

will be “up, down, or neutral.”

Petersen noted that Donala had experimented with aquifer recharging, storage, and recovery in 2011 by injecting about 40 acre-feet of water into Donala’s well 2A successfully in a feasibility study. However, there are still challenges to this day with aquifer storage in Donala district wells.

He said that it “makes no sense” to pump Donala’s non-renewable Denver Basin Aquifer groundwater from one of its wells and then reinject it into a Donala groundwater well.

**Note:** It also makes no sense to pump out non-renewable ground water from the aquifer, where there is no evaporation, to store it in a possible new Tri-Lakes regional reservoir, because there will be significant evaporation of some groundwater stored in the reservoir in this alpine desert climate.

Petersen said that Donala receives its Leadville Willow Creek Ranch renewable surface water at its Northgate Boulevard interconnect with Colorado Springs Utilities (CSU) after it has been transported from Donala’s temporary “if and when” annual raw water storage lease in Pueblo Reservoir to a CSU surface water treatment plant where it is treated and chlorinated by CSU for direct distribution as potable water to Donala’s customers. To inject this treated and chlorinated potable water into a Donala groundwater well, it would have to be de-chlorinated and then re-treated and re-chlorinated when it is re-pumped from the aquifer, a total of three treatment cycles in all.

Petersen stated that even if Donala could find an appropriate source for treated injection water in the future, some of Donala’s injected water that would be stored underground in the Denver Basin aquifers through a future

Donala injection well would inevitably migrate a short distance through the underground rock layers into the adjacent Triview Metropolitan District service area and would be lost to Donala and its customers. Currently, the adjacent Triview wells could then pump Donala’s injected groundwater and sell it to their customers with no compensation to Donala.

Petersen also said that at this time there are no Colorado Groundwater Commission administrative rules and procedures for aquifer storage in, for example, the Upper Black Squirrel designated basin. Likewise, there are no administrative rules or procedures in Colorado to protect ownership of the water that a special district like Donala might inject into storage in a basin like Upper Black Squirrel. At this time, the board that manages Upper Black Squirrel storage takes ownership of any water injected into its aquifer, and it would be lost to Donala.

Since the Upper Black Squirrel Basin storage area is 15 to 18 miles east of Donala’s service area, Donala would have to build pipelines to the storage basin, injection wells and extraction wells in the storage basin, and return pipelines back to Donala’s service area. This construction challenge is more than Donala can currently finance by itself as a stand-alone district, with no regional partners to help share in these costs at this time.

**Note:** For accurate, peer-reviewed, science-based information on aquifer injection, see <https://water.usgs.gov/edu/earthgwaquifer.html>, [https://water.usgs.gov/ogw/artificial\\_recharge.html](https://water.usgs.gov/ogw/artificial_recharge.html), and <https://pubs.usgs.gov/sir/2005/5013/>. For federal regulatory and in-state public information see [www.epa.gov/uic/aquifer-recharge-](http://www.epa.gov/uic/aquifer-recharge-)

and-aquifer-storage-and-recovery. [www.douglas.co.us/water/water-supply/aquifer-storage-and-recovery-asr/](http://www.douglas.co.us/water/water-supply/aquifer-storage-and-recovery-asr/), and <http://water.state.co.us/groundwater/GWAdmin/DenverBasin/Pages/DenverBasin.aspx>.

Petersen and the directors each said more than once at this board meeting that no decisions have been made by the Donala board to raise any Donala mill levy because a special district board cannot raise a mill levy. Nor has the Donala board even had any discussions or made any decision about initiating a mill levy increase ballot issue for Donala constituents to vote on, since only the voters can increase a property tax on themselves.

**Note:** Donala’s voters approved, on May 4, 2010, an increase in the district’s existing voter-approved mill levies: a 5 mill increase to 21.296 mills for Area A (those customers receiving water and sewer services, which includes all of Gleneagle) and a 2.5 mill increase to 10.648 mills for Area B (those receiving water service only, which includes a small section of Chaparral Hills). Area B residents are taxed at half the rate of residents in Area A. See [www.ocn.me/v5n1.htm#donala](http://www.ocn.me/v5n1.htm#donala), [www.ocn.me/v10n5.htm#dwsd](http://www.ocn.me/v10n5.htm#dwsd), and [www.ocn.me/v10n6.htm#dwsd](http://www.ocn.me/v10n6.htm#dwsd).

### Financial reports

Petersen noted that budget numbers for operations and capital projects were tracking normally. However, tap fee revenue will most likely be less than forecast due to slower than expected county approvals of development projects within Donala. Some budgeted 2017 capital projects that were to be financed by these delayed tap fees will now have to be postponed until 2018. See [www.ocn.me/v17n8.htm#dwsd](http://www.ocn.me/v17n8.htm#dwsd) for a comprehensive list of links that de-

scribe these previously reported capital project issues in detail.

The financial reports were unanimously accepted as presented.

### Willow Creek Ranch

Peterson said there were two warnings of potential spilling of Donala’s renewable Willow Creek Ranch surface water that was stored in Pueblo Reservoir earlier this year. As a result, Donala chose to stop storing water in June, and then used up nearly all of the stored Donala water that was left in the reservoir to minimize the loss of any remaining district ranch water if a “spill” actually occurred. However, there were no spills due to the close coordination between the Pueblo Reservoir stakeholders. Since the spill threat ended, Donala has been able to re-accumulate about 250 acre-feet of Willow Creek Ranch surface water in its annual lease Pueblo Reservoir storage. Donala’s Willow Creek Ranch water right allows Donala to store an average of 280 acre-feet of ranch surface water per year.

Petersen said the ranch is in very good physical condition after a week of recent district staff maintenance and wildfire mitigation.

### Operations

The R. Hull water treatment plant was scheduled to be taken off line at the end of August to start a major control system upgrade. If capital funds become available, a low flow shallow potable groundwater well pump (well 2D) with sand ingestion damage will be repaired later this year.

The Doral Way pipeline replacement project (3,200 feet of 8-inch potable water lines) has begun and should be finished by the end of October.

The Upper Monument Creek Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility’s effluent flume will be replaced during the last week in August. The facility’s access road has been graded and treated for dust control.

The facility has submitted a request to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment to schedule the installation of necessary arsenic removal upgrades during 2019 and 2020 rather than in 2018 and 2019 as scheduled. The department has published a notice of the facility’s schedule amendment request with a 45-day of public comment period.

The current engineer’s estimate for this arsenic removal upgrade replace-

DONALA (cont. on page 20)



**Main Street**  
B • R • O • K • E • R • S



**Trish Flake**  
Sells the Tri-lakes!  
**719.481.4810**  
[www.trishflake.com](http://www.trishflake.com)

*Love where you live.™*



**Red Rock Ranch Contemporary**  
4795 Limestone, Monument, CO 80132  
Beautiful home w/5+ Beds, 4 Baths on 1+ AC corner lot! Great room with lots of light! Plenty of quality updates including: granite in kitchen, bamboo floors & media room! Gas FP! Large deck for entertaining! Walk-out basement! Enjoy stunning views! Offered at \$499,000



**Backs to Palmer Lake**  
92 Oakdale Dr., Palmer Lake, CO 80133  
Lakeside 3 Bed, 3 Bath rancher w/over 2500 SF! Formal dining + breakfast nook! Fantastic views! Main level master w/en suite bath! Sun room, large deck & flagstone patio will be your favorite spaces! Central air! Footsteps to the Santa Fe Trail & the Lake! Offered at \$429,000

Register at: [www.gleneaglepatriotgolf.com](http://www.gleneaglepatriotgolf.com)

**16th ANNUAL Gleneagle Sertoma 4 PERSON Scramble**  
**PATRIOT GOLF BENEFIT**

**USAFA Eisenhower Golf Course, Blue Course**  
**Monday**  
**September 11, 2017**  
7:00 a.m. begin checkin, 8:00 start

*Our sixteenth annual Patriot Golf Tournament will proudly honor our local patriots representing the military, police, and firefighters!*

\$140 Entry Fee (\$500 for a foursome) includes Breakfast and Lunch, Green Fees, Cart Fees, Range Balls, Team Prizes, Longest Drive, and Closest to Pin.

For more information call:  
**John Coyle: (719) 494-4284 or Joe Gray: (719) 203-4526**

*Proceeds to benefit Home Front Cares and other local charities*




**NEED WINTER STORAGE?**

**Monument Hill SELF STORAGE**  
RV & SELF STORAGE (719) 488-6884

<b>PERSONAL</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Furniture</li> <li>Recreational Equipment</li> </ul>	<b>BUSINESS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Autos</li> <li>Record Storage</li> <li>Equipment</li> <li>RV</li> <li>Inventory</li> </ul>
---	---

**STATE OF THE ART SECURITY/VIDEO SURVEILLANCE**



**1895 Deer Creek Rd Monument, CO**  
[monumenthillselfstorage.com](http://monumenthillselfstorage.com)

**BRING IN THIS AD FOR OUR WINTER STORAGE SPECIALS!**