

be included in the initial bidding process for the multi-million-dollar Monument pipeline project, and said the following:

- Monument will go to bid on Aug. 25 for the 5-mile pipeline (to in-

clude fire hydrants) that will run from Monument Lake and come out at Cloven Hoof Road, Palmer Lake, and travel east down Highway 105 to the southside of Crystal Creek and east of the bridge and end at the Beacon Light Road apartments.

- Station 1 currently receives water from a well and, after the pipeline installation, it will disconnect from its well and be annexed into the town's water district with a connection under Highway 105.
- Boring under Highway 105 will likely cost about \$500 per foot for a 100-foot right of way, totaling about \$50,000.
- Bidding a small separate project later would likely cost more and boring is already planned for the pipeline to travel under the creek and the railroad bridge.
- The pipeline project is expected to break ground in 2022.

Kovacs said the district has not budgeted for the expense in 2021, and payment deferred until 2022 would be preferable.

Tharnish said he doubted a payment request would be made until 2022, because the bids are not expected back until later this year.

Hildebrandt said the district has to bore anyway and get away from well water.

The board approved the request to be included in the bid, 6-0-1.

The meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Meetings are usually held on the fourth Wednesday of the month. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 28 at 6:30 p.m. at the Chamber of Commerce, 166 Second St., downtown Monument. For Zoom meeting instructions, minutes, and agendas, visit www.tlmfire.org or contact Director of Administration Jennifer Martin at 719-484-9011.

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Donald Wescott Fire Protection District, special meeting June 15

Board approves feasibility study for unification

By Allison Robenstein

The Donald Wescott Fire Protection District (DWFPD) board approved a unification feasibility study, which is expected to determine if the district should be combined with the Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Protection District (TLMFPD), during its June 15 meeting, a hybrid of in-person and remote attendees. The sound quality for some remote attendees was not optimal, so the board is considering allowing in-person attendance as COVID-19 pandemic restrictions are being lifted.

Chairman Mark Gunderman was absent.

Unification feasibility study approved

Consultant ESCI will perform an independent assessment of the fire districts to ascertain certain data points about both Wescott and TLMFPD. The complexities of both agencies will be reviewed during the four-month process, which constitutes phase one of the unification process, said TLMFPD Chief Andy Kovacs. ESCI will be on site during phase two to gather input from stakeholders. Phase three will include a review of opportunities, benefits, and any obstacles to unification. The feasibility study will be delivered and reviewed during phase four. The study will

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