

with Donala's internal district needs.

On a separate matter, Petersen reported that one of Forest Lakes Metropolitan District's Denver aquifer augmentation wells had failed. Forest Lakes was using that well to sell untreated water to Kiewit Construction for its I-25 highway expansion project. Petersen advised the board that he had agreed to sell Forest Lakes some of Donala's excess of untreated credits at a rate of 0.52 acre-foot per day for \$125 per acre-foot to help Forest Lakes meet its augmentation requirements. Forest Lakes is a co-owner with Donala and Triview Metropolitan District of the Upper Monument Creek Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility.

Cost of 2013 service report reviewed

Petersen presented his 2013 cost of service analysis to the board for review as information only. He noted that the various data on providing service to single- and multi-family residential and various types of commercial customers are difficult to correlate into simple patterns or rules of thumb due to the number of pervasive uncontrollable external factors, such as weather, that affect district operations.

Donala, like other special districts, has different residential and commercial fees for different kinds of customers. Wastewater costs are far less variable than drinking water costs because wastewater flows are steadier, largely due to not being affected by summer irrigation surges. Bray reviewed the history of the district's various loans, property tax ballots, and tax revenue allocations for the board.

Discussions with Academy district resume

Petersen noted that preliminary negotiations have resumed

with two directors of the Academy Water and Sanitation District board regarding treatment of Academy's sanitary sewer flows using a small portion of Donala's owned flow and treatment capacity at the Upper Monument Creek facility. Donala is unlikely to need all of its owned flow and treatment capacity in the future because the district is about 98 percent built out at this time.

Note: Facility co-owner Forest Lakes already owns all the flow and treatment capacity it will need. Co-owner Triview is forecast to run out of owned treatment capacity as more vacant land in its service area is developed. At that point, Triview would have to pay all costs for further expansion of the Upper Monument Creek facility on its own.

Talks between Donala and Academy lapsed in 2012 while Academy explored a direct gravity connection with CSU's wastewater system that might be less expensive to construct and operate. It now appears that Academy's costs for obtaining sewer service from CSU would be substantially higher than initially estimated due to the complexity of obtaining easements for gravity flow from its plant to CSU's collection system at Northgate Boulevard.

The Academy board was scheduled to visit the Donala board meeting on June 26. There was Donala board consensus to schedule a special board meeting on July 22 for further discussions with Academy.

Academy will need to have an election in November to seek voter approval for financing of a new wastewater treatment system.

Some of the preliminary information previously presented by Donala to Academy in a May 18, 2012 board-to-board letter was:



Above: On June 19, Donala Water and Sanitation District Board Office Manager Betsy Bray presented a birthday cake to Director Bill Nance to celebrate his 90th birthday. From left are Directors Dave Powell and Bob Denny, General Manager Kip Petersen (head of the table), and Ken Judd at far right. Photo by Jim Kendrick.

- Donala can provide Academy with treatment for wastewater flows up to 70,000 gallons per day once an engineering analysis that is already underway shows Donala's collection system is adequate for additional flows.
- Academy would have to fund any needed Donala collection system expansion for routine flows.
- If instantaneous surge flows from Academy during thunderstorms are in excess of the Donala collection system's existing capacity, Academy would need to build retention storage at Academy's new lift station that will pump Academy wastewater over the ridge line between the two districts to a point where gravity can deliver Academy's wastewater the rest of the way through Donala's wastewater pipes to the Upper Monument Creek facility.
- The initial estimate for the plant investment fee Academy would have to pay Donala before the start of sewer service will probably be no more than \$1.14 mil-

lion.

- Academy would have to contribute in the long term to Donala's share of future required improvements to the Upper Monument Creek facility for treatment of phosphorus, ammonia, metals, and radiology processing.
- The 2013 cost of service study shows that Donala's current cost for treating its wastewater is about \$5.18 per thousand gallons.
- Academy would be charged a 20 percent administrative and system use fee resulting in a charge of \$33.56 per month for out of district wastewater service to Academy's 300 residential customers.
- Any new development or provision of service within Academy would require Donala approval.
- Any inclusions of territory by Academy would also need approval by Donala, and Academy would have share the associated tap fees with Donala.
- Academy will need to "share" expenses for future treatment process changes and existing equipment replacement costs.
- Donala will analyze some of Academy's wastewater with attention to metals and radium.
- Academy would have to adopt Donala's sewer use and pre-treatment rules and regulations.

Authority proposes ballot issue on stormwater fees

Petersen reported that the Pikes Peak Regional Water Authority received a presentation on June 4 by the citizen stormwater group, led by Dave Munger, which is proposing a ballot question in November to establish the Pikes Peak Regional Drainage Authority and impose an impervious service fee on every property owner—up to \$10 per month per residential property. Nonprofits like Donala and churches would not be exempt from fees they would also be charged based on the square footage of their roof and driveway.

This fee would be charged to all county properties, because the county is responsible for all

its stormwater drainage infrastructure regardless of which water body the stormwater drains into. This stormwater fee would not apply solely to properties that drain through Fountain Creek.

The Munger group is making the same presentation to seven county municipalities (including Monument and Palmer Lake) seeking signatures on an intergovernmental agreement that will set the stage for a county-wide approach toward solving stormwater management issues. Petersen noted that he was surprised that the Monument mayor was opposed to this initiative.

The total amount being sought for all proposed county stormwater projects is about \$800 million. The Munger proposal would generate an estimated \$48 million to \$50 million per year in "fee" revenue. The proposal calls for administrative costs to be "capped" at 1 percent. The Munger group will need to collect 84,000 valid signatures for this ballot question.

The authority won't meet again until September.

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