

Trustees meeting on June 1.

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

The next Monument Planning Commission meet-

ing is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. on June 10 at Monument Town Hall auditorium, 645 Beacon Lite Road. Meetings are normally held on the second Wednesday of the month. Information: 884-8017 or www.townofmonument.org/

meetings.

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

Woodmoor Water and Sanitation District, May 7

Legislature passes bill supporting historic water rights

By Nancy Wilkins

At the May 7 meeting of the Woodmoor Water and Sanitation District (WWSD), District Manager Jessie Shaffer announced the passage of Colorado Senate Bill 15-183, signed into law May 4.

The new law strengthens older water rights typically held by ranchers and farmers. Historically, during a wet season, or a season where a field lay fallow, a rancher or farmer may not have used their total allotted decreed amount of water. Total consumptive use for water during these years could be very low.

As Shaffer explained, prior to SB 15-183 recent challenges to water rights looked at the total consumptive use as a way to determine the outcome to existing water rights. If a rancher didn't use the water over a period of several years, even though they had a historical right to do so, the non-use was being quantified and considered when new challenges to water rights were surfacing; a "use it or lose it" policy.

Senate Bill 15-183 strengthens holders of older water rights by describing how Colorado water courts may determine historical consumptive use, as well as placing limits when historical consumptive use can be re-quantified. The board had agreed to support the bill when it was first being considered before the state Legislature. Shaffer said, "It takes uncertainty out of the purchase of water."

Tap fee for non-potable irrigation system costly for Brookmoor

Forrest Hindley, representing Brookmoor Homeowners Association, asked for a variance to the \$84,042 tap fee needed for allowing Brookmoor to access non-potable water for an irrigation system to the Brookmoor area. The district was offering an exchange of \$24,000 for an existing tap already in place, bringing the expense down to about \$60,042. But Hindley said, "\$60,000 puts us out." Hindley and WWSD have been in negotiations for several months trying to work out an agreement, as non-potable water was originally seen as a less expensive alternative for lawn irrigation.

Directors Rich Strom, Jim Taylor, President Barrie Town, Treasurer Tommy Schwab, and Secretary Beth

Courrau, recently passed the district's Non-Potable Water Service Plan Policy, which shows the cost of a 2-inch non-potable tap at \$84,042, a 3-inch non-potable tap at \$189,480, and a six-inch non-potable tap at \$759,219. The policy also allows the district to raise the rates of the non-potable water and change the fees and charges. Town said he wanted to continue discussions with Hindley.

Water authority interested in investigating major water transportation pipeline

Shaffer announced the next phase of the Pikes Peak Regional Water Authority (PPRWA) study and told the board he would seek confirmation from other water districts that want to participate. The study would include a pre-engineering cost estimate for a possible water transmission pipeline or water storage facility. Shaffer said possible water districts that may be interested in the study include Palmer Lake, Monument, Triview, Donala, Fountain, and Cherokee. Woodmoor, a member of the PPRWA, has land and water rights at the Chilcott Ditch, located near Fountain.

Operations Manager Randy Gillette said the district is expected to be using Lake Woodmoor water soon, and noted the district usually starts with a blend of both lake and underground well water. The water report, presented to the board, showed no shear or main water line breaks, zero service failures, and unaccounted water at 5 percent.

Financial report: year-to-date net revenue at \$1.8 million

The Income Statement, stamped as "draft" but unanimously approved by the board, shows a year-to-date positive increase of \$1.8 million. In April, the district also paid down a \$619,443 bond interest expense. The sale of supplemental water and lease earned \$655,258 year-to-date operating income, a positive 336.03 percent over budget.

The district also gained \$413,491 from water and sewer taps in April, with 13 new construction lots for houses and the builders paying \$32,407 for each lot.

From the April 30 Balance Sheet, bonds payable long term were at \$27.1 million. Total liabilities were at \$28.1 million, total net assets at \$44.2 million, and total liabilities and stockholder equity at \$72.4 million.

Tri-Lakes Facility Joint Use Committee, May 12

Plant expansion contract awarded

By Jim Kendrick


On May 12, the Tri-Lakes Wastewater Treatment Facility Joint Use Coordinating Committee (JUC) unanimously approved the final award of a construction contract for only the facility's new tertiary total phosphorus (TP) chemical removal clarifier expansion to Aslan Corp., which submitted the lowest base bid of \$3.059 million. None of the four requested bid options were approved by the JUC. The base bid scope of work is sufficient to ensure compliance with the state Health Department's Control Regulation 85 TP discharge limit of 1 milligram per liter (mg/l) in November 2019. The facility already meets the Control Regulation 85 total nitrogen (TN) November 2019 limit of 15 mg/l. The notice of award for Aslan was approved at the April 14 JUC meeting.

The Tri-Lakes facility operates as a separate joint venture public utility. The facility is owned in equal one-third shares by Monument Sanitation District (MSD), Palmer Lake Sanitation District (PLSD), and Woodmoor Water and Sanitation District (WWSD). The three-member JUC acts as the board of the facility and consists of one director

from each of the three owner districts' boards: Don Smith of Monument, Ken Smith of Palmer Lake, and Rich Strom of Woodmoor. Strom did not attend the May 12 meeting; Woodmoor's alternate JUC representative, James Taylor, filled in for him.

The original construction cost estimate in 2013 for this TP expansion by the Tri-Lakes facility's engineering firm, Tetra Tech, was \$1 million.

On May 12, the JUC also unanimously awarded a separate contract at an additional cost of \$252,000



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Meetings are usually held at the district office on the second Thursday of each month at 1 p.m. The next board meeting is scheduled for June 11. The district office is located at 1845 Woodmoor Dr. Visit woodmoorwater.com. Please call ahead to verify at 488-2525.

Nancy Wilkins can be reached at nancywilkins@ocn.me

CONGRATULATIONS TO
David Tomlinson
on receiving your CPA License!

From
 Greg, Kendra, and Elizabeth
 in recognition of your dedication, hard work and commitment to excellence.

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