

Wicklund added that he is also budgeting \$150,000 for the lawsuit in 2015 and “the lawsuit will settle this.”

Burks said the third hourly wage operator is still needed, starting in April. He said purchase of a new third pickup truck could be deferred beyond 2015 with further maintenance of the two existing trucks and the long-proposed storage building was not needed. There was JUC consensus on Burks’ priorities.

There was a lengthy technical discussion about how state law applies to amending an already approved budget for a joint public venture owned by Title 32 special districts like Tri-Lakes. Wicklund stated that Monument cannot and will not pay more than 19.79 percent of the cost of the TP construction project. Don Smith said Monument cannot afford to pay for a third hourly wage operator.

Don Smith made a motion to amend the final 2015 Tri-Lakes facility budget as follows:

- Delete Note 11 that specified that each owner district would pay a third of all expenses for treating this newly regulated constituent.

- Delete the specific line item 22 entry for the expenditure for construction of a storage building.
- Delete the specific line item 26 entry for the expenditure of the purchase of a new additional third staff pickup truck.
- Delete all line item 31 expenditures associated with creation of a new third operator position in April 2015.

Strom seconded the motion and the JUC approved it unanimously.

After Burks reported on successful November plant operations, the meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

\*\*\*\*\*

The next meeting will be held at 10 a.m. on Jan. 13 at the at the Tri-Lakes facility’s conference room, 16510 Mitchell Ave. Meetings are normally held on the second Tuesday of the month. Information for these meetings is available at 481-4053.

Jim Kendrick can be reached at [jimkendrick@ocn.me](mailto:jimkendrick@ocn.me).

Monument Sanitation District, Dec.18

# 2015 district budget approved

By Jim Kendrick

On Dec. 18, at a public hearing, the Monument Sanitation District (MSD) board unanimously approved a resolution for the district’s 2015 budget as presented and a resolution to appropriate the funds necessary to fund this budget. The board also unanimously approved a letter of engagement with Bauerle & Co. for the district’s 2014 audit with a maximum fee of \$8,900.

**2015 district budget briefing**  
Some of the line items Monument District Manager Mike Wicklund briefed to the board about the district’s 2015 budget were:

- Beginning balance - \$908,306
- Total revenues - \$823,037
- Total expenses - \$1.64 million
- Net income - (\$825,613)
- Ending balance - \$82,693
- Legal fees - \$175,000
- Tri-Lakes plant capital improvements - \$533,578
- State grant revenues - \$149,414

No member of the public spoke for or against the budget during the open portion of the public budget hearing.

The board unanimously approved the resolution for adopting the 2015 budget, as presented. Also approved unanimously were the corresponding 2015 resolution for a total general fund appropriation of \$1.64 million and the certification of tax levies for non-school governments that

stated that there will be no mill levy for the district in 2015.

**2015 Tri-Lakes budget amendment discussion**

Wicklund also noted that the special Dec. 3 district board meeting included an executive session for the board to receive legal advice regarding negotiations from the district’s litigation attorney Steve Mulliken. Based on Mulliken’s legal advice, the board voted to reject the 2015 Tri-Lakes Wastewater Treatment Facility budget because the budget’s sole listing of cost sharing by thirds could be used in district court by Woodmoor as evidence of the Monument’s willingness to pay a third of the total phosphorus constituent treatment expansion costs, a total net cost of \$440,000. Monument’s total net cost for paying only for the total phosphorus treatment capacity it will own (19.79 percent of 264 pounds per day of removal, or 52.25 pounds per day) would be \$261,288, a difference of \$178,712.

Wicklund advised the board that Tri-Lakes facility Manager Bill Burks had not listed the design and construction cost shares

divided by the existing percentages of low and biosolids treatment capacity ownership for the three districts that own the facility in the final 2015 Tri-Lakes facility budget, as requested by Monument several times. The hearing for the final 2015 Tri-Lakes facility budget was held at the Nov. 11 Tri-Lakes facility Joint Use Committee (JUC) meeting.

Wicklund also noted that Burks had only listed all the associated total phosphorus constituent treatment capacity expansion costs in a single column, split by thirds, in Note 11 of the final 2015 facility budget. The purpose of Note 11 is to show the amount each district will pay for the year for all its individual Tri-Lakes costs. There are different cost-sharing percentages for various types of costs, such as operating, capital, repair, and replacement costs.

These new total phosphorus constituent chemical coagulation and settling clarifiers will cost an estimated \$2.32 million. A \$1 million state nutrient treatment grant will pay for part of this new

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### Choice Enrollment Events

**New Family Information Meeting**  
*January 27, 2015 – 6:00 pm - Library*  
What is a Charter School? - This informational meeting is intended for families considering Monument Academy for the 2015-16 school year and would like to know more about our outstanding tuition-free public school.

**Kindergarten Round Up!**  
*January 30, 2015 – 2:30 pm & 4:30 pm - Library*  
For all those little buck-a-roos going into kindergarten next fall and their parents, we offer two identical sessions which allow you to visit our classrooms and meet our fantastic kindergarten staff.

**Middle School Sneak Peek**  
*January 23, 2015 – 8:15 am - Library*  
This annual event, for current MA 5th grade students and parents only, allows the student to experience a “middle school day” concluding with a pizza lunch. Parents are invited to attend an optional Q&A session in our library at 8:15 am.

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