

essentially, the policies enforced the use of district property for official district business only and in accordance with all appropriate manner, applicable rules, operating procedures, and board directives.

A second policy reinforced the use of Donala's vehicles only by district personnel and only for their authorized purpose. Further language stipulated safe and lawful operation of all vehicles and the consequences of policy violations.

Directors accepted Hodge's recommendations.

Interim wastewater conveyance halted

In an update about the potential interim wastewater pipeline that would serve the U.S. Air Force Academy's Visitor Center before completion of Colorado Springs Utilities' (CSU) proposed North Monument Creek Interceptor (NMCI), Hodge informed directors that the agreement between CSU and the Academy would not be signed. He had received a communication confirming that the Visitor Center's construction met a delay that is likely to push its completion past the expected NMCI completion, which renders the interim pipeline unnecessary.

Additional updates

- Hodge reported that CSU plans to repeat its current one-year water service agreement contract with Donala for 2021. Although Donala completed its requirements for establishing a long-term contract, Hodge stated that CSU must finalize its rate establishment process, which should be complete by next fall. For more information, see <https://www.ocn.me/v19n9.htm#dwsd>.
- Directors reviewed and briefly discussed a service agreement between Donala and LRE Water for the provision of engineering and consulting services for the qualification and use of Donala's current water assets and potential acquisition of new water assets.
- Superintendent of Water Operations Mark Parker reported on the 2020 water main replacement project. With 98.5% of the work complete, only final concrete work and "punch list" items remained.
- Donala's water demands continued to drop, reported Parker. Production fell 46.5% from October to November. Of the

12.9 million gallons produced, 71.7% came from the district's wells and 28.3% came from the district's lease with the Pueblo Board of Water Works.

- The 2021 infrastructure project received enthusiastic support from the affected homeowners associations (HOAs). Parker and water operations staff recently met with HOA representatives to establish communications and expectations about the project.
- Most of Colorado was experiencing extreme drought as shown by a Nov. 24 report. See <https://www.drought.gov/drought/states/colorado> for more current drought information.
- Hodge reported having received a phone call inquiring about the open director position, but no resumes or letters of intent had been received as of the board meeting.

District honors longtime superintendent

Directors approved Resolution 2020-8 in recognition of Superintendent Robert Hull's exceptional performance from September 1985 through December 2020. Retiring after 35 years of service, Hull oversaw

production of "over 160 million gallons of potable [drinking] water" and treatment of "over 155 million gallons of waste annually." He provided "expert oversight" for Donala's daily operation to ensure "uninterrupted service" to customers and "exceptional leadership and management for the entire Donala staff" resulting in high productivity and extremely low turnover. George referred to Hull as "the quiet hero behind the scenes." In addition to the resolution, directors presented Hull with a token of their appreciation.

At 2:35 p.m. the meeting adjourned.

The next board meeting is scheduled for Jan. 21 at 1:30. Generally, board meetings are held the third Thursday of the month and are likely to be conducted online 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, CO, 80921. See <https://www.donalawater.org/> to access the current board packet, prior meeting minutes, and the 2020 meeting calendar.

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Woodmoor Water and Sanitation District, Nov. 16 and Dec. 14

New water and sewer rates set for 2021

By James Howald

At the Nov. 16 meeting of the Woodmoor Water and Sanitation District, the board heard a request to waive tap fees and some district regulations governing them at a local business park and a progress report on the work being done at the Central Water Treatment Plant (CWTP). A construction change order for the work at the CWTP was voted on, and the board heard a preliminary discussion of the district's water and sewer rates for 2021. The board opened a public hearing on the 2021 budget, which

would remain open until Dec. 14, and scheduled a public hearing on rates.

At the Dec. 14 meeting, the required public hearing on rates was held. Resolutions addressing the 2021 rates and the 2021 budget were voted on. The board voted on a renewal of the district's contract with the Chilcott Ditch Co., and the grazing lease with JV Ranch LLC was considered. The board addressed a request to include property owned by Mary Mills in the district's service area; this issue was related to the board's recent decision to include property owned by

Mary Mills' son Jon Mills in the service area. Finally, the board authorized signs to be placed around Lake Woodmoor intended to allow residents to walk on the service roads on the west side of the lake and to prevent trespassing on private property on the east side of the lake.

Business park requests tap fee waiver

Stan Sievers, managing partner for Monument Hill Business Park, located at the southeast corner of Deer Creek Road and Monument Hill Road, asked the board to waive the tap fees and tap fee rules associated with his project, blaming miscommunication between the civil engineer and the architect for the fact that the industrial condominium project had been built with a single water meter for the entire project rather than a separate meter for each of the 32 units in the project, half of which are already under contract. Sievers said he had built other similar business parks with a single meter, and that there would be a condo association that would pay the water bills in full each month.

The board voted to approve Sievers' request, with Director Jim Wyss abstaining.

Price of improvements at CWTP presented; change order approved

John Hood of JVA Consulting told the board that Stanek Constructors, the company doing the work at CWTP, had determined its guaranteed maximum price to upgrade the plant to process surface water to be \$2.397 million. That price includes a new pretreatment building and equipment as well as an upgraded electrical system, Hood said.

District Manager Jessie Shaffer said Stanek Constructors obtained three bids for each line item included in the project.

The board also approved a

change order with Stanek Constructors for work it is doing at the CWTP.

Preliminary discussion of rates held; public hearing scheduled

Andrew Rheem and Rob Wadsworth, of Raftelis Financial Consultants, the company that advises WWSD on rates and other planning issues, presented results of their 2021 water and sewer analysis.

Based on the information presented by Rheem and Wadsworth, the board considered increasing the water and sewer tap fees by 2%, leaving the Renewable Water Investment Fee unchanged at \$40 per month, and increasing the sewer rate by 2%.

The board was not comfortable with the increase in water rates that Rheem and Wadsworth presented, and asked them to present a new analysis with an increase in water rates between 1 and 3 percent. Rheem and Wadsworth said they would present a new analysis before the board's December meeting so that new rates could be voted on at that meeting.

The board scheduled the public hearing on rates to be held at the board's Dec. 14 meeting.

Public hearing on 2021 budget opened

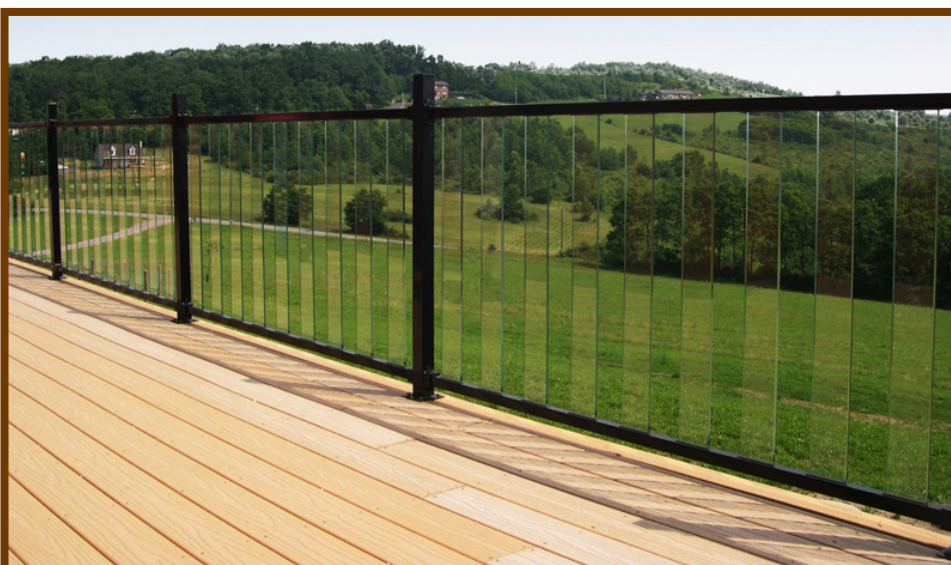
At the Nov. 16 meeting, the board voted unanimously to open the required public hearing on the 2021 budget. Board President Brian Bush reviewed details of proposed bond refinancing and the renewal and replacement project scheduled for 2021.

There were no public comments on the proposed budget at the meeting. The public hearing remained open until Dec. 14 so that anyone unable to attend the meeting could comment on the budget with a phone call, letter, or email.

Public hearing on revenue and rates held

The Dec. 14 meeting opened with the

WWSD (Cont. on 16)



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