

Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Protection District. Ridings said that the Northern Sub-district, the portion of Wescott that remains upon completion of the city's annexation, is on track with an estimated 700 calls per year.

Burns reported that the district supported back-to-back deployments. The first crew supported a federal deployment in Wyoming, which was completed. Soon after, a second crew was deployed to Oregon on a brush truck to conduct initial attack work. Burns speculated that the Oregon crew would be deployed for a minimum of two weeks. Ridings added that, depending on the deployment location's cell service, people can follow the crew's progress on Facebook. The board adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

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The next DWFPD Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for Sept. 19 at Station 1, 15415 Gleneagle Drive. A biannual pension meeting is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. and the regular monthly board meeting will follow at 7 p.m. Please call (719) 488-8680, a nonemergency number, for more information, or visit [www.wescott-fire.org](http://www.wescott-fire.org).

The district is also on Facebook and Twitter.

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### Correction

The photo on the right from the July 15 NEPCO meeting shows the presentation of a certificate of membership to Wescott Fire Protection Chief Vinny Burns (right). It ran on the front page of our August 5 issue. Unfortunately, the caption misidentified the man on the left. He is Larry Oliver, president of NEPCO. OCN regrets the error. *Photo by Jim Kendrick.*

## Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Protection District, Aug. 23

# New hires, promotions announced

By Lisa Hatfield

The Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Protection District (TLMFPD) board celebrated several promotions and new hires, along with a grant award, on Aug. 23.

Secretary Mike Smaldino and Directors Terri Hayes and Tom Tharnish were absent, as was Fire Chief Chris Truty.

### Grant money awarded

Battalion Chief of Administration/Fire Marshal Jamey Bumgarner said that Lt. Mo Ayala had applied for and earned a \$25,596 grant for TLMFPD from Firehouse Subs' Public Safety Foundation quarterly grant program. The money will be used to purchase 10 full sets of personal protective equipment.

### Promotions and new hires

Deputy Chief Randy Trost swore in three staff members who were promoted to driver/operator engineer: firefighter Adam Wakefield, firefighter/paramedic Aaron Wood, and firefighter Morgan Cudney. Battalion Chief Mike Keough thanked Capt. Larry Bell of Black Forest Fire Rescue Protection District and Driver/Operator Wayne Krzemien of Donald Wescott Fire Protection District who volunteered to sit on the oral board for the promotional interviews.

The district also welcomed two new paramedics: Jay Bruchis and Stephanie Solls.

### Security concerns

Trost said that security door installation was complete at all three stations, including Station 3 on Woodmoor Drive. Due to security concerns, the Monument Police Department (MPD) is also responding to any emergency calls to the Ramada Inn on Woodmoor Drive unless TLMFPD notifies them otherwise, Trost said.

President Jake Shirk, who is also the Monument police chief, said that MPD has been talking with the Ramada Inn general manager about the high number of calls for service there, and a community resource officer from MPD will also be involved even though that address is in unincorporated El Paso County, not technically within MPD's territory.

Trost's other comments included:

- TLMFPD and MPD will create a memorandum

outlining use of two snowmobiles that were donated by the county.

- Firefighters will be collecting donations for the Muscular Dystrophy Association's Fill the Boot campaign over the Labor Day weekend.
- Four new hires have begun training at the academy in Denver.
- Two new paramedics are doing well in their field internships.
- Jonathan Bradley, TLMFPD's new training officer, will officially start after Labor Day, but he has already done meet-and-greets with all three shifts to open the dialogue with the staff.

### Open house dates announced

Bumgarner said that TLMFPD planned to conduct two Community Open Houses where residents could visit a local fire station and meet the crews. Free car seat checks, hotdogs, and lemonade will be provided from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on two dates: Sept. 9 at Station 1, 18650 Highway 105, and Sept. 16 at Station 3, 1855 Woodmoor Drive.

Bumgarner said that TLMFPD would be experimenting more with social media notifications including Facebook and NextDoor.com and that Fire Chief Truty would be hosting more "coffee with the community" events.

**Note:** Residents are also always invited to attend TLMFPD's board meetings, which usually are held on the fourth Wednesday of the month. Public comments are welcomed at the beginning of each meeting.

### Financial report

Treasurer John Hildebrandt said as of July 31, district revenue was on track, although ambulance revenue was about 3 percent behind projections for that point in the year. Overall expenses were exactly where they should be despite overages in emergency services contracts and supplies, medical equipment, uniforms, and training. Overtime pay was also over budget, but it was offset by overall wages being under budget.

The meeting adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

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Meetings are usually held the fourth Wednesday of

each month. The next meeting is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Sept. 27 at TLMFPD Station 1, 18650 Highway 105. For information, contact Jennifer Martin at 719-484-0911. For upcoming agendas, see <http://tlmfire.org/board>.

Lisa Hatfield can be reached at [lisahatfield@ocn.me](mailto:lisahatfield@ocn.me).



**Above:** Tri-Lakes Monument firefighter Morgan Cudney, left, firefighter/paramedic Aaron Wood, and firefighter Adam Wakefield were sworn in by Deputy Chief Randy Trost as part of their promotions to engineer on Aug. 23. *Photo by Lisa Hatfield.*



**Above:** Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Protection District welcomed new paramedics Jay Bruchis, left, and Stephanie Solls on Aug. 23. Deputy Chief Randy Trost swore them in. *Photo by Lisa Hatfield.*



**Left:** Lt. Mo Ayala, left, with Battalion Chief of Administration/Fire Marshal Jamey Bumgarner, announced on Aug. 23 that Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Protection District

had earned a \$20,596 grant from Firehouse Subs' Public Safety Foundation quarterly grant program. *Photo by Lisa Hatfield.*

## El Paso Board of County Commissioners, Aug. 1 and 22

# Rockwood Minor Subdivision approved

By Helen Walklett

At its Aug. 22 meeting, the El Paso Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) unanimously approved an application by Martin Ventures LLC for the Rockwood Minor Subdivision to create three single-family residential lots on a 39.5-acre property south of Palmer Lake and west of Monument. At the Aug. 1 BOCC meeting, Commissioner Peggy Littleton honored five members of the Wescott Fire Protection District team for helping a disabled veteran.

### Rockwood Minor Subdivision

The request by Martin Ventures, unanimously approved at the Aug. 22 BOCC meeting, will see a 39.5-acre parcel of land, zoned as Residential Rural (RR-5), subdivided to create three single-family lots. The property is located north of the terminus of Redstone Ridge Road, about one mile south of the Highway 105 and Red Rock Ranch Drive intersection, to the south of Palmer Lake and west of Monument. The El Paso County Planning Commission unanimously recommended the application for approval at its Aug. 1 hearing.

The resulting three lots will be 29.25 acres, 5.04

acres, and 4.88 acres in size. Administrative approval had been granted earlier for one lot to be less than the 5 acres normally required within an RR-5 zoning district. This was necessary to allow for the dedication of 60 feet of right-of-way for the future extension of Redstone Ridge Road.

### Wescott Fire Protection District Team members honored

At the BOCC's Aug. 1 meeting, Commissioner Littleton presented five members of the Wescott Fire Protection District with Letters of Commendation for going above and beyond the call of duty and helping to make life easier for a local disabled veteran.

The letters were presented to Lt. Curt Leonhardt, driver Roger Lance, and paramedics Eric Bogenrief, Doug McIntyre, and Dennis Wesselink. The five Wescott fire responders had recently built a ramp in the garage of 84-year-old Joe Kozloski, who served in the Korean and Vietnam Wars, earning two Purple Hearts and a Bronze star during his service.

Mr. Kozloski attended the meeting to thank the responders and to help Littleton honor them. Due to his physical condition, Kozloski can sometimes ex-



**Above:** Retired veteran Joe Kozloski is pictured with the ramp that Wescott Fire Protection District members built for him, transforming the steps leading into his garage into a gradual slope that the U.S. Army veteran can easily manage. *Photo courtesy of the BOCC.*