

**MFD**  
**(cont. from page 1)**

4 and 5, and revenue loss. The City of Colorado Springs has been discussing annexation possibilities for a few years, and a map exists showing potential annexation opportunities that include Gleneagle to Hodgen Road and Highway 83, areas that are in unincorporated Colorado Springs.

Meetings with Monument Mayor Mitch LaKind, town manager Mike Foreman, Donald Wescott Fire Protection District (DWFPD) board President Mark Gunderman, and some Gleneagle residents had taken place to discuss a vote allowing the residents to annex into the Town of Monument. Town Hall meetings with the residents are planned for summer 2023 to discuss the benefits of annexing into Monument, he said.

**Director recognition**

Lance thanked Director Terri Hayes for her contribution to the fire district during her tenure on the Board of Directors.

Kovacs thanked Hayes for providing a unique perspective during the board meetings since 2016. Hayes will be deeply missed by the district, he said. See caption.

President John Hildebrandt (attending via phone) said Hayes had been a wonderful voice for the citizens of the district and brought a lot to the board, and he appreciated her service over the years.

**Note:** Hayes will be succeeded by Randall B. Estes at the May board meeting.

**Meet and Confer plus agreement extension**

Kovacs said the district is still working through a revised Meet and Confer plus agreement with the International Association of Firefighters Local 4319, but due to time constraints a second extension to the existing agreement was needed for another month.

The board approved the second extension to the agreement, 6-0.

**Financial report**

Treasurer Tom Kelly presented the financial report for March and said:

- The district had received about \$4.7 million in property taxes year to date.
- Overall revenue received year to date was about \$6.2 million.
- The projected annual income is expected to be about \$16.5 million.
- Overall expenses year to date was about \$3.9 million.
- The projected annual expenses are expected to be about \$14 million.
- General liability insurance is expected to increase with the added employees and equipment.

Lance noted the district had spent another \$6,000 on snow removal for March and asked if a decision had been made to find another contractor.

Kovacs said the district had received three responses out of the 20 mailed requests but ultimately decided to keep the contract with Greater Grounds due to the distance of one contractor and the other would not provide any liability. The board approved a snowplow at its March board meeting and hopes that next year the snow removal costs will be lower, he said. See [www.ocn.me/v23n4.htm#mfd](http://www.ocn.me/v23n4.htm#mfd).

The board accepted the financial report as presented, 6-0.

**Chief's report**

Kovacs said the following:

- The lease-purchase agreements for two new fire engines had been paid off for a total of about \$825,000.



**Above:** From left, Fire Chief Andy Kovacs presents board Director Terri Hayes with an acrylic plaque recognizing dedicated service since 2016 to Monument Fire District. *Photo by Natalie Barszcz.*

- He had the opportunity to attend the district's annual live fire training at BFFRPD for all three days. The firefighters all did an outstanding job.
- The district completed 639 training hours in March.
- The district is now averaging a manageable number of requests from American Medical Response (AMR) and accepted three out of five calls for assistance from AMR in March.
- A retirement ceremony for Battalion Chief Mike Keough is scheduled at Station 1 on May 13 at 8 a.m.

**Note:** For more information, see DW-

FPD article on page 12 and the Station 4 "push-in" ceremony in snapshots on page 27.

**Recruitment efforts continue**

Division Chief of Operations Jonathan Bradley said he and Battalion Chief Micah Coyle had participated in a student job fair in Greeley. About 100 fire science students were in attendance, but about 30 fire departments and some private ambulance organizations were also looking for recruits. The district's application pool is about 50% below previous years. Former colleagues from the mountain fire departments are having greater difficulty recruiting, with staff commuting 100 miles west from Denver to those stations, he said.

Hayes suggested the district recruiting staff try attending local recruiting events.

Kovacs said departments are offering signing and moving bonuses to recruit staff.

**First Due software**

Battalion Chief Scott Ridings presented First Due software, a system that will tie into the Computer Aided Dispatch system. The software is designed to store important information that can be retained for future calls to aid firefighters before they reach an incident. The residents and business owners will be able



# INTERNATIONAL STONeworks, LLC

50 GRANITE COLORS IN STOCK!



STARTING AT \$40.00 SQ. FT. INSTALLED  
CNC & WATERJET TECHNOLOGY FABRICATION AND INSTALLATION



KITCHENS • BATHROOMS • WETBARS • WALLS • FIREPLACES • FURNITURE • OUTDOOR LANDSCAPE FEATURES  
CUSTOM: GRANITE • MARBLE • TRAVERTINE • QUARTZ

NEW LOCATION!  
80 S. SPRUCE MT. ROAD • PALMER LAKE, CO 80133  
(located at the corner of Hwy 105 and Perry Park Rd. in Palmer Lake)  
CALL TODAY FOR YOUR FREE QUOTE!  
719.488.3180 • [iswrocks.com](http://iswrocks.com)  
Since 1997 • Residential • Commercial

OUR NEW LOCATION!  
80 S. SPRUCE MTN. RD  
INTERNATIONAL STONeworks, LLC



Hwy 105  
Spruce Mountain Road  
County Line Road