

and Triview's potable water distribution systems along Baptist Road—at Struthers Road (the lowest elevation in the Triview service area) and at Gleneagle Drive. They have never been used for this kind of emergency situation, however, they were constructed for just this type of need.

Then Petersen told the Donala board that it is likely that Donala cannot pump water uphill through the Struthers connection due to gravity creating a much higher inline head pressure in Triview's system at the interconnection because distribution system components are generally at a higher elevation than Donala's. Petersen added that the Triview distribution line pressure at the Gleneagle connection may also be too much higher than Donala's inline pressure for transfer of Donala potable water to the Triview distribution system.

Petersen said Wright met with new Triview Water Superintendent Josh Cichocki at the Triview water tank facility after Remington's call on June 17 to help assess the situation.

No leak found

Members of both staffs met on Monday, June 20. No leak was found. Triview can produce 1.8 million gallons per day (mgd) but Triview water consumption before the irrigation ban on June 17 was about 2 mgd. Triview could not produce enough water to meet this demand. The Triview water tank only holds 1.1 million gallons and was rapidly emptying. Donala has four water tanks with a total capacity of 5 million gallons.

It was determined that Donala may be able to provide water to about two-thirds of Triview's distribution system. An intergovernmental agreement (IGA) needs to be finalized regarding the conditions under which Donala would provide potable wa-

ter to Triview, if necessary, only if all Triview outdoor irrigation is prohibited. There also is a need to ensure adequate indoor potable water and fire flows capability for fire emergencies.

This IGA would also have to define the costs for water provision including an industry standard 50 percent surcharge for water delivered out of district to Triview. There are no meters at either the Struthers or Gleneagle connections, Petersen said, because a former Triview general manager refused to pay Triview's share of the meter installation costs. (<http://ocn.me/v8n1.htm#tmd>, <http://ocn.me/v7n1.htm#tmd>, <http://ocn.me/v6n8.htm#dwsd>)

Southern county groundwater problems

Petersen noted that there are no problems and cannot be any problems caused by spreading of the perfluorinated chemicals (PFC) in south El Paso County groundwater to either Donala's groundwater or renewable surface. Minute amounts of PFC have been found in the Widefield aquifer at a level higher than 70 parts per trillion (ppt), the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) upper recommended threshold for pregnant woman or child consumption.

Note:

- One part per trillion is equivalent to one drop of detergent in enough dishwasher to fill a string of railroad tank cars 10 miles long.
- The water in southern El Paso County, like all water, cannot flow uphill spontaneously.
- These perfluorinated chemicals are used to make cookware, furniture, carpet, clothes, some types of military firefighting foam, and even the

packaging for microwave popcorn. There are no state or EPA standards for perfluorinated chemicals.

- No OCN coverage area water entities use groundwater or reuse water from the Widefield aquifer area.
- The EPA recommendation that pregnant women and small children not drink water exceeding 70 ppt for PFC is just a recommendation as this edition of OCN goes to press.

At this time, Donala continues to operate primarily with renewable surface water from Willow Creek Ranch, piped by Colorado Springs Utilities (CSU) from Pueblo Reservoir to a CSU water treatment plant. CSU only uses renewable surface water for potable water distribution. Donala's renewable surface drinking water is then piped from the CSU water treatment plant directly into the Donala distribution system at a connection by Northgate Boulevard.

Donala may yet lose some or all its remaining 50 acre-feet of stored ranch water in Pueblo Reservoir later this summer if this year's snowmelt flows turn out to be high enough to cause a storage overflow. Because water entities with higher priority, full-time reservoir storage contracts would be able to completely fill all their full storage allotments due to these higher 2016 flows, they will use up all the reservoir's available storage capacity. The federal Department of Reclamation would then "spill" all other water, including Donala's, currently stored in the reservoir under lower priority, annual "if and when available" space-available contracts.

Donala's groundwater wells and groundwater treatment system have been reactivated. The average amount of

Donala's Willow Creek Ranch renewable surface water being drawn from Pueblo Reservoir during non-irrigation season is about 30 acre-feet per month. Donala's wells will be turned on if needed due to high peak production demands caused by irrigation in this high altitude alpine desert region.

For more information of Donala's Pueblo Reservoir storage, see: www.ocn.me/v16n5.htm#dwsd0421 www.ocn.me/v16n4.htm#dwsd0317

Donala water attorney Rick Fendel will renew discussions with Pueblo County on Donala's 1041 permit application that has been stalled since October 2014.

The meeting adjourned at 4:13 p.m.

The next board meeting will be held at 1:30 p.m. on July 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.

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Monument Board of Trustees, June 6

Public water forum delayed; comprehensive plan contract awarded

By Lisa Hatfield

At the June 6 Monument Board of Trustees meeting, the public learned that the forum on water rates would not be on June 9 but on June 20 instead. The delay was necessary because despite the promise from town staff at the May 16 meeting to deliver the original complete version of last fall's water rates worksheets by the end of May so that the trustees and the public could analyze them, they were not posted until June 7. The updated worksheets were posted June 15.

The June 6 meeting also included approval of a contract for an update to the town's Comprehensive Plan, approval of a contract for design and hosting of its new website, and approval of an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) between the town and Lewis-Palmer School District 38 for baseball field maintenance. The proposed code of ethics ordinance was continued until after the next board retreat. Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Marshal John Vincent challenged the town to work toward becoming a fire-adapted community and work on fuels mitigation, saying, "What is green today will be brown tomorrow!"

Public forum on water rates postponed

Trustee Greg Coopman spoke during trustee comments about the water rates issue, which was not on the agenda for this meeting. He said despite making at least three requests of town staff, he had not yet received the entire original study and worksheet data that led to the current rate

increases approved March 7.

Note: At the May 16 meeting, Town Manager Chris Lowe and Will Koger, water engineer with Forsgren Associates, said the October spreadsheet and updated spreadsheet would be available by the end of May. See www.ocn.me/v16n6.htm#mbot0516.

However, on June 6, Lowe told the trustees that he and Koger "had not had a chance to connect until today." Koger agreed the October worksheet would be posted by the close of business the following day and the updated one by June 15.

The public water rates forum was scheduled for June 20.

Comprehensive Plan contract awarded

Planning Director Larry Manning presented a resolution for a contract with Denver-based Community Matters Inc., for professional services to update the Town Comprehensive Plan, and a contract with the Colorado Department of Local Affairs for a \$25,000 grant to assist in funding the planning effort, estimated to cost a total of \$65,000. Manning said six firms had submitted the required documentation, and two had also submitted bids.

Manning said the last update to the comprehensive plan was in 2003. Town Treasurer Pamela Smith said Community Matters Inc. did that update also and that they specialize in working with towns the size of Monument.

Trustee Shea Medlicott asked for clarification from Manning on the selection criteria. No members of the public made

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