



**Above:** The Board of Education includes, front row from left, Julie Jadowski and Superintendent Karen Brofft, and back row Mark Pfoff, Sherri Hawkins, and Treasurer John Magerko. Vice President John Mann attended the meeting by telephone. *Photo by Harriet Halbig.*

Brofft also reported that there is a new assistant principal at the middle school and that a policy review by the Colorado Association of School Boards is underway.

Finally, Brofft reported that she has received preliminary figures regarding participation in recent assessments over all grade levels. She will report final figures when they are available.

Wangeman reported that the district has entered new partnerships with Goodwill, which has offered to partner with Lewis-Palmer Middle School in a recycling program, and the Tri-Lakes Chamber, which requested a representative from the district to serve on its Regional Work Force Group. Director of Assessment and Gifted Education Lori Benton will serve in this capacity.

The board approved the calendar for the 2016-17 school year.

#### Staff conduct policy

The board discussed Policy GBEB, regarding staff conduct, at some length. Pfoff requested this discussion saying that it is necessary to maintain high standards of conduct for all staff as well as students. Strong character and integrity are two attributes that should be stressed, he said. The present policy states that staff should behave in a professional manner at all times.

Pfoff said that more specific requirements should be included, among these that no profanity may be used and its use will be immediately addressed.

Director Sherri Hawkins added that the requirements should also forbid use of obscene gestures and that the policy should be in effect not only on campus and during school hours, but also at athletic events and other performance related events hosted by the district, whether at home or away.

Pfoff agreed and stated that if a supervisor were to ignore unacceptable behavior, the supervisor would also be in violation.

#### Monument Board of Trustees, June 15

## Chickens must follow rule of law

By Lisa Hatfield

The June 15 Monument Board of Trustees meeting dealt with the town's enforcement of the current chicken-keeping ordinance, communication from the school district about asbestos, questions about the potential methadone clinic, and art and music events coming to Monument.

Trustee Kelly Elliott was excused.

### Chickens still not allowed in PRD areas of Monument

Since the end of 2013, the Monument ordinance about

chickens has held that only residents of R1- and R2-zoned properties are allowed to keep chickens. Controversy arose in Jackson Creek in the last two months when two residents of the Homestead at Jackson Creek homeowners association (HOA) installed chicken coops in this Planned Residential Development-4 (PRD-4) zoned area. See [www.ocn.me/v15n6.htm#mbot0601](http://www.ocn.me/v15n6.htm#mbot0601).

The question to be answered by the trustees on June 15 was whether or not to lift the stay on the citation those two residents had received from town code enforcement officer Laura Hogan. However, many members of the public thought that the board was voting whether or not to change the town's chicken ordinance. Over 20 people spoke during the public comments.

Five speakers were in favor of keeping chickens in general and in Jackson Creek specifically. They mentioned their desire to raise their own healthy food, the positive selling feature of homes with chicken coops, how much dirtier dogs and cats can be than are chickens, and First Amendment rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. One resident had a petition with 15 more pro-chicken-keeping signatures.

At least 15 people, including the president of Homestead at Jackson Creek HOA, spoke against allowing chickens in residential neighborhoods because of the smell, associated parasites and disease, fights among chickens, attracting predators and rodents, and the fact that chicken coops do not meet the architectural control standards of their HOA.

Many speakers said that first and foremost, the point was that rule of law needed to be enforced, and any chicken ordinance debate could happen in a timely manner later if needed. Asking forgiveness instead of permission was not acceptable to them.

In response, one resident said that when he bought his property, the chicken ordinance was not yet in place, and the rules had changed since he built the chicken coop.

The consensus of the board was to lift the stay on the ordinance violation citation. Hogan planned to talk with the homeowners in person again now that they know the town ordinance, and she will ask for compliance before actually asking for a police summons.

#### Asbestos and methadone questioned

During public comments, two residents raised issues.

Woodmoor resident Gordon Reichal wanted to bring to the board's attention an issue about asbestos releases at two local school buildings in the last two years. He said a report from the Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment said that in December 2014, Lewis-Palmer District 38 had to ask for help with a major asbestos fiber release at the Grace Best facility. He also had a copy of a Lewis-Palmer Request for Proposal (RFP) for Environmental Services identifying asbestos abatement needs at Palmer Lake Elementary School. He said this was not mentioned at school board meetings, and that the Tri-

The board discussed ways in which the staff could be made aware of the new policy before the beginning of school, including mention at new teacher orientation sessions and revision of the teachers' handbook.

Pfoff tasked Director of Personnel and Student Services Bob Foster with developing a draft of the new policy for board discussion at its August meeting.

Reports were made on progress in selecting a new financial advisor and a new website provider.

Former Superintendent Ted Bauman, co-chair of the Lewis-Palmer Hall of Fame committee, reported that 16 nominations were submitted for this year's honorees. Of these, five were selected and an additional legacy candidate (deceased) was also selected. The Hall of Fame Ceremony will be held on Sept. 18, from 4 to 5:30, at Lewis-Palmer High School's auditorium.

Bauman said that further details will be available shortly and that the ceremony will be held on a school day this year to encourage more students and teachers to attend.

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The Board of Education of the Lewis-Palmer School District meets at 6 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month from August through June. There will be no meeting in July. The next meeting of the board will be on Aug. 20 at the district's Learning Center, 146 Jefferson St., Monument.

Harriet Halbig may be reached at [harriethalbig@ocn.me](mailto:harriethalbig@ocn.me).

Lakes Monument Fire Protection District was not made aware of it either. He wished for better communication from the school district.

Monument resident Kim Brandon asked for clarification on how to protest the methadone clinic that is potentially coming to Monument. Town Attorney Gary Shupp explained, as he did at the June 1 meeting, that assuming the prerequisites are met by the applicant when the business license application is made, the applicant would have "the right of use" allowed within the district, and it could be approved administratively by the town clerk without a public hearing.

If the business application was to be approved, and residents had concerns or wished to challenge the decision of the town clerk, this issue would be heard by the Monument Board of Adjustment, Shupp said. To see future meeting agendas for the Board of Adjustment, Board of Trustees, and Planning Commission, see <http://monumenttownco.minutesondemand.com/>.

In the meantime, Shupp recommended that residents with questions contact Planning Director Mike Pesicka.

#### Art and music in Monument

Terri Hayes, executive director of the Tri-Lakes Chamber of Commerce, said the Chamber was taking over running the free Wednesday night summer concerts at Limbach Park. She said they will start at 7 p.m. on June 24 and run for six weeks. See Our Community Calendar Special Events on page 30 for details.

Sky Hall of Tri-Lakes Views explained about the numerous new art installations coming to Monument (including some created by Our Community News volunteer Janet Sellers). He asked for businesses and individuals to sponsor installations. The sculpture planned for the roundabout at Old Denver Road and West Baptist Road is one example that needs sponsorship.

See [www.trilakesviews.org](http://www.trilakesviews.org) and related article in Art Matters on page 23 for information.

#### Parking changes at Monument Lake

Public Works Director Tom Tharnish said that 44 new parking spots were being created at Monument Lake. However, parking is no longer allowed along the shoreline of the lake, and large boulders have been placed along the shoreline. Police Chief Jake Shirk said that officers will be patrolling the area to enforce the new parking layout.

#### Town manager's report

Town Manager Pamela Smith's written report included:

The Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) denied the town's request to use the parcel of land between the Conoco Station and Safeway as a potential new location for the water bulk fill station currently situated on Wagon Gap Trail. "We are working with a local realtor on purchasing private property for this station. We have no firm time that this will be accomplished."

The 2014 audit is due to the state by July 31, and she had hoped to have the draft to the Board of Trustees

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