

of water currently in Lake Woodmoor. Shaffer said the lake, which is part of the district's water supply, fills with water in the winter, and the water level typically falls by the end of the summer due to increased demand caused by

lawn watering and other hot-weather uses. In previous years, WWSD used more well water in summer months, Shaffer said, but now water stored in the lake is used to meet peak demands, and that cuts costs by delaying the need

to drill new wells. Shaffer pointed out that much of the water in Lake Woodmoor is taken from Monument Creek, and that water costs one-third of what water pumped from the Arapahoe aquifer costs.

Sessions open to public

The board scheduled a budget planning session for Nov. 9 and a rate hearing for Dec. 14. Please check the WWSD website (<http://www.woodmoorwater.com>) or call 488-2525 to confirm times

for the meetings.

The next meeting is scheduled for Nov. 9 at 1 p.m. Meetings are usually held at the district office at 1845 Woodmoor Drive on the second Thursday of each month at 1 p.m. See www.woodmoorwater.com or call 488-2525 to verify meeting times.

James Howald can be reached at jameshowald@ocn.me.

Academy Water and Sanitation District, Oct. 18

Sewer fees and water rates will increase for different reasons

By Lisa Hatfield

The Academy Water and Sanitation District (AWSD) board met on Oct. 18 to discuss anticipated increases in water rates and sewer fees, and the draft 2018 budget.

AWSD includes the Pleasant View neighborhood, with 308 water taps and 292 sewer taps.

Exact sewer fees increase will be determined soon

Engineer Dave Frisch of GMS Inc. reported on the \$3.1 million lift station and force main project underway that will allow AWSD to pump its wastewater over the hill into Donala Water and Sanitation District's system. From there, it will go to the Upper Monument Creek Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility, which is equipped to meet new state standards for ammonia, phosphorus, and nitrogen. AWSD's current lagoon treatment system can no longer meet these standards. See www.ocn.me/v16n3.htm#awsd0217, or www.colorado.gov/pacific/awsd/state-compliance for a detailed technical explanation.

Frisch said the project is "still in limbo" since, five months later, it is still waiting for plan review comments from the Colorado Department of Health and Environment. Other applications already approved include the site location and the 1041 permit. The specific calculations on the 30-year loan will be done by the Colorado Water Resources and Power Development Authority, which administers the Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund (WPCRF) loan for the new AWSD lift station, and when that amount is known, the district's needed sewer rate increases can be determined exactly.

AWSD customers currently pay \$80/month for sewer service, and it might go up to about \$92/month in 2018 to account for the addition of the Donala sewer system user charge and the loan payment.

Frisch anticipated that construc-

tion on the project could begin in March. When the new lift station is completed, AWSD will discontinue using the two old lift stations, the two lagoons, and two blowers.

Director Steve Callicot said that at the recent Town Hall meeting AWSD hosted to explain the history of the project and the reason for the additional costs, residents were very positive overall. "The message needs to get out," he said.

2018 water rates increase discussed

Treasurer Walter Reiss said he had investigated Director Ronald Curry's question about why the district's reserve fund was decreasing, and he discovered that since 2010, district residents had steadily cut back on their water use, so revenues were not meeting operations costs. Reiss said half of AWSD's customers use less than 5,000 gallons/month, and only 8 percent use more than 12,000 gallons/month. For comparison, see Triview article on page 1.

The directors discussed District Manager Anthony Pastorello's proposal to change the water rate schedule from two to five volumetric tiers in a structure similar to the one used by Donala, and to increase the cost per thousand gallons in each tier. Residents who use less water will pay less per 1,000 gallons, but people who use enough water to climb into the higher tiers will pay more per 1,000 gallons at that point.

A public hearing will be held and a final decision will be made this winter.

The Academy Water and Sanitation District board meets at 6 p.m. the third Wednesday of each month at the Donald Wescott Fire Station, 15415 Glenagle Dr. Contact District Manager Anthony Pastorello at 481-0711 or see the district website at www.colorado.gov/pacific/awsd/general-info.

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

Donala Water and Sanitation District, Sept. 21 and Oct. 19

Emergency action earns award

By Jim Kendrick

The Donala Water and Sanitation District board met Sept. 21 and Oct. 19 to acknowledge an award and to hear a presentation on water rates.

Sept. 21 regular meeting

The absence of Director Ed Houle was excused.

On Sept. 21, the board congratulated Donala Water and Sanitation District General Manager Kip Petersen for Donala receiving the Annual Colorado Special Districts Association's Collaboration Award for the emergency sharing of Donala potable water with Triview Metropolitan District that began on July 4, 2016 and ended on July 9. The incident started on June 3. About

20 million to 30 million gallons of Triview water was lost. A continuous flow of 750 gallons per minute from Donala was established for 111 hours. Triview's cost for Donala's transfer of potable water was \$151,943.

The broken 5-foot section of a Triview water main southwest of Bear Creek Elementary School leaked 20 million to 30 million gallons of water in June and July and caused a water emergency. Although the break had been blocked off on July 9 when the leak was found, it could not be repaired until the Army Corps of Engineers, the Department of Wildlife, and the property owner all granted permission for the district to access the site. The 5-foot

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