

lowing each district to do more with the funds available.

He explained many options for the board to consider to generate more revenue for the operating fund. Starting in 2016 when any changes would take effect, the projected budget is short \$500,000 each year through 2019 if the goal is "not just to pay the current bills but to sustain the level of service with a solid financial plan," Truty said.

Financial report

Treasurer John Hildebrandt said that as of July 31, the district was 0.61 percent over budget, with expenses all in alignment and revenues from property taxes, specific ownership taxes, and ambulance revenue all on track. Overtime was at 162 percent of the amount budgeted due to three empty staff positions, one injury, and out-of-state deployments—and this was part of the 2014 budget amendment.

2014 budget amended

At the open public hearing, no member of the public spoke either in favor of or in opposition to the amendments to the 2014 budget.

The board unanimously approved the 2014 amended budget to reallocate funds from capital improvements to several line items, including overtime wages and costs associated with the mill levy increase election. The Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) required a public hearing on the budget amendment, as required by state statutes, before the board could formally vote on it. See www.ocn.me/v14n8.htm#tlmfpd0723.

CORA and EAP approved

The Colorado Open Records Act (CORA) requires local governments to be as transparent as possible and says that the district must make all existing records available to anyone who asks.

The board voted unanimously to accept the district CORA policy, and in September members will review the associated fees the district will charge for requests.

The board voted unanimously to approve the Public Safety Employee Assistance Program (EAP) through 2015, which will cover employees and their families who need counseling about debt, legal, and financial matters and access to information on other personal and wellness topics. This will cost \$2,500 for the district for one year.

Chief's report

Truty's comments included:

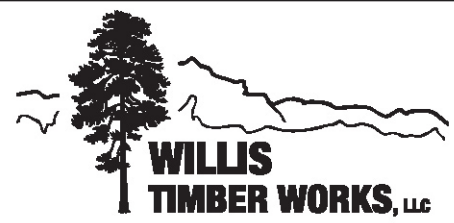
- Merger talks continue with Donald Wescott FPD and Larkspur FPD.
- The Sept. 24 and Oct. 22 board meeting agendas will include 2015 budget presentations and discussion.
- The public hearing for the 2015 budget will be held on Nov. 12 rather than Nov. 26.

- ISO is re-evaluating TLMF-PD's rating for the first time since 2006.
- Three TLMFD staff members will return soon from deployment to Oregon.
- ADT awarded the district \$5,000 in recognition of a family saved by a carbon monoxide alarm.
- Bids are coming in for the district space-needs analysis.
- An increase of 5 percent in benefits is in the works for 2015.

The meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

The next meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 24, in the Administration Center at 166 Second St. in Monument. For additional information, contact the district Fire Administration Office at 719-484-0911.

Lisa Hatfield can be reached at lisahatfield@ocn.me.



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ART HOP

Thursday, September 18

The **third Thursday** of each month, May through September, the galleries, restaurants and boutiques of historic downtown Monument stay open until 8:00PM for a celebration featuring art openings, book signings, great food, live music and other special events.

1. Purple Mountain Jewelry
47 Third Street, Unit C
719.487.0444

2. Frog on a Limb Primitives
341 Front Street
719.481.8888

3. Posh Pineapple
251 Front Street, "9"
719.487.2866

4. The Love Shop
251 Front Street "13"
719.598.3348

5. La Casa Fiesta
230 Front Street
719.481.1234

6. Wisdom Tea House
65 Second Street
719.481.8822

7. Bella Art & Frame
183 Washington St.
719.487.7691

8. 1492 Chocolates
174 Washington Street
855.700.1492

9. Catriona Cellars
243 Washington Street
719.481.3477

10. Bliss Studio and Gallery
243 1/2 Washington Street (alley access)
719.244.8992

11. Margo's on the Alley
253 Washington Street
719.487.1406

12. Covered Treasures Bookstore
Corner of Second and Washington
719.481.2665

13. Shades of Amber
125 Second Street
719.265.9921

14. Bella Casa
155 Second Street
719.559.4133

15. Santa Fe Trail Jewelry
215 Chapala Plaza
719.481.0250

16. Hangers
245 North Jefferson Street
719.488.2300

17. The Village Merchants
155 North Jefferson Street
719.375.5438

18. DeVine Grill
366 Second Street
719.481.4900

19. The Roost
135 Second Street
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