ranch has left an unexpected excess of CSU's transmission capacity open for use by other municipal and special district entities and a drastic shortfall in CSU tap fee revenue.

The three steps for the town to form a working relationship with Two Rivers are:

- Sign a memorandum of understanding to outline milestones and responsibilities.
 - Sign a water supply contract, with contingencies for both parties, defining terms and conditions of sale and operating expenses.
 - Form an operating mutual company.
- The "three tracks for achieving a deal with SDS" are:
- Amend the SDS 2009 record of decision under the National Environmental Policy Act and sign a carriage contract with CSU for permanent SDS capacity.
 - Make arrangements for regional partner participation in compliance with the existing Pueblo County 1041 permit for potable water delivery and Fountain Creek Watershed for storm-water issues.
 - Make arrangements for use of Pueblo Reservoir with the Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District.
- Barber also noted that the negotiations could take years and need to start soon through town water rights purchase and ownership while the window of opportunity for SDS participation remains open. He provided copies of a draft memorandum of understanding for the board and

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