

first amendment would change the original requirement to re-appropriate the remainder of the \$15 million each fiscal year to a one-time continuous appropriation for the life of the fund, which will expire on Sept. 1, 2016.

The Senate Ag Committee resolution also recommended changing the words "five percent" to "\$100,000 per fiscal year" for the cost of administration during the three-year life span of this new grant fund. Final votes by the Senate Appropriations Committee and the Senate had not been scheduled. ([www.leg.state.co.us/clics/clics2013a/csl.nsf/fsbillcont3/1E95DAB0015B3FFB87257AEE005853C0?Open&file=HB1191\\_C\\_002.pdf](http://www.leg.state.co.us/clics/clics2013a/csl.nsf/fsbillcont3/1E95DAB0015B3FFB87257AEE005853C0?Open&file=HB1191_C_002.pdf))

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**Phosphate study approved**

Wicklund noted that alum treatment would cause considerably less corrosion than ferric chloride during chemical removal of phosphorus. Alum treatment costs would be slightly higher but would pay for itself through reduced maintenance and repair costs. There are also very significant differences in applying for a temporary modification and a discharger-specific variance or a site-specific variance to the Tri-Lakes facility's discharge permit limits on phosphorus and nitrogen compounds.

The facility's engineering consultant firm Tetra Tech will conduct a \$55,000 study this spring to recommend specific feasible cost-effective design options for modifying the Tri-Lakes treatment plant to meet short- and long-term nutrient restrictions.

Temporary discharge permit modifications are used when there is uncertainty about whether a regulatory requirement is valid or appropriate. Temporary modifications normally are put in place for the life of a five-year discharger permit. An associated compliance schedule is agreed upon between the Water Quality Control Division and the wastewater treatment facility on actions to be taken to try to resolve some of the uncertainties that preclude the technical and/or economic feasibility of trying to achieve the proposed permit limits.

A discharger specific variance is normally put in place at a triennial river basin cycle. There are nine river basins in Colorado. The Tri-Lakes WWTF is part of the Arkansas River basin as well as the Monument/Fountain Creek watershed. This is a much more expensive and difficult application process because a variance asks for a judgment by the Water Quality Control Commission that compliance is not expected to be feasible in the foresee-

able future, nor are the potential solutions affordable or sustainable for any of the special wastewater districts in the Tri-Lakes region.

**Copper sulfate problem**

Wicklund noted that he had persuaded the corporate manager of Big R in Pueblo to remove copper sulfate from the shelves of the new store on Struthers Road in the Donala district. Wicklund suggested an alternative product, RootX ([www.rootx.com](http://www.rootx.com)), to Big R that kills roots with foam and is given away by the district to discourage use of copper sulfate. Robinove asked Wicklund to document his Big R request and those he made in the past to Home Depot and other stores for future discharge permit negotiations and comments to the Water Quality Control Commission at future regulatory hearings. Wicklund said he would insert a notice in the district invoices due on May 1 regarding the district's copper sulfate prohibition.

Wicklund also noted that any customer having problems with tree roots can contact the district office (481-4886) to discuss the problem and methods that can be used to resolve it. Jars of RootX are available at the district office at 130 Second St. Roebic Foaming Root Killer is available at Home Depot. Neither product uses copper sulfate like Zep Root Kill, which can cause permit violations and large fines for the Tri-Lakes WWTF and is no longer sold at the Monument Home Depot, at Wicklund's request.

The meeting adjourned at 7:59 p.m.  
 \*\*\*\*\*

The next meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. on April 18 in the district conference room, 130 Second St. Information: 481-4886.

Jim Kendrick can be reached at [jimkendrick@ocn.me](mailto:jimkendrick@ocn.me).

**Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Protection District, Feb. 27**

**Expenses slightly under budget**

By Bernard L. Minetti

Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Protection District (TLMFPD) Treasurer John Hildebrandt reported to the board Feb. 27 that actual expenses were under budget for January 2013. He noted that the district had received \$38 as the first property tax payment, and that a small payment such as this was not unusual for the first part of a new year.

Hildebrandt said the specific ownership tax payment to the district amounted to \$23,350, which was 9.38 percent of the annual budgeted amount of \$249,000. Am-

balance revenues for January were \$42,489, which was slightly higher than the budgeted amount.

He also noted that overall expenses for January were 0.31 percent under budget projections. Administrative expenses were high due to one-time insurance and medical expenses. He said these expenses will normalize as the year progresses.

District Secretary Rod Wilson read resolution 13-002 into the record. This resolution contains guidance for the retention and destruction of district records, the length of

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