

comments during the open portion of the public hearing on the appropriation resolution.

This appropriation covered total operating expenditures of \$561,278 and all the projected 2014 costs for revenue bond interest payments and nutrient expansion capital costs plus construction contingencies that may arise. Any amounts that were appropriated that are not spent in 2014 will be rolled over in the final 2014 ending balance to cover the new construction that may be deferred until 2015.

There was no need for the board to approve a mill levy resolution because the district still has no debt that is being paid for by a district property tax. The Colorado State Bank and Trust loan for the Tri-Lakes Wastewater Treatment Fa-

cility nutrient expansion will not create a property tax.

### Revenue bond changed to a loan

The board unanimously approved an amended and restated resolution that changed the resolution approved on Dec. 10 from a revenue bond to a wastewater revenue note, at the recommendation and request of Colorado State Bank and Trust. Under this revised resolution, Wicklund will act as the paying agent for sending interest and principal payment checks directly to the loan agent. The change from a revenue bond was requested to make it easier for the bank to deal with this type

of small, short-term public entity capital loan.

### Meeting time changed for 2014

The board unanimously approved a change in the meeting time for monthly board meetings from 7 p.m. to 10 a.m. throughout 2014. Meetings will continue to be held on the third Thursday of the month. The first 10 a.m. meeting will be held on Jan. 16.

### Treasurer's report

Wicklund noted that the district's revenue since the Nov. 21 board meeting was \$55,123 and expenditures were \$45,703. Total cash assets on Dec. 19 were \$398,265. A total of \$10,800 in new

tap fees was received after Nov. 21, for a total of \$76,400 year to date. The amount budgeted for 2013 was \$50,000. He added that he did not expect any more tap fees to be paid for the remainder of 2013, nor did he expect any large outstanding bills after this meeting. "We've dug ourselves out of that hole where we were down to about \$200,000," he said.

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The next meeting will be held at 10 a.m. on Jan. 16 at the district conference room, 130 Second St. Meetings will be normally held in 2014 at 10 a.m. on the third Thursday of the month. Information: 481-4886.

Jim Kendrick can be reached at

## Academy Water and Sanitation District, Dec. 18

# District poised to begin work to meet new treatment regulations

By Susan Hindman

A timeline of tasks facing the Academy Water and Sanitation District (AWSD) as it works to comply with new state effluent regulations was presented at the Dec. 18 board meeting. In his presentation, Dave Frisch of GMS Inc., the district's engineering consultant, emphasized that if the board wants to put a mill levy issue before voters in November 2014—to pay for meeting the mandated ammonia limits—work has to begin immediately.

The work includes:

- Meeting with Colorado Springs Utilities (CSU) to confirm a commitment and develop an intergovernmental agreement.
- Identifying the exact route of piping that would extend from district's treatment plant all the way to Northgate Road, where it would connect with CSU.
- Determining if the pipeline "will work hydraulically."
- Identifying the property owners along the way, who will need to be approached about purchasing easements.
- Hiring an environmental consulting firm to determine the pipeline's impact on protected Preble's meadow

jumping mouse habitat, which could cost hundreds of thousands of dollars for mitigation.

- Approaching Colorado Springs City Council for approval of connecting with CSU.
- Designing either the pipeline or a new treatment plant at the current location, depending on the results of other actions.

Either option—connecting with CSU or building a treatment plant—is projected to cost district residents around \$4 million. While the numbers aren't firm, the district has to proceed with that number in mind as it prepares a mill levy. The district also plans to apply for grants that could offset some of the cost. But it will compete with treatments facilities across the state for whatever grant money is available.

Special districts, such as AWSD, can hold elections only in even-numbered years, so the board had the choice of holding an election in May or November 2014 or May 2016. Because the wastewater permit requires all plans and funding to be in place by October 2016, waiting until 2016 for an election would not give the board enough time to meet that deadline. The board told Frisch to begin work immediately.

The district's permit also requires a dechlorination facility be built by October 2014, to meet new total residual chlorine (TRC) limits. However, this facility—es-

timated to cost around \$35,000—would no longer be needed once the district either connects to CSU or builds a treatment plant. The district is working with GMS to try to get this requirement waived.

**Note:** The November 2013 OCN article on AWSD contained an error: The district has to be able to report that the TRC numbers are below 0.05 mg/L, not 0.5 mg/L.

### New insurance policy increases coverage

Kathy Francis, with Specialty Insurance Partners, presented an updated policy proposal that increases the district's coverage by \$1.1 million, to \$3.14 million. The board approved the new policy, which will take effect Jan. 1. The premium will be \$16,909.

### Website up and running

Director Ron Curry reported that the district's first-ever website is now public. He worked for more than a year to get the site up and running. He will purchase a new domain name and a "business email package" that includes five email addresses, so that residents can reach board members.

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The Academy Water and Sanitation District board meets at 6 p.m. the third Wednesday of every month at the fire station on Gleneagle and Jessie Drives. The next meeting is Jan. 15.

Susan Hindman can be reached at [susanhindman@ocn.me](mailto:susanhindman@ocn.me).

# Former partner no longer affiliated with country club

**Editor's note:** After the article on the Nov. 14 Woodmoor Water and Sanitation

District board meeting was published in the Dec. 7, 2013, issue of OCN (see [www.ocn.me/v13n12.htm#wwsd](http://www.ocn.me/v13n12.htm#wwsd)), Don Uhl, who was pictured in this article, told OCN he was a part owner of Woodmoor Country Club in the 1980s, but he and his partners sold their shares back to the club in 1986 at the request of the membership as promised. Uhl stated that currently he has no interest in Monument Hill Country Club except to help find a new private owner for this club. ■

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