

figures are determined.

- The recent repair of Jackson Creek Parkway between Baptist Road and Lyons Tail was completed in three days and about \$6,000 under budget.
- The district's bond issuance will be modified to include language that defines the parameters under which the district will buy bonds. The district seeks to refinance about \$10.6 million in loans and expects to present more information about the bond offering in October. See <https://www.ocn.me/v18n9.htm#tvmd> and <https://www.ocn.me/v18n8.htm#tvmd> for background information.
- The district plans to supply some areas around the A-yard wall with irrigation for xeriscaping to further improve aesthetics along Jackson Creek Parkway.
- Water Superintendent Sexton reported that Public Works crews were practicing mock drills for responding to water emergencies such as water main breaks. He confirmed that the district's plants

were running smoothly, and August's water volume pumped decreased due to extra rainfall. The meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m., after which the board met for an executive session for §24-6-402(4)(b) (e) legal advice, negotiations. No additional decisions or actions were made following the executive session.

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The next Triview meeting will be held Oct. 9 at 5 p.m. at the Fairfield Inn, Mt. Herman Conference Room, 15275 Struthers Road, Colorado Springs. Meetings are normally held on the second Tuesday of the month. Information: 488-6868 or see [www.triviewmetro.com](http://www.triviewmetro.com). See also "Triview Metropolitan District" on Facebook, or [Twitter.com/@TriviewMetro](https://twitter.com/TriviewMetro). Triview board documents are available at <https://triviewmetro.com/boardDocuments>.

Jennifer Kaylor may be reached at [jenniferkaylor@ocn.me](mailto:jenniferkaylor@ocn.me).

Donala Water and Sanitation District, Sept. 20

## WMMI and reserve fund use approved; regulatory compliance discussed

By Jennifer Kaylor

The Donala Water and Sanitation District Board of Directors approved two distinctly different actions when it met Sept. 20. An inclusion agreement and a request to fund unbudgeted project expenses received affirmative responses. Directors and staff proposed ideas to resolve stumbling blocks in establishing a long-term excess capacity contract with the Bureau of Reclamation and remaining within wastewater regulatory standards.

### WMMI welcomed aboard

District General Manager Kip Petersen opened the official hearing to consider inclusion of the Western Museum of Mining and Industry into Donala's services. The property already lies within the district's boundaries but currently relies on well and septic. Petersen summarized the language of the inclusion agreement stipulating that installed utilities would abide by the district's specifications and the subject property's water rights would be deeded to the district. Revenue from the museum's anticipated land sale will enable the long-awaited connection to the Northgate lift station.

Having received no written or verbal arguments against the inclusion, the board unanimously ratified the inclusion proposal.

### Reserve funds preempt inflated future expenses

Reporting on the operations status, Petersen detailed additional funding needs that were not supported by the budget. He explained that current funds would not extend the district's 2018 portion of the 12-inch water main project to the designated Mission Hill Way endpoint but would only complete the project to Sun Hills Drive. Continuing to Mission Hill Way, the more logistically and financially effective terminus, would cost an extra \$375,000, Petersen estimated.

In addition to the Mission Hill Way pipe replacement, he reported that a short section of water main that directs flow from the Gleneagle-Struthers intersection narrows from 12 inches to 8 inches and has the potential to cause significant problems if water volume increases and the pipe is not replaced. Because the El Paso County Department of Public Works plans to construct a roundabout at the Gleneagle-Struthers intersection, Petersen advised fixing the "neck down" before the county begins its construction. He estimated \$85,000 as a pre-roundabout cost and hundreds of thousands of dollars if postponed beyond roundabout completion.

Acknowledging that the expenses had the potential to increase exponentially if the projects were delayed, the directors approved the use of \$300,000 from the reserve fund. For updates on the water main replacement project, see the Donala homepage, <http://donalawater.org>, or call 488-3603.

### Working with other governance entities

Petersen announced that he submitted an "excess capacity" contract with the Bureau of Reclamation as a backup plan for Willow Creek Ranch water storage in 2019 if the district's long-term application is not approved. Donala's 40-year, long-term contract application has remained elusive over the past eight years. According to the bureau, flow models of how Willow Creek Ranch may impact the Arkansas River have taken longer than anticipated. Directors discussed how Donala might collectively work with other districts to find a solution to the costly and time-consuming delays.

Petersen reported that Donala's Operations Committee will determine at its Oct. 10 meeting a course of action for implementing new wastewater arsenic compliance measures that take effect at the end of October 2019. Users of the Upper Monument Creek Regional

Wastewater Treatment Facility (UMCRWWTF) include Donala, Triview Metropolitan District, and Forest Lakes Metropolitan District. The problem does not lie in filtering the arsenic from the Denver Basin's groundwater wells, which are the source of the arsenic, but in disposing of the arsenic in concentrations that don't negatively impact the environment. Donala and the other districts use surface water—which does not have detectable arsenic—as much as possible, but increased water demand during the summer requires greater reliance on groundwater, which increases wastewater arsenic concentrations.

In May 2018, the board received designs for an UMCRWWTF pilot plant, treatment options, potential costs, and timelines. The committee must consider whether to initiate construction on treatment facility upgrades, manage groundwater differently, or trust other innovations that may or may not be tested and available by the deadline. The board resolved to prioritize and coordinate action with Triview and Forest Lakes. See also [www.ocn.me/v18n6.htm#dwsd](http://www.ocn.me/v18n6.htm#dwsd).

Directors received the short-term water service agreement between Donala and Colorado Springs Utilities (CSU). The agreement allows the district to continue transporting its purchased renewable water from Willow Creek Ranch via CSU's infrastructure and expires Dec. 31. As an out-of-service-area customer, Donala currently pays the same rate as full-service out-of-service-area customers to convey its own water. Seeking to negotiate a better rate, the board brainstormed ideas.

### Additional items

Petersen announced other meetings and points of interest that included:

- The Donala board scheduled a joint work session with the Triview Metropolitan District for Sept. 26 at the Villa in Palmer Lake.

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