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to send her a signed pledge amount. Residents would not actually send in pledge money until it's known if the town receives the grant on May 5. Private property owners must agree to a free pre- and post-mitigation firewise assessment of their property to be part of the grant. Residents are also welcome to pledge money on behalf of the town so that it could do more mitigation on its property using the matching funds.

McDonald and Water Trustee Michael Maddox said they would contact other local government officials such as District 1 Commissioner Darryl Glenn and Larry Small, executive director of the Fountain Creek Watershed district, for additional pledges to add to the grant application.

Cell phone tower proposed

Colleen Nebel, senior site acquisition associate for Black and Veatch Corp., represented Verizon Wireless, which is "very interested" in building a wireless facility in Palmer Lake to improve coverage. Verizon's engineers have

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identified the Palmer Lake Volunteer Fire Department (PLVFD) parking lot as their first choice for the 60-foot tower and the associated shed. The town would receive \$800 a month in revenue if this location is approved. The trustees asked many preliminary questions and then asked that Nebel present information to the Palmer Lake Planning Commission on Feb. 19. See related article on page 7.

The issue will not be voted on by citizens, but the Town Council will take input from residents.

Committee reports

Park and Recreation Trustee Mike Patrizi said that the Awake the Lake committee is looking for grant writers to help with the next Great Outdoor Colorado (GOCO) grant application, which could be worth up to \$350,000 to improve the park at Palmer Lake. See http: //awakepalmerlake.org and www.ocn.me/v13n4.htm#pltc for more information. The committee is also discussing potential business sponsorships to help work on the possible lakebed repair or to sponsor holes on the disc golf course at the lake.

Grado said officers made four DUI arrests in January, including one juvenile charged with driving under influence of drugs (DUID) who admitted to being high on marijuana. Officers responded to 36 high-risk calls, 21 urgent calls, and 21 non-emergency calls in January.

Maddox said the town used 4.2 million gallons of water in January. Water Supervisor Steve Orcutt told Maddox that in 2013, because of the water restrictions and the drought, the town used the least amount of water

Fire Trustee Rich Kuehster said PLVFD responded to 25 calls in January and logged 2,239 volunteer hours: Grado commented that this is the equivalent of 14 fulltime employees. PLFVD conducted a controlled burn to dispose of slash and do training, and it also practiced ice rescues. Capt. Abby Vierling attended a leadership class at Monument Fire Center. Kuehster said that PLVFD is now a Safe Haven, where a parent or legal guardian may surrender a baby anonymously and not risk prosecution for abandonment or neglect.

The PLVFD welcomed Margo Humes, its new volunteer fire marshal, who is already assisting with fuel mitigation grant applications and doing mitigation assessments for town residents. Residents can call Humes at 776-0380 or Vierling at 481-2902 for more information.

In the mayor's report, McDonald said that the Burlington Northern & Santa Fe Railroad contacted resident Gary Coleman about obtaining an access easement through his Highway 105 property to the railroad tracks. Since Coleman is not interested in financial remuneration, he asked instead for a letter of support from the railroad to attach to the GOCO grant application explaining the town's desire for an overhead walkway from the park



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