

He provided feedback to MSD about items that should be addressed in the near future.

Compiling information from his tour and data gathered by Donala's consulting engineering firm GMS Inc., Hodge developed a rate schedule and a breakdown of daily, weekly, monthly, and annual work tasks. MSD's legal counsel developed a contract that had been reviewed by Donala's counsel and both boards as of Nov. 19. MSD requested clarification about some terminology listed under service charges in Hodge's rates and tasks attachment, but otherwise accepted the contract as written.

Donala's directors supported adding language to clearly define responsibilities pertaining to repairs and

unanimously approved the contract with the added provision. The ORC arrangement, with an initial term of six months, was set to begin Dec. 1. See www.ocn.me/v20n11.htm#msd.

Director position to open soon

Board President Ed Houle announced that a director's position will be open as of January. Residents who are interested in serving on the Donala Board of Directors need to submit a letter of interest and/or a resume to Hodge at the district office by Dec. 31.

Additional updates

- Hodge endorsed a 3% water and sewer rate increase for 2021. He reported that it was aligned with the consumer price

index and past cost of service evaluations. The board approved the change unanimously.

- Safety measures taken in response to tightened COVID restrictions included splitting staffing schedules, limiting access to the office, and wearing masks. Hodge expressed willingness to consider Plexiglass barriers in some office areas.
- The 2020 water main replacement project was about 85% complete, reported Superintendent of Water Operations Mark Parker. He anticipated a completion date of Dec. 4.
- The owner of four lots in Struthers Ranch Subdivision Filing 4 requested confirmation of water

and sewer availability from Donala. Hodge reported that the owner was requesting permission from El Paso County to replat the lots into one large parcel. Other communications indicated that a potential specialty retail center would be developed.

- Most of Colorado was experiencing extreme drought as shown by a Nov. 10 report provided by Hodge. See <https://www.drought.gov/drought/states/colorado> for more current drought information.

At 2:50 p.m. directors moved into executive session §24-6-402(4)(a), C.R.S.—Potential water right purchase. OCN later confirmed with that the

board did not make recordable decisions following the executive session.

Generally, board meetings are held the third Thursday of the month, however, the next board meeting will be held Dec. 10 and will likely be an online meeting due to coronavirus restrictions; call (719)488-3603 or access www.donalawater.org to receive up-to-date meeting information. The district office is located at 15850 Holbein Drive, Colorado Springs. See <https://www.donalawater.org/> to access the current board packet, prior meeting minutes, and the 2020 meeting calendar.

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Monument Sanitation District, Nov. 18

Board postpones budget approval due to failure to post it

By Allison Robenstein and Lisa Hatfield

The Monument Sanitation District (MSD) Board of Directors held a regular meeting Nov. 18. The budget had not been publicly posted. However, board members did still open and close the public hearing but had to postpone the scheduled Resolution to Adopt 2021 Budget and Ap-

propriate Funds to Dec. 16.

The board also moved forward with using Donala Water and Sanitation District as its Operator in Responsible Charge (ORC) and approved a resolution confirming the current rate and fee schedule would not increase now. Tri-Lakes Wastewater Facility (TL-WWTF) Manager Bill Burks attended the meeting to answer

questions about the timing of invoices.

The board members present in person in the MSD conference room were Chairman Dan Hamilton, Treasurer John Howe, Secretary Marylee Reisig, Director Laura Kronick, and MSD Special District Attorney Joan Fritsche of Fritsche Law. Note: The audio quality of the online meeting

continues to be low, despite repeated complaints from staff and OCN reporters attempting to attend the public meeting online due to the pandemic.

Director Katie Saucedo was noted absent as was Jim Kendrick, MSD's Environmental/Regulatory Compliance advisor. Accounts Administrator Cheran Allsup was also absent.

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