

Palmer Lake Sanitation District voters approve TABOR waiver for state grant

By Jim Kendrick

In the May 6 mail-in ballot election, Palmer Lake Sanitation District voters overwhelmingly approved a one-time TABOR waiver that allows the district to accept \$360,000 in state nutrient grants for planning, design, and construction of phosphorus removal equipment at the Tri-Lake Wastewater Treatment Facility. The vote was 268 to 30.

Although there were only four candidates for five empty board seats, there was a board election on this

same ballot with the following results:

- Richard Shellenberger—208
- John Marshall—203
- Kenneth Smith—213
- Joseph Stallsmith—199

After the election, Director Dale Smith, who was term limited, was appointed at the May 11 district board meeting to fill the fifth seat until the next election in 2016. At this meeting, the board elected officers as follows: Rich-

ard Shellenberger, chairman; John Marshall, vice chairman; Kenneth Smith, secretary/treasurer and JUC representative; and Joseph Stallsmith and Smith as directors.

The district board has changed its monthly board meeting date and time. Meetings are now held on the second Wednesday of each month at 10 a.m. in the district conference room at 120 Middle Glenway. The next meeting will be held on June 11.

Jim Kendrick can be reached at jimkendrick@ocn.me.

Monument Sanitation District, May 15

New directors sworn in

By Jim Kendrick

On May 15, Directors Gene Kreft and Terry Madison were sworn in for four year terms as Monument Sanitation District board directors. Director Matt Vincent was sworn in for a two-year term. Most of the extended meeting was spent on orienting the new directors on district procedures, policies, and issues.

Ed DeLaney was re-appointed to board president, Don Smith was re-appointed to board treasurer, and Madison was appointed board secretary. Smith was appointed as the new primary district representative to the Joint Use Committee (JUC) of the Tri-Lakes Wastewater Treatment Facility, and DeLaney was appointed the primary alternate representative to this committee since they attend all the JUC meetings already. The other three directors were also appointed as backup alternates.

The Tri-Lakes facility operates as a separate public utility and is jointly owned, in equal one-third shares, by Monument Sanitation District, Palmer Lake Sanitation District, and Woodmoor Water and Sanitation District. The three-member JUC acts as the board of the facility and consists of one director from each of the three owner districts' boards. DeLaney urged the new directors to attend JUC meetings whenever they can to learn how the facility operates.

District Manager Mike Wicklund reported that Safeway had paid the district bill including late fees for under-reported water use since 2010 due to a bypass valve that had been installed around the town's water meter. For more information on this issue see <http://www.ocn.me/v14n5.htm#msd0417>.

Treasurer's report

The district received three tap fees since the April 17 board meeting, totaling \$28,800. Total tap fees for the year to date is \$37,900. The amount of tap fee revenue budgeted for 2014 is \$50,000. More tap fees from new residential construction are likely later this year.

Wicklund asked the board to consider whether tap fees should be modified at a future meeting. The current fee is \$4,500 for a residential wastewater tap, plus \$300 per fixture unit over 20 units.

Wicklund briefed the board on the new computers, software, and network modifications that had been installed at a cost of about \$5,000. The new systems allow him to monitor all the district's supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) computer readings and directly operate the district's new digital lift station control system from his home at night and on weekends. This will allow Wicklund to safely monitor and operate the system from his home during snow storms and at night.

Wicklund noted the purchase of a new shredder, after nursing the old shredder along for years, from Factory Express for \$1,758.

A tree root infiltration blocked a district vitrified collection line and caused a basement backup in a district home. The cost for Servpro of Northern Colorado Springs to clean up the basement was \$1,882. The reimbursement cost for basement property damages was \$1,957.

A payment of \$2,188 was paid to Insituform Technologies for reimbursing a 2013 retainage fee as part of the district's ongoing multi-year program of relining aging terra cotta vitrified clay collection pipes in the downtown area. Insituform is a felt liner saturated with resins that is pulled through these decaying pipes and cured in place with steam. Wicklund said the liner is stronger and cheaper than the vitrified clay pipes were when new and has a lifespan of at least 100 years and only takes one day to install with no excavation required. Also, Insituform is

a multi-billion-dollar corporation that is well insured.

The new liner will be installed this summer and paid for from the \$50,000 contingency line in the 2014 budget. This year the liner will be installed west of Washington Street and north of Third Street.

Wicklund stated that a district grinder pump in a Wakonda Hills home had been replaced. The replacement pump from Keen Pump Co. cost \$941.

The cost for lift station repairs by J&K Excavation was \$2,250.

Total cash assets were \$799,933. About \$400,000 of this amount is a loan to pay the district's one-third share of design, engineering, and construction costs for new phosphorus removal equipment at the Tri-Lakes facility that is required by the state's Control Regulation 85 and Regulation 31.17.

The facility received a state grant of \$80,000 for planning and design and a separate state grant of \$1 million for construction following four years of district participation in state nutrient removal stakeholder meetings and aggressive lobbying of the state Legislature and Gov. John Hickenlooper for help in paying the total facility expansion cost of \$2.08 million.

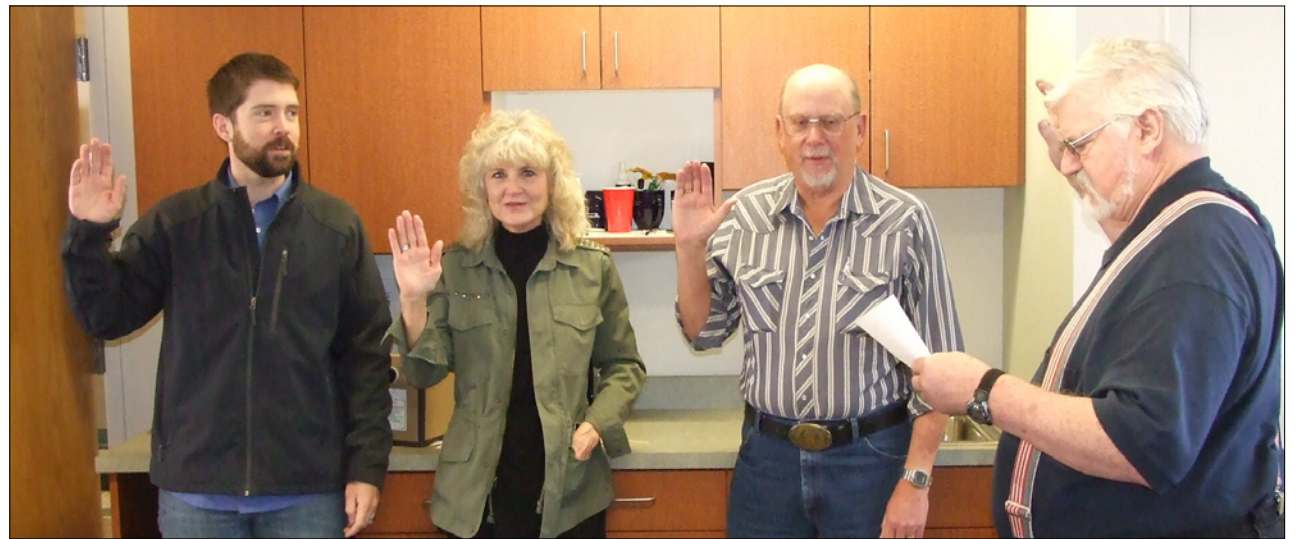
The district auditor will attend the June 19 board meeting to present the draft 2013 audit.

The board unanimously accepted the treasurer's report as presented.

The meeting adjourned at 11:58 a.m.

The next meeting will be held at 10 a.m. on June 19 in the district conference room at 130 Second St. Meetings are normally held on the third Thursday of the month. Information: 481-4886.

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Above: On May 15, Monument Sanitation District President Ed DeLaney, right, swore in Directors Gene Kreft and Terry Madison for four-year terms as district board directors. Director Matt Vincent, left, was sworn in for a two-year director term. Photo by Jim Kendrick.



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