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Monument Board of Trustees, Feb. 17

Lake water use resolution accepted

By Michael Justice

At the close of the Feb. 17 Monument Board of Trustees meeting, Mayor Rafael Dominguez and the entire board accepted the resolution unanimously approving an inter-governmental agreement between Monument and Palmer Lake concerning the "railroad portion" of water rights. The agreement changed the historic water rights for locomotives and other railway industrial uses for current recreational, aesthetic, and other protective purposes in the natural lake known as Palmer Lake.

As a stipulation in the agreement, the maximum consumptive water use cannot exceed 67 acre-feet per year and will be carefully monitored weekly by both Monument and Palmer Lake personnel. The compromise served to resolve the current water issue conflict between the two towns.

Sidewalks requested

A concerned citizen spoke on behalf of a safety issue due to the absence of a sidewalk across from the cemetery on Beacon Light Road. After witnessing both a mom with a baby stroller and a person in a wheelchair try to share the road with vehicles, the citizen shared his concern for safety. Planning Director Mike Pesicka said there are no plans for a sidewalk in that particular location at the present time.

Town business

The board approved the reappointment of John Dick and Melissa Wood to the Planning Commission. The board discussed Wood's appointment to the Triview Metropolitan District board prior to the approval. Several trustees asked questions about whether or not Wood might then have to abstain from commission votes pertaining to Triview developments. Town Attorney Gary Shupp said that since Monument Planning Commission decisions are merely recommendations and not binding, there is no conflict of interest concern.

Town Manager Pamela Smith reported that Monument general fund revenues were right at the budgeted amount for 2014.

The board approved temporary closure of several Monument streets for the 14th Annual Tri-Lakes Cruisers Benefit Car Show, taking place on June 14 from 5 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Police Department update

Lt. Steve Burk spoke about the Monument Police Department's plan for better interagency cooperation and regionalization of various services that will assist the both departments and the community by reducing redundancy and lowering costs. He also showcased the department's new badges featuring Monument landmarks, and new cameras worn by officers to record interactions between officers and citizens, working as a deterrent for potential confrontations.

Planning Department report

Pesicka said that Monument's Comprehensive Plan is in the process of being updated.

Pesicka also reported that he was communicating with the neighborhood north of Leather Chaps Road about the proposed Amendment 6 to the Regency Park zoning plan and that this item would be heard again at the March 16 trustees meeting.

The board adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

The next Board of Trustees meeting will be March 16 at 6:30 p.m. at Monument Town Hall, 845 Beacon Lite Road. Meetings are usually held the first and third Mondays of each month. See <http://monumenttownco.mnutesondemand.com> for meeting agendas and packets. Information: 884-8017.

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

See additional Monument board article on page 20.

Monument Planning Commission, Feb. 11

Re-write of Signs and Outdoor Advertising Code approved

By Kate Wetterer

Morgan Hester and Mike Pesicka presented their rewrite for chapter 17.56 of the code, concerning signage and outdoor advertising in Monument, during the Feb 11 planning commission meeting. These edits were approved unanimously by the board, with corrections. An amendment to chapter 17.48.120 of the code, concerning fences, was also approved unanimously.

Copies for the code changes Hester and Pesicka have made had previously been provided for the commissioners, so the meeting primarily saw questions answered and

interpretations discussed, in order to refine the finished product. The code was revised both to clear up inconsistencies and remove redundancies, making it more accessible to the average reader. Some rules were removed that would be too difficult to consistently enforce, as well – for example, the code originally said illuminated signs would be forbidden, but that has not been the case. Hester and Pesicka form the "planning department" together, where Pesicka by himself represents the "planning directory" in the wording of the code.

More about these changes can be found on the plan-

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