

better than spreading it out over 10 years, because meanwhile other customer classes were paying more than they should, and pushing out longer than five years would leave the burden with those customers longer than it should. President Jim Taylor expressed concern about the impact of raising the costs on the golf course.

The consultants reminded the board that the cost of service may change over time due to unforeseen circumstances and changes in growth, so the numbers in all five categories might need to be revisited in the future. Wadsworth summarized that as far as most residents are concerned, the monthly service

charge goes from \$9.01 to \$9.20 in the first year of the five-year increases, and the less than 6,000-gallon volume charge per thousand gallons goes from \$5.89 to \$5.93. The new rates were subsequently approved by the board.

This was a continuation of the rates discussion from the November meeting. See www.ocn.me/v16n12.htm#wwsd1117.

Other business

Concern was expressed that the Tri-Lakes Waste Water Treatment Facility construction project was still not finished. TetraTech was still fixing issues with the new plant, which they thought at one time was supposed to be done in May. Shaf-

fer said that a fire department inspection was the main hurdle.

Chilcott Ditch company is on track to borrow money to replace a siphon.

Water loss

Gillette reported a problem where water from well 15 was supposed to be pumping into Lake Woodmoor. A valve had been incorrectly set, so for seven to eight days nearly a million gallons went into the backwash tank and subsequently the sewer. This has caused losses for the month to be driven temporarily to a 10 percent total, with 6 percent being unaccounted for. There was some discussion by the board about further training of the water operators to make

sure this does not happen again. It was announced that a new operator had been hired with backhoe operation experience, a valuable skill.

Construction and planning projects

The new JV Ranch storage building was expected to be complete by end of December, and the Lake Woodmoor aeration system is fully installed.

Conditional approvals had been granted for filings at Misty Acres and the Dunes at Woodmoor developments. Inspections indicated conformance to the district's construction standards. Once a certificate of approval is issued, tap permits will be granted.

The board went into executive session for matters subject to negotiation, legal discussions regarding the joint use agreement and contract for consulting engineering services with FEI Engineers Inc., and personnel matters

The next meeting is scheduled for Jan. 12 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.

Chris Pollard can be reached at chrispollard@ocn.me.

Tri-Lakes Wastewater Treatment Facility Joint Use Committee, Dec. 13

Radium treatment communication with town consultant begins

By Lisa Hatfield

At the Dec. 13 Tri-Lakes Wastewater Treatment Facility (TL-

WUTF) Joint Use Committee (JUC), the members discussed the almost-complete total phos-

phorus (TP) chemical removal clarifier expansion. Also, Jonathan Moore, a water resource engineer from Forsgren Associates, attended the meeting to listen to JUC members, which was the first step toward communication with the town of Monument and its engineers on questions about the town's plans for treatment of radium in the town's drinking water wells.

TLWUTF operates as a separate joint venture public utility and is owned in equal one-third shares by Monument Sanitation District (MSD), Palmer Lake Sanitation District (PLSD), and Woodmoor Water and Sanitation District (WWSA).

The three-member JUC acts as the board of the facility and consists of one director from each of the three owner districts' boards: WWSA board Director at Large Rich Strom, president; MSD board Chairman Ed Delaney, vice president; and PLSD board and JUC Secretary/Treasurer Ken Smith. Other board and staff members of the three owner districts also attended, including MSD District Manager Mike Wicklund, PLSD District Manager Becky Orcutt, and WWSA Assistant District Manager Randy Gillette. Monument Sanitation District board members Marylee Reisig and John Howe and WWSA board President Jim Taylor also attended the meeting.

Financial and construction report

Facility Manager Bill Burks said Tetra Tech, the facility's engineering firm, had missed sending one construction invoice in July for the TP chemical removal clarifier expansion (The check was included with the checks for November). He said as of Dec. 13, Aslan Construction had still not sent its final invoice, either, but he was optimistic it would be received so he could write a final check to them before Dec. 31, as budgeted by all three of the owner districts.

Burks explained that the new TP clarifier expansion had undergone four fire inspections without getting a written check-

list on what still needed to be done and that Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Marshal John Vincent had apparently not been sharing complete information about the construction with the Pikes Peak Regional Building Department. The Colorado Springs fire marshal was also participating in the inspections.

These Tri-Lakes/Monument Fire Protection District fire inspections have been an issue since 2015, when Tetra Tech was first surprised by the unprecedented requirement from the fire marshals to include a backup electrical generator for ventilation and temperature control in the chemical storage area. Several other requirements have surfaced since then. See www.ocn.me/v15n11.htm#tkfjuc1013 for more details.

Burks said Tetra Tech was working on forwarding the missing emails and letters to Regional Building so that it would have the information needed for a required department approval of the TLWUTF TP expansion as well. He said Aslan Construction would receive the written report from the building inspector.

Note: On Dec. 16, Fire Chief Chris Truty notified OCN that Vincent was no longer with TLMFPD, but no further explanation was given.

Conversation about town's radium treatment begins with consulting engineer

After noting that GMS Engineering has already dealt with radium in other districts, Wicklund said he had asked Roger Sams of GMS to set up a meeting in January to be attended by:

- GMS Engineering staff
- Steven Farabaugh, the radium project manager from town water engineering consultants Forsgren Associates
- TLWUTF's Tetra Tech engineers
- All three JUC member district managers
- Burks
- The three JUC directors

"We have not really been in the

loop" about the town's proposed treatment process for radium in the town of Monument's wells, Wicklund said.

See related Dec. 5 Monument Board of Trustees article on page 1 and www.ocn.me/v16n12.htm#tlfjuc1108.


Then Wicklund welcomed Moore and asked him how he happened to be at this meeting. Moore said he was there at the invitation of the town of Monument to just listen to what the JUC had to say. Moore is Forsgren's project manager for several other current town water system projects, but he is not the project manager for the town's drinking water radium treatment issue. However, the JUC members and district managers stated a long series of comments and questions for the town and Moore took notes on each to pass along to the town.

Wicklund's comments included:

- This wastewater facility is highly regulated, and it is much more complicated than water treatment.
- We have to deal with disposal of biosolids, which can become an issue if they start to contain Technologically Enhanced Naturally Occurring Radioactive Material (TENORM) hazardous materials waste due to the radium treatment options that Forsgren presented to Monument on Oct. 17. See www.ocn.me/v16n11.htm#mbot1017 or the Oct. 17 board packet at <https://monumenttownco.documents-on-demand.com/>.
- From MSD's standpoint, we just really want to understand what is going on and how it is going to affect MSD, TLWUTF, our operators, and the community.

Strom's comments included:

- We are very concerned about whatever decision is made. Whatever (the town) does with all this affects us.
- We appreciate the opportunity to participate in the process, because this is a systems approach. We can't treat this (radium treatment decision) as if it has



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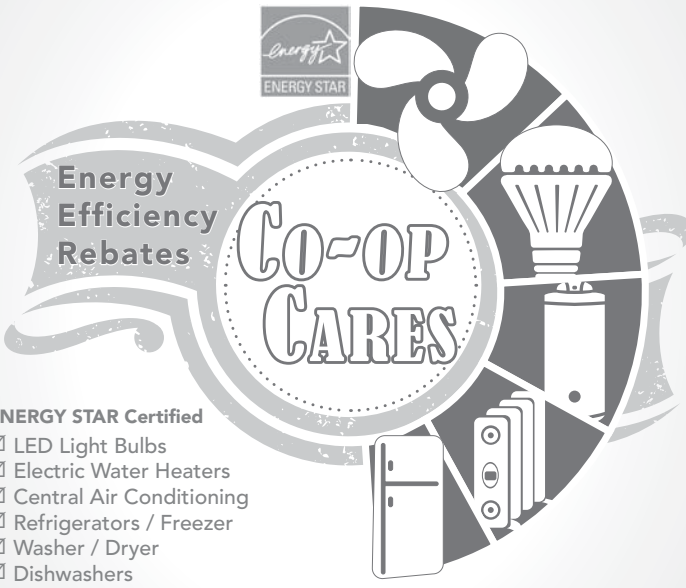
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