to replace each of the district's positive displacement pumps that Keen had provided for the Wakonda Hills lift stations. The rubber stators in the positive displacement pumps have been failing after a little over a year, causing a lot of pumping alarms for Wicklund during evenings and weekends. It is expected that Keen's replacement

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The annual meeting of the JUC will be held at 6 p.m. Dec. 6 at the Villa in Palmer Lake. This will be a public meeting for the JUC as well as public meetings for the Monument, Palmer Lake, and Woodmoor boards. All four meeting notices will be posted regarding this public

A resolution certifying nine liens against properties within the district for nonpayment of use fees was unanimously approved and was filed with the county assessor The meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

The next meeting will be held at 7 p.m. Dec. 20 in the district conference room, 130 Second St. During this meeting there will be a public hearing on the 2013 budget and the 2013 appropriation. There will be no mill levy hearing at the Dec. 20 meeting because Monument Sanitation District has no debt. Meetings are normally held on the third Thursday of the month. Information: 481-4886.

Jim Kendrick can be reached jimkendrick@ocn.me.

Woodmoor Water and Sanitation District, Nov. 8

## Increases in wastewater rate, tap fees proposed

By Candice Hitt

Board President Barrie Town announced at the Nov. 8 Woodmoor Water and Sanitation District board meeting that the public hearing on the 2013 budget would run from Nov. 8 to Nov.13.

District Manager Jessie Shaffer recommended a 71 cent per month increase in wastewater charge for customers in the 2013 budget. This fee is a flat rate paid by all customers and would result in a flat monthly fee of \$26.04 per customer, which is a 2.8 percent increase. Shaffer also proposed an increase of \$615 in tap fees, which is a 3 percent increase. The board will review the recommendations and make a decision at the December board

#### Fire hydrant inspection performed

Assistant Manager Randy Gillette said the district completed the annual fire hydrant preventive maintenance program, which is on a three-year testing cycle. More than 500 hydrants in Woodmoor were inspected by employee Eric Grass and board member Tommy Schwab. Thirteen hydrants were in need of repair, and six of those must be replaced because parts are unavailable for repairs. Regional water solution discussed

#### **Need for statewide water plan stressed**

Guest speaker Dave Miller, owner of Natural Energy Resources Co., discussed the need for a professional statewide water plan. Currently, the state does not participate in a statewide or regional water solution plan. Miller stated that creating efficient water delivery requires replacing ground water with renewable water, which would eliminate the high-cost solutions being considered by water districts. Miller stated the concept is to increase reliability of everyone's water rights where water is stored and then pumped to where it is needed.

**Operations and construction update** 

Gillette said that Well 6, which is an older well, failed and has been pulled out of the ground. The well needs cleaning and Gillette discussed with board members using the New Well 310 product to clean the well. New Well 310 is a phosphorous cleaner that helps prevent iron and bacteria buildup by coating the well casings and should increase water quality. The process is labor intensive and therefore will cost the district \$30,000. The board unanimously approved the cleaning project.

Gillette said Well 5 had an electrical failure and needs an upgrade. The cost is \$15,000 to replace the electrical system, which would be covered under the 2012 budget and would not affect the bottom line. The board unanimously approved replacing the electrical equipment. Shaffer said the first draft of the district's Long Range Plan (LRP) was received and changes were submitted to the board for review. Shaffer stated the goal is to adopt the final LRP at the December board meeting.

The board reviewed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Protection District and WWSD. The purpose of the MOU is to clarify certain issues and mutually agree to perform certain tasks for a period of time in regard to fire hydrant maintenance, testing, and operations. WWSD will issue the memorandum to the fire protection district for review.

The next regular board meeting will be held at 1:30 p.m. Dec. 14 at the Woodmoor Water and Sanitation District Office, 1845 Woodmoor Dr., Monument. For information: 488-2525 or www.woodmoorwater.com.

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Candice Hitt can be reached at candicehitt@ocn.me.

Tri-Lakes Joint Use Committee, Nov. 13

# 2013 budget with 10-year master plan study approved

By Jim Kendrick

On Nov. 13, the Tri-Lakes Wastewater Treatment Facility Joint Use Committee (JUC) unanimously approved the 2013 facility budget that includes both a 10-year master plan study and a new storage facility even as each of its owner districts struggle to finance new monitoring and regulatory requirements imposed by the state and the

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

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