
The Monument Board of Trustees usually meets at 6:30 p.m. on the first and third Mondays of each month at Monument Town Hall, 645 Beacon Lite Road. The next meeting is scheduled for Dec. 7. Call 884-8017 or see www.townofmonument.org for information. The Dec. 21 board meeting might be canceled; check www.townofmonument.org to verify.

To see upcoming agendas and complete board packets for the Monument Board of Trustees, see <http://monumenttownco.minutesondemand.com/> and click on Board of Trustees.

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

Tri-Lakes Wastewater Facility Joint Use Committee, Nov. 10

2016 budget adjusted and approved; recent water quality control meetings summarized

By Lisa Hatfield

The Nov. 10 meeting of the Tri-Lakes Wastewater Facility (TLWWTF) Joint Use Committee (JUC) included discussion and approval of the 2016 facility budget and 2016 appropriation resolutions as well as a decision to have the facility's property lines surveyed. The JUC directors also heard reports about many recent regional and state water quality control meetings where decisions were made that directly affect the TLWWTF.

TLWWTF operates as a separate public utility and is jointly owned, in equal one-third shares, by Monument Sanitation District (MSD), Palmer Lake Sanitation District (PLSD), and Woodmoor Water and Sanitation District (WWSO). The three-member JUC acts as the board of the facility and consists of one director from each of the three owner districts' boards

MSD was represented by its treasurer, Don Smith, who is also the JUC president, and District Manager Mike Wicklund. PLSD was represented by its Secretary/Treasurer Ken Smith and District Manager Becky Orcutt. Director at Large Rich Strom and Assistant District Manager Randy Gillette represented WWSO. Other board and staff representatives of the three districts also attended.

2016 budget approved

Before the members approved the 2016 budget, Wicklund said two changes were needed. First, he asked that the 10-percent construction contingency amount of \$306,000 for the total phosphorus removal tertiary treatment chemical clarifier expansion project's construction contract be included as a separate construction budget line item. This line item is necessary to fund the chemical storage room emergency generator change order that is being required by the Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Protection District fire marshal. The requested line item would also fund any other future unbudgeted construction item change orders for the new clarifier expansion without requiring the board to approve any 2016 facility budget amendments next year.

Second, Wicklund said that the estimated amount that will be spent for construction of the total phosphorus clarifier expansion project in 2015 should be calculated so that the remainder of the construction budget could be placed in these 2016 budget line items.

Plant Manager Bill Burks said he would investigate the final amounts with accountant Jackie Spegele of Numeric Strategies LLC and include them in the final 2016 budget. He added that all of the \$1 million state nutrient grant will be spent by the end of 2015, about \$788,000 in 2015, and only about \$33,000 will have been invoiced to the three owner districts for the total phosphorus expansion this year. The remainder of the construction will now be paid for entirely by the three owner districts.

The board voted unanimously to approve the 2016 budget with the note that Burks would make those two changes. Then the members unanimously approved the 2016 budget appropriation as amended for these two changes. These approvals will allow each of the three owner districts to finalize their separate 2016 district budgets and appropriations line items for the TLWWTF.

Colorado Wastewater Utility Council report and more

MSD environmental compliance coordinator Jim Kendrick reported on many related regional and state meetings he attended recently in his role as consultant to the JUC. His report noted that Brown and Caldwell environmen-

tal engineer Sarah Reeves, who serves as the coordinator of the Colorado Monitoring Framework (CMF) and Arkansas and Fountain Coalition for Urban River Evaluation (AF CURE), environmental attorney Tad Foster, and environmental attorney Gabe Racz of Vranish & Raisch, LLP, as well as other members of the regulated community that he collaborates with through the Colorado Wastewater Utility Council, AF CURE and CMF, "continue to professionally, diplomatically, and expertly represent the interests of TLWWTF as well as all wastewater treatment facilities statewide."

The Oct. 6 AF CURE meeting included continuing discussions about the ramifications of how and where to measure stream temperatures, E. coli levels, and phosphorus levels. The Water Quality Control Division (WQCD) of the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (www.cdphe.state.co.us) has denied AF CURE's request to re-segment Segment 6 of Monument Creek for data collection purposes. Foster is currently advocating that AF CURE's position should be that Monument Creek should be divided into two sections for state water quality regulation at the confluence with West Monument Creek, located west of I-25 Exit 150, inside the U.S. Air Force Academy grounds. The northern upstream segment is rural, while the southern downstream segment is urban; this has a significant impact on all the various types of sampling data that the member wastewater districts of AF CURE are collecting for both the state and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

In particular, the final methodology that will be used for regulating "summer" and "winter" stream temperatures for recreational fish reproduction in the Arkansas River basin is a very controversial issue being debated between the WQCD and AF CURE, since the EPA does not want the division to use a naturally sloping seasonal temperature curve, but instead a "top-hat" model of one warm temperature for summer and one cold temperature for winter. Stream flows outside of the summer snow melt period are often so low in both Monument Creek and Fountain Creek that their depths are only a few inches at most. This results in the same large temperature fluctuations as the ambient air temperatures, Kendrick said.

Wicklund said that the division has been advocating statewide temperature limits on discharges to receiving streams, which might require some wastewater treatment facilities to refrigerate their treated effluent.

Kendrick said he and other AF CURE representatives including Reeves and Racz and Pueblo West environment attorney Connie King were witnesses at the Oct. 13 Information Hearing of the Water Quality Control Commission (WQCC) in Denver (www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/wqcc-october-13-2015-agenda). The topic was the triennial review of the Nutrients Management Control Regulation 85 (5 CCR 1002-85) and section 31.17 of the Basic Standards and Methodologies for Surface Water, Regulation 31 (5 CCR 1002-31) as well as the Administrative Action Hearing to consider approval of the Water Quality Control Division's proposed 2016 Intended Use Plans for the Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund and the Drinking Water Revolving Fund.

Kendrick stated that these and other witnesses who presented nutrient, temperature, E. coli, and other data convinced the WQCC to consider delaying enforcement of several pending new tighter future requirements in these two regulations before approving their renewals. The witnesses said the tighter existing total phosphorus

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