

reminded local residents that Monument did not pursue the lawsuit, but the State of Colorado filed the lawsuit based on water rights. He reminded the room that during litigation, particulars of the case cannot be discussed.

Tom Tharnish, Public Works director, reported that based on current river-time calculations, for each 67-acre feet of water allocated to Palmer Lake, Monument Lake would drop by about two feet and that primary concerns focus on the detriment to Monument Lake or Monument Creek.

Palmer Lake business owner Jeff Hulsmann referred to the past water rights of the area and said Palmer Lake used to receive 140 acre-feet of water.

Dominguez thanked all attendees for their concern and voiced his respect for all shared comments. He asked for patience as the whole community continued to negotiate and come to a resolution. He reminded all present that the legal issue concerned

water rights and that neither Monument nor Palmer Lake residents wish to hurt Palmer Lake. Both are facing "Awake the Lake" issues as a shared community concern.

CDOT—Bustang's mission

Michael Timlin, project manager for Bustang, reported that 13 motor coaches in connection with Horizon Coach Lines have been approved for use to provide transportation between Colorado Springs and Denver. The route will connect those who wish to shop or use medical facilities in Denver, eventually possibly expanding to Fort Collins, Glenwood Springs, and Pueblo in an interregional express bus system. The service is expected to begin in the spring. Monument riders will be able to catch a bus at the Monument Park-n-Ride for a daily fee, with reduced fees for frequent riders. Routes for Bustang will be marked with large hoofprints "as if a giant purple mustang" has passed through,

reported Timlin.

The coaches will have room for bicycles and be equipped for handicapped riders and for the hearing and sight impaired. Featuring free wifi and restroom facilities, the bus line hopes for a VIP maiden voyage sometime in March of this year. For more information contact www.ridebustang.com.

Lake of the Rockies mill levy clarified

The trustees voted on a clarification of the service plan amendment for Lake of the Rockies Metropolitan District, a metro district around Monument Lake with a southern boundary of Mount Herman Road and northern boundary of Monument Lake Road. The district has a separate mill levy from the town. The trustees did not vote on the mill levy, which had already been decided.

After board members requested more information on the history of the service plan, attorney MaryAnn McGeady of McGeady Sisneros P.C. clarified answers in a lengthy legal and financial discussion. The service plan featured some inconsistencies within the document, which made the original document confusing. The board wanted to be sure new property owners in Lake of the Rockies had the correct property tax figures in the service plan agreement for use in calculating mortgage payments. The allowance for a maximum of 50 mills subject to the Gallagher Amendment for each of the 156 lots in Lake of the Rockies had already been voted on in 2010.

The discussion verified that 35 mills are allotted to the infrastructure of The Lake of the Rockies, while 15 mills will go toward maintenance and improvements in the subdivision and will be performed by the homeowners association (HOA) and the district, not the town. Any other costs incurred beyond the 50 mills will be the responsibility of the developer or provided by the HOA fees.

The amendment also included authorization for the district to provide park and recreation facilities and services and covenant enforcement and design review services.

The mill levy/service plan issue was a public hearing, and no comments were offered. The board unanimously voted to approve the amendment to the service plan.

Chamber of Commerce to lease Old Town Hall

A resolution approving a lease for the Old



Above: At the Jan. 20 Monument Board of Trustees meeting, Mayor Rafael Dominguez honored Betty Konarski for her long history in serving our community. She was mayor of Monument and served on Arkansas River Water Authority and Pikes Peak Regional Water Authority. She will continue to serve the community as a member of Tri-Lakes Views. Photo by Lisa Hatfield.

Town Hall between the Town of Monument and Tri-Lakes Chamber of Commerce was unanimously approved by the trustees. The Chamber will maintain the building and be ready to move in by the end of January, paying \$1 per year for the lease. The new location will provide a logical place in which to learn about the Town of Monument, Town Manager Pamela Smith said. Those who wish to use the meeting room for community events can contact the Tri-Lakes Chamber of Commerce for more information.

Reports and updates

Town Manager Pamela Smith reported on the town budget and November financials. The board unanimously approved both.

The meeting adjourned at 9:40.

The next Board of Trustees meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 17 at Town Hall, 845 Beacon Lite Road. Meetings are usually held the first and third Mondays of each month. Check <http://monumenttownco.minutesondemand.com/> to see future meeting agendas and packets. Information: 884-8017.

Michael Justice can be reached at michaeljustice@ocn.me.

See page 27 for additional photos from this meeting.

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