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rect access to all other required utilities now that the previously approved townhome project has been abandoned. (<http://ocn.me/v8n3.htm#gleneagle>, <http://ocn.me/v9n8.htm#bocc>)

Petersen said that Donala's policy is that there are 25 acre-feet of potable water available that were previously allocated to the golf course for watering the greens, clubhouse use, and pool use. Gratrix hoped to take over use of the 17 acre-feet of water Donala had previously committed to allocate to the townhome project in 2009. Gratrix added a request to add 15 additional residential lots on vacant land not approved by the county to be part of the prior townhome project for a total of 56 homes. Gratrix said Westbrook would provide road access and whatever utility easements are necessary within these new home lots. In return Westbrook would deed the rest of the vacant golf course open space to the Gleneagle Civic Association for its use or convert the vacant space to a conservation easement that might be taken over by the county or some other entity.

Kevin Deardorff, president of the Gleneagle Civic Association, (www.gleneaglehoa.org/) said that the consensus of six of the seven board members who attended the regular January Board of Directors meeting was to "not contest" Westbrook adding 15 similar home lots to the basic Westbrook 41-home proposal, rather than keeping it unusable while hoping for an un-guaranteed conservation easement with the added risk of some future buyer rezoning the land again to "cookie cutter homes."

Petersen asked the board to consider some safeguards for all involved, if the board was willing to consider approval of Donala service for these proposed homes, should the Gleneagle association discover it can't afford to own and maintain the rest of the vacant golf course land as open space.

During a lengthy discussion, some of the Donala directors expressed concerns about public trust if Donala agreed to allocate more water than the amount publicly announced for the previous townhome project, 17 acre-feet, which is enough for only 41 homes. There are only about 20 other vacant single-family home lots left in Donala's service area. Also discussed were the three separate par-

cels of undeveloped golf course vacant land not being contiguous and the need to rezone the land to county RS-6000 to get a tax break for subsequent conversion to a conservation easement.

The board approved a motion (4-1) to conditionally allocate 17 acre-feet of potable water for availability of service for 41 single-home Westbrook lots on as yet unplatted vacant golf course land. Donala would also conditionally allocate an additional 8 acre-feet for another 15 lots of vacant golf land on the condition that the remainder of the vacant golf course land is deeded to the Gleneagle Civic Association. Director Bob Denny was opposed.

Manager's report

Petersen noted that regular meetings of the Pikes Peak Regional Water Authority had resumed in January due to the state Legislature being back in session. Petersen said he will also continue to attend Arkansas Basin Roundtable meetings. He said the Roundtable's state subsidy had been cut in half due to TABOR, Gallagher, and mandated public school funding restrictions, which will halve its funding for water projects.

Petersen praised Donala staff members Robert Hull, Mark Parker, Troy Vialpando, and Aaron Tolman for their prompt repair of a saddle failure water leak due to rusted-out bolts, with no water main splitting, from 4 p.m. to midnight on a very cold New Year's Day. Retired Air Force General and Donala customer Mal Wakin wrote a thank you letter praising their dedication, professionalism, and unselfish concern for the community immediately after he reported violent pipe shaking in his home to the Donala answering service.

The meeting went into executive session to discuss a personnel matter at 4 p.m. No votes were taken after coming out of executive session to adjourn.

The next board meeting will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Jan. 21, in the district conference room at 15850 Holbein Drive. Information: 488-3603 or www.donalawater.org. Meetings are normally held on the third Thursday of the month.

Jim Kendrick can be reached at jimkendrick@ocn.me.

Donald Wescott Fire Protection District, Jan. 16

Two board seats open to self-nomination

By Jennifer Green-Lanchoney

Two positions are up for re-election on the Donald Wescott Fire Protection District board, the board announced at its Jan. 16 meeting. Incumbents Bo McAllister and John Fredell are expected to run again. Self-nominations and Acceptance Forms will be available at Station 1 between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. Feb. 1-18. For more information on self-nomination, contact Stacey Popovich, Wescott administrative assistant and designated election official, at spopovich@wescottfire.org.

2016 budget

The 2016 budget is available on the district website at <http://wescottfire.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/2016ApprovedBudget.pdf>. Fire Chief Vinny Burns and Popovich provided a draft budget at the last board meeting. During the Jan. 16 meeting, Popovich provided updated numbers showing that the planned budget will result in a surplus for Wescott at the end of 2016. Income from the specific ownership tax was expected to be \$175,000 in the proposed budget, but when actual numbers were presented the tax came in at \$204,029. The station also earned about \$41,000 from wildland firefighting income in 2015, according to Popovich. Burns and Popovich planned the budget to cover the stations' salary increase and an increased focus on training opportunities.

Administrative

The December financial end-of-year bank statement totaled \$948,887. The financial statements for both November and December were unanimously approved by the board.

Chief's report

Assistant Chief Scott Ridings gave an end of year review on the 2015 run report. In 2014 there were 2217 total calls, in 2015 there were 2,956 total calls, which is an increase of 33 percent. Ridings also stated that the call volume was evenly divided between Station 1 and Station 2. In 2015 Wescott firefighters were called out to three structure fires totaling \$45,400 in fire loss.

The Donald Wescott Fire Protection District Board of Directors' next meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. Feb. 16 at Station 1, 15415 Gleneagle Dr. Please call 488-8680, a non-emergency number, for more information, or visit www.wescottfire.org. The district is also on Facebook.

Jennifer Green-Lanchoney can be contacted at Jenlanchoney@ocn.me.

Would you like to help Our Community News report on the Donald Wescott Fire Protection District? Please contact Lisa Hatfield at lisahatfield@ocn.me.

Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Protection District, Jan. 28

Community input needed

By Lisa Hatfield

The directors of the Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Protection District (TLMFPD) reviewed the year's finances and discussed the need for volunteers from the community at the Jan. 28 meeting.

President Jake Shirk, Secretary Mike Smaldino, and Director Larry Smith were excused. Vice President Roger Lance presided over the meeting.

Year-end financial report

Treasurer John Hildebrandt presented the financial report as of Dec. 31, which included:

- Property tax revenue received – \$4.1 million or 99.9 percent of budget
- Specific ownership taxes – \$500,331 or 117.7 percent
- Ambulance revenues – \$529,616 or 97.2 percent
- Impact fees – \$240,758 or 96 percent
- Total revenue for 2015 including impact fees – \$5.6 million or 104 percent.
- \$98,000 of the excess 2014 fund balance was also allocated toward operational expenses.
- Total operating expenses – \$5.32 million or 101.5 percent of budget