



Above: Sharon Williams, the town's gardener since 2007, retired this month and was honored at the June 20 Monument Board of Trustees meeting. Many staff members and residents thanked her for all she had accomplished. "I did have a vision for this job," she said. "We have to look long term in what we plant.... I hope in some small way I have made a difference and brought us to a new level." *Photo by Lisa Hatfield.*

mation with the board, and he did not know who had produced the organizational chart on the website.

Treasurer Pamela Smith said the chart was a few years old, was made by the town clerk, and just reflected how things had been done for efficiency in the past. Town Attorney Gary Shupp confirmed that legally the board is one body; the only difference is that the mayor performs ceremonial functions and presides at the meetings.

The board voted unanimously to direct Lowe to "authorize someone to make a clearer representation of the type of government in Monument" for the website.

Town gardener recognized

Sharon Williams is retiring, and she was recognized for her dedication and innovative work as the town's gardener since 2007. Tharnish praised her work habits and willingness to teach others as a master gardener and native plant master. Programs she started included creating a town tree inventory with the help of the Colorado State University extension office, a noxious weed management program, and soil amendment programs using old coffee grounds. Tharnish said Williams was a responder at the attacks on the World Trade Center in 2001 and had seen the destruction firsthand.

"You have made downtown beautiful. You care!" said Terri Hayes, executive director of the Tri-Lakes Chamber of Commerce, echoing what many other members of the public said about Williams. "She will be sorely missed by our town. She is one of the most talented people I know in this industry," Tharnish said. Williams said her position has not been posted.

Future agenda items approved

One of the board directions that came out of the June 18 board retreat was that the trustees did not want any ordinance to be placed on a future agenda without the trustees' prior approval. Accordingly, Lowe presented ideas for two ordinances that staff would start drafting, with the board's permission, for the July 18 meeting. One was a business license ordinance and the other a zoning ordinance regarding the expiration of the moratorium on clinics. The board voted unanimously to approve this direction.

Invoices over \$5,000 approved as part of the consent agenda consisted of:

- Triview Metro District, sales tax for April, motor vehicle and regional building use tax for May: \$142,138
- Brownstein, Hyatt, Farber and Schreck, land use attorney professional services: \$11,310
- Forsgren Associates Inc., water rate and fee study: \$6,336
- Forsgren Associates Inc., water reuse plan: \$13,996
- NORAA Concrete Construction Corp., downtown sidewalks project: \$136,100
- Jacobs Engineering, downtown sidewalks project: \$5,226

The meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Public forum on water rates and plans for future water

Professional engineers Will Koger and Allison Schaub-DiRosa of Forsgren Associates provided a broad overview of the scarcity of water from a global to a local level. Then they explained why the town's water customers needed to think ahead so they would have some money saved

to begin long-term projects that would provide water. Koger said as soon as 2020, the town's wells would not be able to produce enough water to keep up with the demand.

The town Public Works Department water service area includes the 40 percent of town that is west of I-25. Note: Triview Metropolitan District and Woodmoor Water and Sanitation (WWSD) are the water utilities that serve Monument residents on the east side of I-25. See related Triview article on page 1 and WWSD on page 10.

Koger said the Front Range population is growing every day and that growth represents the largest of the various causes of the projected state water supply gap of 500,000 acre feet per year by 2050. His comments included:

- The town relies almost exclusively on wells drilled into the Denver Basin aquifers, which contain nonrenewable Ice Age water within the sand and gravel.
- Aquifer water is getting used up much more quickly than it can be replenished from the surface, even in wet years. This current source is not sustainable.
- Cascading reduction in well yields means water wells are in a death spiral, economically and practically.
- The town needs to start saving for alternative water production methods.
- Paying just for basic maintenance, pumping, and treating well water is not enough.

In 2014, the town approved a 20-year water master plan that addressed these issues but did not commit the town to any particular project. The plan was discussed in August and September 2014 and unanimously accepted by the trustees on Sept. 2,

2014. See www.ocn.me/v14n9.htm#mbot-0804 and www.ocn.me/v14n10.htm#MBoT0902. To read the entire 75-page Water Master Plan Final Report, see the Aug. 18, 2014 board packet at <http://monumenttownco.minute-sondemand.com/>.

Some of the projects outlined in the water master plan include:


- A new water tank and transmission line—\$3.72 million: to add 1.2 million gallons of storage capacity in case of a line break, allow for repairs needed on the existing tank, meeting peak demand time needs, or to sustain fire flows to hydrants in an emergency.
- New water reuse system—Monument's co-share would be \$12 million of an \$18.9 million project if committed

soon. It would capture and further purify and filter the town's share of the treated wastewater effluent from Tri-Lakes Wastewater Treatment Facility that is currently discharged directly to Monument Creek; the town has water rights for its effluent but is not using them currently for either reuse or sale to downstream agricultural irrigation users.

- Pikes Peak Regional Water Authority (PPRWA) regional water system—cost undetermined, but possible total cost split among all seven partners could be \$280 million. Would bring renewable surface water from Arkansas River up to Monument in a pipeline through Black

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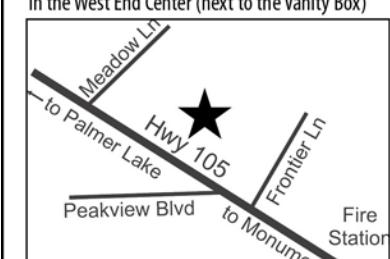
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