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**MONUMENT (Cont. from page 1)**

tration between the board the staff right now."

Mayor Pro Tem Kelly Elliott seemed genuinely surprised by the discussion, saying the board is pleased with staff performance and wondered why there is a dilemma now. Later in the discussion, she said if there are problems with staff performance they should have been stated earlier, in writing, rather than being brought out at the time of their appointment.

Trustee Laurie Clark said she had consulted with an outside municipal attorney who told her new appointments happen all the time when a new board is seated. She suggested new staff should accompany the new board to reduce the new BOT members' risk from possible previous work issues. Smith shot back that Clark should have spoken with the town attorney, and that staff is bonded and insured by the Colorado Intergovernmental Risk Sharing Agency so that board members bear no responsibility for their actions. Clark said she didn't have enough access to information from Town Attorney Alicia Corley.

The appointment resolution failed by a tied 3-3 vote, with Coopman, Bornstein, and Clark voting against it.

During public comments later in the meeting, three people came forward to express their frustration that the board has so much drama, and that several are following their own personal agendas. Nancy Swearengin summed up by saying the board should all be ashamed of themselves for not appointing the three town staff members that night.

**Trustee appointment process continues**

Mayor Don Wilson had previously held one of the trustee seats before being elected mayor, leaving his seat as trustee vacant. State statute grants the board the power to fill the vacancy by appointment or by ordering an election. At the April meeting, the trustees agreed to solicit letters of intent from prospective candidates. Four people—James Romanello, Jeff Lampman, Kenneth W. Kimple, and Laura Kronick—

responded to the request. Romanello and Kronick were present on May 7 and gave brief descriptions of themselves and their interest in a trustee position.

The board voted 5-1 to continue their final decision until the next meeting to give Lampman and Kimple a chance to answer questions. Wilson voted no on the continuation.

**Committee appointments**

Responding to board direction given in December and January, Town Attorney Alicia Corley presented a discussion item on a draft resolution creating budget and facilities committees that suggested there be two trustees, two residents, and two staff director positions on the committees. The purpose of the committees would be to prevent late changes to the budget as happened in 2017. See [www.ocn.me/v17n12.htm#mbot](http://www.ocn.me/v17n12.htm#mbot), [www.ocn.me/v18n1.htm#mbot](http://www.ocn.me/v18n1.htm#mbot), [www.ocn.me/v18n2.htm#mbot](http://www.ocn.me/v18n2.htm#mbot).

Clark asked if this was a paid position for staff, but Smith said the directors are salaried and this would fall under their job descriptions. Corley was given direction to create a draft resolution she will bring to the board's next meeting.

**CDOT I-25 Gap presentation**

John Hall, Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) resident engineer, gave a presentation on the environmental assessment (EA) completed as part of the I-25 South Gap Project. The project is intended to enhance safety, reduce delays, and improve travel reliability for the 18-mile stretch between Monument and Castle Rock. Hall explained that anytime federal aid funding is used for a project, CDOT is required to perform this assessment.

Based on the EA, there were three possibilities for the gap:

- No action
  - Express lane alternative (with toll just in that lane)
  - General purpose alternative
- CDOT's preferred alternative is one express lane in both directions. At the community Listening Sessions Feb. 8 at the Monument Library, there was strong opposition to any toll lanes. See [www.ocn.me/v18n3.htm#cdot](http://www.ocn.me/v18n3.htm#cdot). Hall

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