to accept the 2015 budget, and expects the increase of fees in 2015 to generate a 4 percent increase in revenue.



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Treasurer Beth Courrau explained the 4 percent increase in revenue is an "overall" percentage based on various fee brackets.

Operations update

Assistant Manager Randy Gillette said Operations will have to use a riser ring to bring several manhole covers up to the correct surface level. Gillette said Operations Superintendent Lance Nielson didn't get any notification from the county when and where the county was going to pave. According to Town, "At some point they covered up some manholes." Gillette said, "There was a time when the county worked with us, and we will put that stuff on the side of the road."

Engineer Zack Collin received a compliment from Gillette who said Collin's help with training others and outstanding presentations at the Rocky Mountain Water

Environment Association made a significant contribution to the organization.

The district reported 4.17 million gallons of unaccounted water, representing about 22 percent of the 18.95 million gallons pumped. Gillette said it was difficult getting readings during the holidays. A water main broke on Thanksgiving Day and a second water main broke the following Friday. Gillette said, "There is something about it. We get nailed every year," adding, "The ground movement caused sheers."

The board went into executive session, citing a state statute allowing private discussion related to the purchase, acquisition, lease, transfer, or sale of any real, personal, or other property interest.

Nancy Wilkins can be reached at nancywilkins@ocn.me.

Tri-Lakes Facility Joint Use Committee, Dec. 9

2015 budget amended at request of Monument Sanitation District

By Jim Kendrick

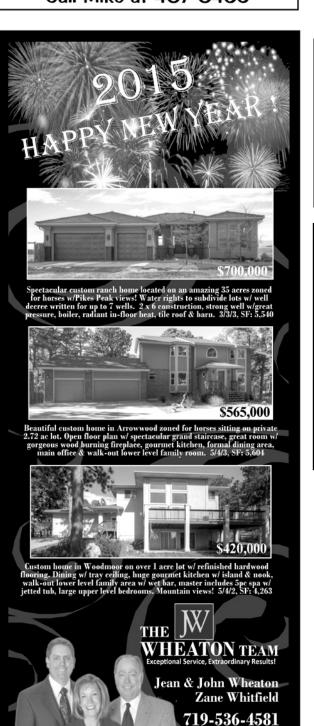
On Dec. 9, Don Smith, president of the Joint Use Committee (JUC) of the Tri-Lakes Wastewater Treatment Facility and treasurer of the Monument Sanitation District (MSD) board, formally announced that the MSD board had disapproved the final 2015 Tri-Lakes facility budget at a special MSD board meeting held on Dec. 3.

Don Smith said he had emailed the other two JUC representatives, Palmer Lake Sanitation District Director Ken Smith and Woodmoor Water and Sanitation District Director Rich Strom, about this Dec. 3 MSD board action before this Dec. 9 JUC meeting. The final 2015 Tri-Lakes facility budget was approved by the three-member JUC at the Nov. 11 JUC meeting. (See http://ocn.me/v14n12.htm#tlfjuc1111 for more details.)

Don Smith and Monument District Manager Mike Wicklund each said the final Tri-Lakes 2015 budget was

not approved by the MSD board due to unresolved costsharing issues that the three special districts that own the facility still have with each other regarding the plant's planned new total phosphorus removal chemical treatment clarifier expansion. They each said that MSD could not afford several of the items listed in the Tri-Lakes facility budget due to having to maintain a cash reserve of at least \$150,000 to defend itself against a lawsuit that it appeared co-owner Woodmoor Water and Sanitation District would file in 2015 to force MSD to pay for a third of the estimated total phosphorus plant expansion cost of \$2.32 million.

They also noted that that MSD's attorneys had advised that the MSD board should not approve the final 2015 Tri-Lakes facility budget because this budget specified that MSD would pay one-third of all new total phosphorus (TP) treatment clarifier expansion costs.



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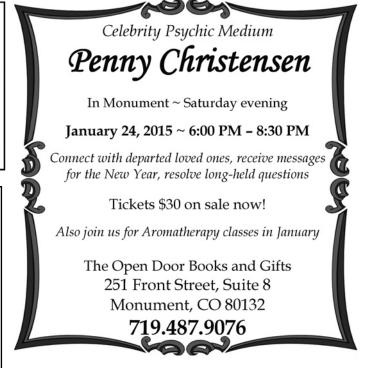
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