Board meetings are held at the district office on the second Thursday of each month at 1 p.m. A budget hearing is scheduled for Nov. 13. The district office is located at 1845 Woodmoor Dr. Visit woodmoorwater.com or call 488-2525.

Nancy Wilkins can be reached at nancywilkins@ocn.me

Donala Water and Sanitation District, Oct. 16

10 percent increase in water rates proposed

By Jim Kendrick

On Oct. 16, the Donala Water and Sanitation District board approved using a 10 percent increase in all district water rates in the draft 2015 budget presented by General Manager Kip Petersen. The board also approved incorporating a residential wastewater rate increase of \$1 per month used in drafting the 2015 budget.

Donala's goal is to have district rates cover costs of service and provide an operating reserve for the first few months of each year before property tax revenues are received from the county. Donala's property tax revenues will have to entirely replace tap fees as Donala's source of capital reserves due to imminent residential build-out, meaning only a few more homes can be built in the dis-

There will be public hearings for these two Donala rate increases and the 2015 budget during the next regular board meeting at 1:30 p.m. on Dec. 4 in the Donala District Office conference room at 15850 Holbein Drive. It will be the final regular board meeting for 2014.

The Board of Directors will have a work session in the district conference room at 9 a.m. Nov. 20 at 15850 Holbein Drive, and will adjourn at 5 p.m. at the latest. The workshop will be held to discuss issues facing the district and how these issues will shape its future direction.

For more information see http://www.donalawater.org/ .Directors Bill George, Dave Powell, Ken Judd, Bill Nance, and Bob Denny were all present.

Presentation of draft 2015 budget

The directors asked numerous questions in a wide-ranging discussion about the issues that the board must address and tradeoffs for each option. The 10 percent water rate increase would help water revenues come closer to covering water operations expenses, freeing some of the \$1.5 million in Donala property tax revenue, which currently "subsidizes" water operating costs, to be used instead to help retire bond debt and pay for new renewable water rights.

If drought conditions return in 2015, the district will have to purchase substantially more supplemental water to meet summer irrigation demands and winter return ow requirements.

Some of the other highlights Petersen noted during a lengthy technical discussion about the first draft of the 2015 budget were:

- Total revenue for 2015 was budgeted at \$9.34 million, down from \$9.53 million in 2014.
- Total expense for 2015 was budgeted at \$8.89 million, down from \$9.61 million in 2014.
- Savings in 2015 will be achieved by reducing the number of projects scheduled.
- Water sales revenue for 2014 will be less than budgeted due to a wet year.
- Part of the loss of revenue from selling reuse water

- to the defunct Gleneagle golf course for irrigation will be offset by treated ef uent sales to downstream agricultural irrigation water ditch companies.
- Water sales revenue for 2015 may remain lower than previous years due in part to the 10 percent rate increase for 2015.
- The district's water tank at Fox Run Park will have to be painted and repaired in 2015, increasing the budget line item for "Capital Projects-Other" from \$300,000 in 2014 to \$644,000 next year.
- Negotiations continue with the Bureau of Reclamation for a long-term renewable water storage contract with Pueblo Reservoir.



Riding Lessons **Horse Training** Show Team Indoor Arena

Group, Private *Ages 7 – Adult *Western, English Dressage

719-481-4360 ~ http://ppra.biz ~ ride@ppra.biz

Complete Bookkeeping &

Payroll Services

Quick Books Training & Setup • IRS Clean-Up

Snow Removal

Jon at Tree Man: 488-1818

Call: (H)719-488-2308 or (C)719-331-3003

Email: bldoyle1@comcast.net

www.bobbid.com

Affordable. Licensed and Insured.

Monument Hill **Farmers** Market Come join us on these Saturdays for our Winter Market

November 15 December 20 January 24

February 28 March 28 April 25

Our Summer Market will return in the Spring. For information, call 592-9420.

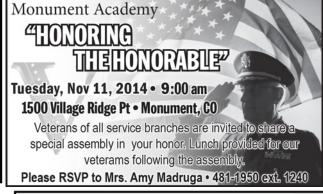
Home Construction and Remodeling



- New construction
- Remodeling
- Basement finishing •
- Additions
- Decks
- RV garages

Marty Christensen Chartercraft Homes, Inc. (719) **481-9706** or (719) **499-9984** Licensed and insured







www.bestdogltd.com



Enjoy our wide selection of cozy warm alpaca Outerwear & Accessories
Apparel

 Home Decor
Socks
Alpaca Yarns 19850 Beacon Lite Road (719) 232-8509



Includes sale items. Enter promo code Cozy11 for online purchases & free shipping.

PeakRanchAlpacas.com Offer valid thru 11-30-14



