

arship. Martin said 141 MVEA scholarship applicants who met the criteria were then entered in a lottery that chose the 14 MVEA winners. Area winners were:

- Discovery Canyon High School: Rylee McCone, McKenna Rogers
 - Lewis-Palmer High School: Connor Larsen, Julie Miller, Isabel Taylor, Daniel Ziegler, Ryan Reich
 - Palmer Ridge High School: Courtney Morris, Emily Schuler, Sara Conrad, Ashley Walker
- Sandra Luksic of PRHS was the first-place winner of the National Rural Electric Association Electric Cooperative (NRECA) essay contest. She will join the NRECA youth

tour to Washington, D.C., this summer.
The meeting adjourned at 9 p.m.

The next annual meeting will be held in June 2016 in Fountain. See Colorado Country Life Magazine, MVEA's Facebook page, or www.mvea.coop for more information.

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

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 \$725,000

Perfect stucco & stone 2-story located in The Ridge At Fox Run. This home is full of details w/ 2-story grand foyer w/ slate tile, French doors entering into the vaulted office, stain glass windows, custom window treatments, crown molding, built-ins, custom wall finishes. 5/5/3, SF:5,482

 \$580,000

Charming home located in The Ridge At Fox Run w/main level master, loft area overlooking great rm, formal dining rm, lower level walk-out family rm, game area w/wet bar, office or 5th bedroom. Beautifully landscaped w/flagstone patio & xeriscaped gardens. 4/1/3, SF:4,322

 \$379,000

Stunning 2-story home in Gleneagle w/beautiful views of Pikes Peak. Living rm w/ bay window that flows into dining area, office with large picture window, 2-story great rm, gourmet kitchen w/center island, master w/separate sitting area, custom built outdoor kitchen. 4/1/3, SF:3,521

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Donala (Cont. from page 1)

Donala had only taken in \$728,239 of the \$3.44 million budgeted for water sales revenue, a shortfall of roughly 40 percent of the amount normally received after the first five months in an average drier year with a higher lawn irrigation demand on Donala water production. He said that total billable water production through this May was 14.6 million gallons compared to 28.7 million gallons through May in 2014 and that some planned capital projects for this year may have to be postponed.

Petersen had already advised the board in April that Donala's commercial electric utility rate, which will increase by 9 percent on July 1, may require reduced expenditures later in 2015 in other areas of the district budget and that Mountain View Electric Association will raise its commercial rates again in January 2016. See article on page 1.

Petersen's analysis of low water sales

Petersen said the staff is looking at postponing some large capital projects this year if the "wet year" trend continues through June, based on only receiving about 60 percent of the water sales revenue budgeted to date. For example, installation of a new 12-inch water supply main from the Latrobe Court storage tank to the Holbein Drive storage tanks may have to be postponed.

He said, "You love the rain, but you hate the hit in revenue. Conversely, some of our expenses are being reduced by not producing all this water. Our electrical and chemical costs won't be as high" in 2015. In the summer, Donala's electrical power costs are its biggest expense due to typically having to run its 350 and 400 horsepower well pumps almost continuously to meet peak district irrigation demands. The district has other electric utility costs that are year-round and continue, unaffected, without being reduced by the higher rainfall.

Petersen added that Donala's drinking water treatment plants were currently shut down because Donala is supplying its distribution system with its renewable snowmelt surface water from the district's Willow Creek Ranch, located near Leadville. This renewable water is being transported from storage in the Pueblo Reservoir and treated by Colorado Springs Utilities (CSU), which then pumps it to the CSU-Donala connection at the south end of Donala's distribution system, near the intersection of Northgate Boulevard

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Petersen stated that supplying Donala customers entirely with renewable water at this time rather than well water is "just about a wash" economically. Donala's seasonal transport and treatment payments to CSU are currently being offset by no well water production/treatment costs. Being able to currently supply Donala customers entirely with renewable Willow Springs Ranch water will also help further extend the useful production life of Donala's existing groundwater wells.

Petersen also noted that Arkansas River flows are so high this year that Donala's excess Willow Creek Ranch flows that are not pumped north this year for distribution to Donala customers may exceed the district's storage rights in the Pueblo Reservoir. A significant portion of Donala's much higher than average flows may have to be "spilled downstream" from the reservoir. However, the district may be able to lease some of its spilled water to agricultural users along the Arkansas River downstream of the Pueblo Reservoir.

Donala is not unique. Water sales are lagging at other local water entities such as Woodmoor Water and Sanitation District and Triview Metropolitan District as well as the Towns of Monument and Palmer Lake. Donala's well pumping will resume not later than September when the Willow Creek Ranch renewable water rights for 2015 expire. No raise in Donala water rates has been proposed to offset the revenue shortfall at this time. For more information, see <http://ocn.me/v14n10.htm#DWSD0918>.

In other financial matters, Petersen noted that the 2014 audit report will be presented to the board on July 16.

Financial report

Petersen said that the additional runoff from recent heavy rainfall has increased Donala sanitary sewer flows due to stormwater infiltration into manhole lids and increased groundwater intrusion into underground collection lines due to subsurface saturation but has not yet caused significant additional district wastewater treatment costs.

The financial reports were accepted as presented.

Manager's report

Petersen noted that the M. parvicella bacteria contamination problem at Upper Monument Creek Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility was about 95 percent solved. No permit violations have occurred during this episode.

Petersen said that he and Donala Director Bob Denny attended the June 3 Pikes Peak Regional Water Authority (PPRWA). Petersen reported that most of the PPRWA discussion centered on the residential "rain barrel" bill that the Colorado Legislature had defeated. Colorado is the only state that prohibits the use of rain barrels. This bill may be brought back again for consideration in 2016.

House Bill 15-1259 would have allowed home owners to use rain barrels to capture some rain water from rain-spouts for irrigation. The reason for the bill's defeat was the potential impact on owners of low seniority water rights below the confluence of Fountain Creek and the Arkansas

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