### District Accountability Advisory Committee recognition

Chief Academic Officer Lori Benton thanked Nanette Walker Smith for her two years' service as co-chair of the District Accountability Advisory Committee.

Walker Smith said she was grateful to serve on a committee that incorporates input from the teachers, administration, and parents. She commented that meeting attendance was enhanced by the necessity of meeting virtually during the past school year.

Benton recognition

Superintendent KC Somers gave a brief impromptu speech to thank Chief Academic Officer Lori Benton for her 20 years of service in the district.

He especially praised her thorough presentations and ability to explain the

complexities of assessments and curriculum.

The Lewis-Palmer D38 Board of Education does not meet in July. The next meeting is scheduled for Aug. 16 in the district learning center, 146 Jefferson St., Monument.

Harriet Halbig may be reached at harriethalbig@ocn.me.

# down town monument downtownmonument.org Thursday July 15th

# Thursday, July 15<sup>th</sup> 5-8 pm

Visit Historic Downtown Monument to enjoy a wonderful evening of live music, local artists, outdoor activities,

food trucks, and more!



July 2021 Specials

#### TLMFPD (Cont. from 1)

See the Donald Wescott Fire Protection District article on page 10. The goal of the study is to provide a third party, independent, unbiased assessment to evaluate the feasibility of a unification option. TLMFPD selected ESCI in 2018 to conduct a thorough analysis of the district and surrounding fire agencies and develop the 2019 Master Plan, so it is already familiar with the agencies and the area, said Kovacs.

Jones said the study will include at least one in-person visit from ESCI with the major stakeholders, all personnel, the command staff, and board members from both agencies. The same tools previously used to produce TLMFPD's 2019 Master Plan will be used and include spatial and response time analysis, and the study will adhere to all the standard industry guidelines. The completed study is expected to be finalized in October 2021, said Jones.

Kovacs said the study will include a deep dive into facilities, apparatus, management components, capital assets and capital improvement plans, staffing and personnel management, service delivery and support programs such as training and fire prevention. No one will lose their jobs, but some personnel may not remain in the same positions, said Kovacs.

Jones confirmed that DWFPD has 15 volunteers and will not accept any more for the time being, and said the following:

- The agencies have different pay scales and benefits, and a full fiscal analysis of budgets and revenues (to include five-year forecasted budget analysis), cost avoidance for station locations/coverage and the consolidation of administrative services and capital purchases will be explored.
- Funding, and the mill levy disparity between the two districts, and the Wescott sub-district will need to be carefully examined.
- The recent increase in residential property taxes and the pending drop in the RAR could make the option to create a new district with a lower mill levy more viable.
- discuss the RAR changes.

  ESCI will not be asked to make any recommendation on what kind of legal organizational

Both chiefs will meet with their

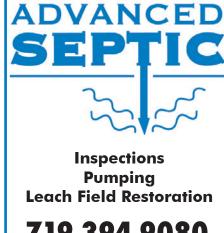
respective district attorneys to

structure should be selected.
Both boards will be required to decide and select the final option

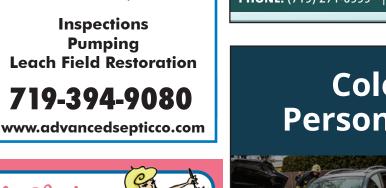


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the time being, and said the www.advancedseptic





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