

Tri-Lakes Joint Use Committee, Oct. 9

10-year master plan approved

By Jim Kendrick
On Oct. 9, the Tri-Lakes Waste-water Treatment Facility Joint Use Committee (JUC) approved

the expenditure of \$55,000 in 2013 for a 10-year master plan to be conducted by engineering consultant firm Tetra Tech. The

JUC postponed the previously approved \$52,000 phosphorus removal pilot plant study for a second time to help pay for the new cost of the master plan.

The pilot plant had already been deferred by the JUC earlier this year, from 2012 to 2013. Other proposed cost increases such as a staff pay increase of 2.6 percent, engineering services, and electrical power resulted in the final Tri-Lakes 2013 budget total rising from \$932,271 to \$945,086.

The Tri-Lakes facility operates as a separate public utility and is jointly owned, in equal one-third shares, by Monument Sanitation District, Palmer Lake Sanitation District, and Woodmoor Water and Sanitation District. The three-member JUC acts as the board of the facility and consists of one director from each of the three owner districts' boards:

- President Jim Whitelaw, Woodmoor
- Vice President Dale Smith, Palmer Lake
- Secretary/Treasurer Chuck Robinove, Monument

Typically, several other district board members, including the JUC alternate representatives and district managers from each of the three owner districts, also attend JUC meetings to ensure continuity of facility operations and in-depth knowledge on the district boards.

Financial reports

Facility Manager Bill Burks discussed his final draft of the facility's 2013 budget. He reviewed the proposed option for having engineering firm Tetra Tech perform a long-term capital improvement plan in 2013. The purpose of the engineering design study is to determine the options available to solve future permit issues such as the biotic ligand model for determining an appropriate copper standard for the upper segment of Monument Creek. The Tri-Lakes plant will have difficulty meeting the current copper limits in the facility's

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