

moor would pay 46.88 percent.

Burks had not complied with the approved motion by his board. (<http://ocn.me/v15n5.htm#tljuc0414>)

On May 12, the Tri-Lakes Wastewater Treatment Facility Joint Use Coordinating Committee (JUC) unanimously approved the final award of a construction contract for only the facility's new tertiary total phosphorus (TP) chemical removal clarifier expansion to Aslan Corp. On May 12, the JUC also unanimously awarded a separate contract at an additional cost of \$252,000 for construction contract management by Tetra Tech—\$18,000 per month for 14 months. In addition, the JUC unanimously approved a motion to budget/appropriate an additional 10 percent con-

tingency of \$305,900 for the construction contract plus a \$25,200 10-percent contingency for the Tetra Tech construction management contract. The total cost for these four items was \$3.642 million. The motion also specified that Monument would pay 19.79 percent of the \$3.642 million, Palmer Lake would pay 33.33 percent, and Woodmoor would pay 46.88 percent. Burks had not complied with the approved motion by his board either. (<http://ocn.me/v15n6.htm#tljuc0512>)

After further discussion, there was consensus to divide the billing and \$1 million construction grant by 19.79 percent, 33.33 percent, and 46.88 percent with appropriate corrections by the facility's accountant.

Burks gave a photo presentation on Aslan's day-to-day progress to date for construction of the concrete tertiary treatment clarifiers in the vacant field at the south end of the facility. There was

a lengthy technical discussion on how a number of technical issues were resolved. The financial reports were unanimously accepted as presented.

District manager reports

Wicklund distributed a recent newspaper article regarding a June 29 Supreme Court decision that rejected new EPA limits on mercury emissions from coal-fired power plants, saying the government must consider costs before deciding whether regulation is appropriate and necessary. More than a dozen states argued that EPA acted with "deliberate indifference to costs" in setting standards that threaten to drive a number of coal-fired electric utilities out of business. The case was sent back to the lower court with a requirement for the EPA to perform a cost-benefit analysis.

Wicklund stated that the facility's attorney should review how this Supreme Court ruling could be used to overturn the very expensive nutrient removal compli-

ance requirements in Control Regulation 85 for total inorganic nitrogen and the far more expensive and unattainable compliance requirements for total nitrogen in state water quality Regulation 31.17. He said that the state's cost-benefit study sections on Monument Creek for Control Regulation 85 were not accurate or valid enough to justify the \$30 million expense for new nitrogen equipment construction. The state has never been able to show any adverse effect on Monument Creek due to phosphorus or nitrogen.

The meeting adjourned at 11:48 a.m.

The next meeting will be held at 10 a.m. on Aug. 11 at the Tri-Lakes facility's conference room, 16510 Mitchell Ave. Meetings are normally held on the second Tuesday of the month. Information for these meetings is available at 481-4053.

Jim Kendrick can be reached at jimkendrick@ocn.me.

Donald Wescott Fire Protection District, July 21

2014 audit accepted

By Alexis Olmstead

On July 21, the Donald Wescott Fire Protection District (DWFPD) board met to discuss acceptance of the 2014 audit by Tom Sistare of Hoelting and Co., and Chairman Greg Gent led the discussion on financial records and the possibility of moving funds into separate bank accounts.

Director Bo McAllister was excused.

2014 audit accepted

Sistare gave a clean or "unmodified"

opinion of the district's 2014 financial statements.

Sistare discussed the expenditures and income of the fire district. He said the fund balance was down as a result of the amount of money spent on capital outlays and equipment. The total dollar amount spent on Emergency Medical Services assistance went up, mainly due to rising healthcare costs.

He made two recommendations. One was about segregation of duties for ideal control purposes, but he conceded that in small districts it is hard to do this with limited staff.

He also recommended transferring reserve funds to a separate bank account from operations funds, making the "paper trail cleaner" by "avoid co-mingling of funds."

Finally, Sistare said state law says Wescott may only invest in U.S. bonds, U.S. agencies, state bonds, notes and obligations, and local government pools. He said that the board needs to weigh the costs against the benefits, and only consider certain investments if liquidity is a pertinent issue.

Later in the meeting, Administrative Assistant Stacey Popovich suggested that the board do what Sistare had recommended, and the board discussed transferring all its reserve funds to the separate People's bank account. This was approved with a vote of 3-1. Treasurer Joyce Hartung voted no with no reason stated.

Financial report

Popovich presented the May and June financials in this meeting; however, June's financial statement will have to be revisited at the next meeting before the board will vote to approve it.

Chief's report

Assistant Chief Scott Ridings said a large increase in the call volume for May and

June was credited to a new city contract with AMR (American Medical Response), which took most of those calls. In May, the call volume was up 59 percent and in June volume was up 44 percent, he said. Fire loss was \$20,000 for June due to a fire caused by a lightning strike.

DWFPD participated in Monument Fourth of July parade. Fire Chief Vinny Burns was "amazed by the turnout" of the July 4 crowd and was glad it was a quiet 4th.

However, the most rewarding experience that happened recently, from the perspective of Ridings and Burns, was a weeklong intensive training session in Nassau County, New York. Five firefighters attended this 12-hour-per-day program from 9 in the morning to 9 in the evening, doing practice scenarios to fight fires ranging from small house fires to gargantuan warehouse blazes.

Ridings said DWFPD would implement the training these men were given. "A lot of the guys [who] went were our senior firefighters [who] in turn will train our other firefighters that are here," he said. Since this training program costs the Fire Department \$1,000 per participant, the board came to a consensus that it would be greatly beneficial to send new firefighters every year if they are financially able to. The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

The Donald Wescott Fire Protection District Board of Directors meets every third Tuesday except in December. The next meeting is scheduled for Aug. 18 at 7 p.m. at 15415 Gleneagle Dr. Please call 488-8680 for more information, or visit www.wescottfire.org. The district is also on Facebook.

Alexis Olmstead is a high school student and a Wescott district resident. She can be reached at alexisolmstead@ocn.me.

Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Protection District, July 22

Firewise award system introduced; audit accepted

By Lisa Hatfield

At the Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Protection District (TLMFPD) meeting on July 22, the board approved the 2014 audit and congratulated new Battalion Chief Mike Dooley on his promotion and Fire Marshal John Vincent for being named Firefighter

of the Year by Masonic Lodge in Monument.

Secretary Mike Smaldino was absent, and Vice President Roger Lance was excused.

2014 audit accepted

Mitchell K. Downs, CPA of Osborne, Par-



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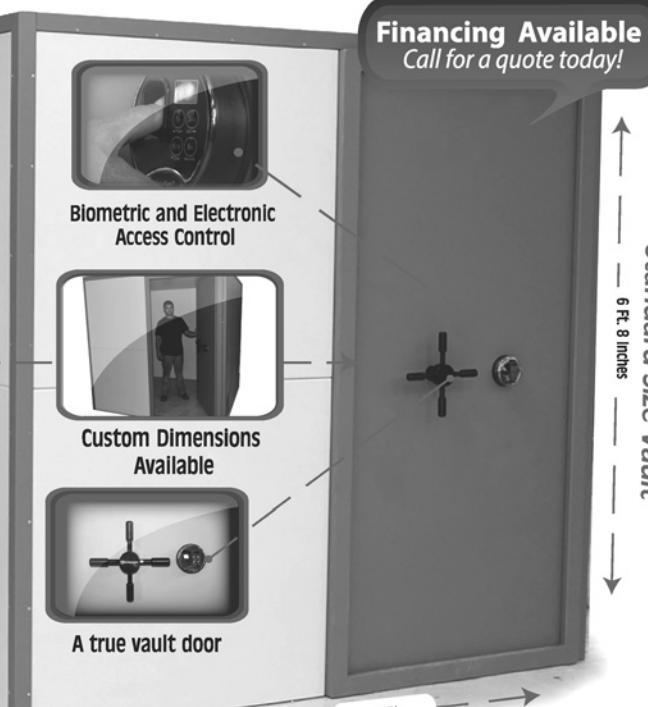
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