

board.

Crippen told the board that he owns a rental property in Woodmoor that was recently without a tenant. During that time, he received a bill for \$11 of water used and \$70 in fees. He felt that the fees were excessive, and asked the board to develop a billing model entirely based on use. Crippen said he felt the use of fees was unfair to landlords.

Board President Jim Taylor explained to Crippen how the fees, especially the Renewable Water Infrastructure Fee (RWIF), came to be part of the district's revenue collection. Before the RWIF was instated, Taylor said, the district relied entirely on ground water pumped from aquifers to serve the district. Understanding that ground water would not last indefinitely, the district acquired water rights for 3,000 acre-feet per year by purchasing a property then called the JV Ranch in June 2011.

The district spent \$30 million to acquire the water

rights, using bonds that will be paid off in 2036, Taylor said. Taylor pointed out that the RWIF has decreased by \$5 per month as more residents have moved to Woodmoor.

The RWIF ensures that Woodmoor residents will have rights to renewable surface water permanently, Taylor said, adding that the district was ahead of its time in implementing a strategy that other districts have also begun to use in recent years.

**Highlights of operational reports**

- In the finance report, it was noted that water use in the district is down due to the cool, wet weather.
- Two hundred acres are being irrigated at the Woodmoor Ranch as part of the revegetation requirements the district must meet.
- Well 20 was temporarily out of production and was expected to be productive again by mid-

July.

- The radio system used by the district to control water production is being upgraded.
- A faulty valve at Highway 105 and Fairplay Drive was repaired.
- Brian Bush reported that a preliminary agreement to purchase the Walters property, which is currently open space, has been reached, and that as part of the agreement Proterra will build housing on 33 acres of the property.

\*\*\*\*\*

The next meeting is scheduled for Aug. 12 at 1 p.m. Meetings are usually held at the district office at 1845 Woodmoor Drive on the second Monday of each month at 1 p.m. See [www.woodmoorwater.com](http://www.woodmoorwater.com) or call 488-2525 to verify meeting times.

*James Howald can be reached at [jameshowald@ocn.me](mailto:jameshowald@ocn.me).*

Tri-Lakes Wastewater Treatment Facility Joint Use Committee, July 9

# Treatment facility running just as it should

*By Lisa Hatfield*

The Joint Use Committee (JUC) of the Tri-Lakes Wastewater Treatment Facility (TLWWTF) met on July 9 to discuss operations of this joint venture public utility. They also talked about upcoming meetings on state regulations and compared methods of noxious weed control.

TLWWTF is owned in equal one-third shares by

Monument Sanitation District (MSD), Palmer Lake Sanitation District (PLSD), and Woodmoor Water and Sanitation District (WWSD).

The three-member JUC acts as the board of the facility and consists of one director from each of the three owner districts' boards: MSD board Chairman Ed DeLaney, JUC president; PLSD Vice Chairman Patricia Smith, JUC vice president, and WWSD board Director Lee Hanson, JUC secretary/treasurer. Other board and staff members of the three owner districts also attended, including MSD District Manager Mike Wicklund, PLSD District Manager Becky Orcutt, and WWSD Assistant District Manager Randy Gillette.

**Manager's report**

Facility Manager Bill Burks praised his staff for their hard work and good thinking when one very heavy sludge lagoon blower had to be removed, repaired, and replaced in a short amount of time. "I was really pleased at the way we worked together," he said.

Burks outlined specifics on the continued smooth

operation of the facility. He presented the discharge monitoring report (DMR) for May, and he said all sampling results were well within required Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CD-PHE) discharge permit limits for TLWWTF and other baseline sampling. This includes checking biological oxygen demand (BOD), pH, total suspended solids, total inorganic nitrogen, total phosphorus, total recoverable iron, dissolved iron, potentially dissolved zinc, potentially dissolved copper, nitrite, nitrate, and E. coli.

He said the facility is functioning at 32% of its permitted hydraulic capacity and at 72% of its organic capacity, consistent with recent trends.

TLWWTF has grown enough that it needs to remove biosolids from the sludge lagoon every year instead of in alternating years. Burks said 175 dry tons should be removed by July 12 and then hauled away in trailers to be land-applied as fertilizer, which is the most affordable and ecologically sound solution.



### First Step Preschool

Now enrolling for 2019-2020!  
Call for a tour or more information: 719-495-0146









SEPT 7TH - SEPT 8TH  
10 AM TO 5 PM

Sharing our gift with our neighbors

**FRONT RANGE OPEN STUDIOS**  
**One Weekend Only! Don't miss this!**

Visit the actual workshops and studios of the finest artists and craftsmen in our area. See how and where we create and perhaps even try your hand at making art!

Free and for the whole family!

For more information and a map to all locations go to:

**[FRONTRANGEOPENSTUDIOS.COM](http://FRONTRANGEOPENSTUDIOS.COM)**

