the property tax revenue will flow to the Pinon Pines districts in 2017. FLMD will hold and control all the public infrastructure and will provide all necessary utility and general governmental services to the residents of the Pinon Pines districts subject to the terms of an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) between the districts. From 2007 to 2014, FLMD financed construction of public utility infrastructure through the use of a Bond Program. In October 2014, FLMD contracted with Donalda to operate the water and sewer systems. Donalda operators and staff personnel will also provide meter reading and billing services, respectively, to the public and private customers each district. FLMD has contracted with other providers for maintenance of the other infrastructure such as the Waterfront Park.

2016 budget amendments to bond issues

On Dec. 5, after a public hearing at which no member of the public spoke, the board unanimously approved amended 2016 budgets for both FLMD and PMPD 1. Nichols said this was necessitated by the fact that they did “a pretty good-sized” bond issue in October. FLMD added a bit over $6 million to its original budget, and PMPD 1 added two more funds and the capital projects fund, which is the size of the bond issue. Nichols said. The 2016 amended budgets include:

- **FLMD**: $12.9 million
- **PPMD 1**: $19.0 million
- **PPMD 1 debt service fund**: $17.0 million
- **PPMD 1 capital projects fund**: $8.3 million

Nichols explained after the meeting that the bonds are limited tax general obligation bonds sold to bondholders in minimum increments of $500,000. The total amount held is $8.3 million, resulting in charges of $5.25 to $3.75 percent, and will eventually be paid back using revenue from the property tax mill levies in each district and the facilities development fees charged by PPMD 1.

**Mill levies increased**

The board considered a resolution to set mill levies for 2017 for FLMD 1, 2, and 3. (FLMD does not impose a mill levy.) They unanimously approved the resolution certifying 10 mills for operations and maintenance for the non-utility systems and 40 mills for debt service, totaling 50 mills each for PPMD 1, 2, and 3. Simple’s comment was, “The mills will hopefully be stabilizing now.”

2017 budgets and appropriations approved

No member of the public spoke at the public hearings on 2017 budgets for FLMD and PMPD 1, and 3. Topics mentioned during the budget discussion covering all four districts included:

- **Loudell**: Fourteen homes are occupied in the Forest Lakes development. We are now getting to the point where we will be able see approximately how much it costs to run the water and wastewater systems.
- **Nichols**: The surface water treatment plant will cost about $6 million total, and $4.5 million of that is included in the 2017 budget for FLMD, which will own and operate the plant. The drinking water plant, transmission line, and surface water intake from Westcliff Lake will be started in 2017. Engineering is being done by Wright Water Engineers.
- **Nichols**: Money has been set aside for landscape maintenance, which will be performed by the same company that installed it, Bear Claw. They are required to maintain it for one year after they install it.
- **Nichols**: PMPD 1 is under construction now. It pays FLMD for expenses. I am still in the process of determining the methodology for allocating costs back to the three Pinons so that when assessed valuation is made, this methodology will be in place.

**Citizens advisory committee for Pinon Pines residents**

Nichols said that the FLMD service plan required an attempt to form a citizens advisory committee when there are more than 50 homes owned by third parties. He anticipated reaching that number of rooftops in PPPD 1 by next summer.

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**Lewis-Palmer School District Safety Protocols**

Students and staff require safe environments in order for undistracted learning to take place. Lewis-Palmer School District maintains a proactive stance around safety and security preparedness, reviewing and updating emergency plans annually and running drills monthly. LPSD also partners with local and county law enforcement and emergency responders in order to stay apprised of current safety protocols.

In January, Dennis Coates will fill Lewis-Palmer School District’s new Chief of Safety and Security position. Deputy Coates, a School Resource Officer (SRO) with the El Paso County Sheriff's Office for seven years, has worked closely with LPSS staff and schools in this capacity over the past decade. Twelve of Coates’ twenty years in law enforcement have found his time spent on school matters. Additionally, Coates served as a DARE (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) instructor, police academy instructor, hostage negotiator, high school teacher, coach, and athletic director. These experiences equip him well to continue anticipating and meeting the safety needs of LPSD.

This expanded role allows Coates to oversee and coordinate the implementation and updating of emergency plans and the training of the District’s SROs. Superintendent Karen Breffni says of Coates, “His leadership provides an even greater emphasis on the safety and security measures we need to consider.”

His personal experiences with LPSS students and staff along with his extensive knowledge of Colorado law and the Tri-Lakes and Colorado Springs area only enhance Coates’ preparedness for his new position.

He relates, “I feel like I have been training for this position my entire career. I am grateful for LPSS’s commitment to our students’ safety.”

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**Teacher Spotlight: Missy Monroe**

Many Lewis-Palmer School District teachers begin their career with LPSS right out of college and stay for years. Missy Monroe, Social Studies teacher at Lewis-Palmer High School, is one of these individuals. She began teaching at LPIS when she was 22, straight out of UNC where she earned a BA in History and her certification. As a Secondary Education: Aquatic Education graduate, Missy enjoys teaching history, especially topics that intrigue her students. She also enjoyed the opportunity to teach another level of education, and has found the work of a Criminal Justice teacher fulfilling. She finds the work rewarding and feels that she is with people who care about her students. She loves teaching high school students and believes that they are the most passionate learners on the planet.

Missy especially loves teaching her students about 20th Century European history. She said, “It’s a great subject, it’s important that students understand why the world is the way it is.”

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Missy says her students are especially important in the study of the French Revolution - fun facts and gruesome details hold their attention. Students perform skits and write papers from the perspective of a historical character.

Missy loves cooking especially Cajun recipes and loves traveling to historical sites. She is known to be a bit of a foodie, especially for the unique foods from around the world.

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