meeting. Wicklund said he needed information, because several business owners asked him about possible multimillion-dollar revenue bonds and how much the project might increase user fees for individual customers. See www.ocn.me/v16n7.htm#mbot-0620.

Wicklund said he was concerned that after the dramatic and controversial March 7 tiered water rate hike for Town of Monument water customers, any more wastewater service rate increases might choke out commercial businesses in the town water service area, which is west of I-25. He said that a majority of members of the Monument Board of Trustees do not live in the Monument water service area and are not directly affected by the town's water rate increase. He suggested that the town should form a separate water district board to make decisions solely about the water district.

Burks and Gillette said all proposals for indirect water use in the OCN reporting area are still only in the preliminary discussion phase. The Town of Monument water service district and WWSD are the only two partners looking into the indirect reuse project associated with TLWWTF effluent. The general plan would be to see if their treated effluent from TLWWTF that is currently discharged into Monument Creek could be pumped into Monument Creek at a point upstream of Monument Lake, then withdrawn as surface water to be treated again to reach drinking water standards before being redistributed to west Monument and Woodmoor customers.

Currently, TLWWTF has the uppermost state discharge permit on Monument Creek. For this plan to work, an additional discharge permit further upstream would have to be obtained, Wicklund said. Burks and Gillette added that indirect water reuse could potentially tighten TLWWTF discharge permit limits despite the fact that the very high quality of the effluent already improves the quality of Monument Creek stream flows rather than degrading them.

Wicklund wondered who would be responsible for obtaining the permit for the alternate upstream discharge point and the additional treatment costs for attaining the higher quality of the alternate discharge point. Gillette said that was still to be worked out, but, "it won't impact the facility here."

Gillette said that Forsgren Associates has been working on the water reuse study and that a lot of alternatives were still being discussed. "It's not fair to bring it to this group yet," since so much was still undefined, he said.

Delay on statewide temperature standards ruling

MSD Environmental Compliance Coordinator Jim Kendrick summarized the results of the June 13-15 state Water Quality Control Commission (WQCC) triennial rulemaking hearing on Regulation 31, Basic Standards and Methodologies for Surface Water. The topic of most relevance to the JUC was the WQCC's decision that there was not enough data to scientifically evaluate the various new regulation options on temperature proposed by the state Water Quality Control Division or the objections and counter-proposals of numerous statewide stakeholders.

Stream temperatures can affect the reproduction and life cycle of various species of fish. A decision could have directly affected all 11 Monument and Fountain Creek wastewater treatment facilities, including TLWWTF, with far greater additional capital and permanent operational expense increases, but the WQCC postponed its scheduled temperature regulation decision until the next triennial review in 2019.

In response to this overwhelming statewide science-





Worship | Connect | Impact Sundays at 10:00 AM | Tri-Lakes YMCA www.cathedralrockchurch.org based stakeholder opposition to the temperature proposals of both the state Water Quality Control Division and EPA Region 8 personnel, the members of the WQCC unanimously stated that stream and lake temperature can be affected by physical factors such as solar radiation and the normal progression of seasons as well as by anthropogenic, or human-caused, sources. Each of the commissioners also acknowledged that every Colorado river basin is different and therefore decided not to create any single statewide temperature standards or any basin-specific or discharger-specific temperature standards until enough long-term data on temperature in streams, lakes, and reservoirs can be collected for more sites in Colorado's eight river basins.

Note: The *OCN* coverage area is in the Arkansas River basin. For more information on WQCC hearings, regulations and policies, water quality statutes, and monthly meetings, see https://www.colorado.gov/cdphe/wqcc.

Kendrick read portions of the rebuttal testimony presented by attorney Jeff Kane of Maynes, Bradford, Shipps & Sheftel LLP representing the Dolores Water Conservancy District. Kendrick stated, "This hearing is a precedent-setting opportunity to show how the Division, Commission, and stakeholders can develop and implement scientifically defensible methods to refine criteria for complex 'pollutants' and environmental variables in a way that protects aquatic life and avoids wasting limited resources on unwarranted use attainability analyses, total maximum daily limits (TMDL) determinations, and new effluent limits that are not attainable, affordable, or sustainable."

Wastewater Utility Council

Kendrick summarized topics covered at the May 11 and June 8 Wastewater Utility Council (WWUC) meetings, which included discussions of how to help smaller treatment facilities which are having trouble adhering to state Reg. 85 total phosphorus/total inorganic nitrogen discharge limits and how to attract more qualified candidates for running treatment plants, since the current senior staffs at the majority of facilities are "aging out."



Kendrick asked the JUC members for direction regarding a possible change in discharger permit fees that would be discussed at July 19 and Aug. 4 stakeholders' meetings that he would be attending for the JUC. The consensus was that it would be better to continue the current determination of these fees by the state Legislature, which is elected, instead of endorsing the Water Quality Control Division's initiative to turn over control of fee setting directly to the governor's political appointees that make up the WQCC.

The meeting adjourned at 12:17 p.m.

The next meeting will be held Aug. 9 at 10 a.m. at the Tri-Lakes Wastewater Treatment Facility, 16510 Mitchell Ave. Meetings are normally held on the second Tuesday of the month and are open to the public. For information, call Bill Burks at (719) 481-4053.

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