

technical review committee meeting.

Duthie briefed the board on the state Legislature's recent passage of House Bill 13-1186, a "transparency" bill that requires addition of a public disclosure notice to every special district property owner's deed that the property has been included in that district for water and/or wastewater service. Petersen said Donala's responsibility will be to file all the disclosure notices to the county with accurate information on each property in the district while it will be the county's responsibility to record this information on each of the affected county property titles.

There is also a new requirement for

every special district to provide at least 30 days of notice before a hearing on an increase of district fees, including those increases that are routinely incorporated in each district's annual budget.

A separate bill that had not passed yet would prevent homeowners associations (HOAs) from requiring any turf grass in covenants or from prohibiting or limiting xeriscaping. The bill would prohibit HOAs from fining individual property owners for not installing green landscape, if the property owner is complying with local water restrictions.

Petersen and Duthie expressed concern that El Paso County may control

"graywater" permitting and inspections instead of Donala under a proposed graywater bill. Duthie emphasized that rain water becomes surface water and is not graywater. Therefore, rain water cannot be captured for irrigation like graywater. Graywater is captured shower and sink water that has been sufficiently treated so that it can be safely recycled for use in toilets and irrigation with a separate piping system.

Duthie reported that the drought has affected the Colorado River so drastically that this may prevent the Flaming Gorge water supply project from making any significant progress in the near term. Also, the designation of the Colorado River as the "No. 1 Most Endangered" river in the nation by the American Rivers advocacy group will generate higher scrutiny.

The Upper Monument facility is coordinating with Tri-Lakes Wastewater

Treatment Facility and the U.S. Geological Survey to take nutrient samples in Monument Creek on the same day to better characterize nutrient levels between Monument Lake and the north gate of the Air Force Academy.

Status of operational projects

Petersen reported that Generac has advised the district that it no longer has the backup generator that Donala had agreed to purchase for its water treatment plant. Generac offered to sell Donala a larger used generator with about 100 hours of operational time. Negotiations are continuing.

Petersen noted that the repair in the Holbein water treatment plant that was caused by a pipe leak has been completed. Both the Holbein and Hull facilities are ready for this summer's peak demand treatment period following these annual repairs.

A pre-construction meeting was held with Upper Monument sludge press extension contractor Aslan Construction, Petersen said. The sludge press extension project is expected to be completed in June and will provide more efficient and cost-effective sludge removal from the wastewater facility.

Weaver Construction, the general contractor for the Upper Monument expansion project, will assist the district in repairing a leak in the channel used for ultraviolet disinfection of effluent. This disinfection is the final stage of treatment before the effluent is discharged from the facility.

The meeting went into executive session for real estate negotiations and personnel at 2:35 p.m.

After this regular meeting, the Donala board held a special meeting at 9 a.m. on April 26 to approve a resolution for a rep-

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