by professional engineer consultant Roger Sams of GMS Inc. Petersen briefed the board on the UMCRW- WTF Effluent Arsenic Control Preliminary Design Concept Memorandum prepared for the UMCRWWTF Operations Committee and the three owner districts: Donala, Triview Metro District, and Forest Lakes Metro District. It contained a suggested process for the control of arsenic in the effluent discharged from UMCRWWTF to the monument creek. The preliminary design will be further refined before GMS prepares a Site Location Amendment for this project to the state Water Quality Control Division for review and approval.

The current very small levels of arsenic in Donala’s and Triview’s groundwater are well below all applicable state and federal standards for both groundwater and wastewater and have never been a problem in drinking water delivered to residents. These low amounts of arsenic are already being trapped by the groundwaters filters that are designed to remove iron and manganese. This existing groundwater filtering leads to relatively higher concentrations but still minute amounts of arsenic in the backwash water that periodically cleans these groundwater filters. This backwash water with little or no arsenic concentrations then enters the Donala and Triview wastewater collection systems for further treatment before being discharged to the monument Creek for treatment cycles. After extensive sampling and testing by professional engineer consultant Roger Sams of GMS Inc. Petersen reported that he had again presented a briefing on reuse and emergency water interconnection risks and reward to the Monument Board of Trustees on April 17. See the April 3 BOT article on page 8. Petersen also reported that 28 Donala residents attended the district-sponsored Water Returns Spring Landscape Seminar Workshop held on April 12. The fall 2017 seminar will be held in Aultmehl Trails Elementary School due to the growing number of attendees.

Operations and projects

Donala’s groundwater treatment facilities have been only in nominal production for several months for annual deep cleaning, leading to noticeable well pump cycling and capital utility savings. A tri-annual state Health Department sanitary survey inspection of cleanliness, security, operations, and paperwork is scheduled for the end of the month. The Holbein wastewater treatment plant was to be started up again the week of April 24. The district has distributed surface water solely from its storage in the Pueblo Reservoir, for several months to make room for storage of heavier than average snowmelt from its Willow Creek Ranch parcel. south of Leadville. The district’s snowmelt storage project started May 1 each year. On April 14, Donala had only 32 feet of renewable surface water remaining in the Pueblo Reservoir, but with its junior water rights, it makes sense to use that water as soon as it can in the season. Donala leases 491 acre-feet of the reservoir’s total storage capacity of 250,000-acre feet (0.2 percent). An acre-foot is 325,851 gallons.

Capital projects

Donala will undertake a major $775,000 water main replacement in the area of Doral Way of 3,250 feet of 8-inch pipes that are about 50 years old. The construction will go out for bids in late April. Residents will receive notices from Donala, and the district will hold an open house before this construction begins by June.

The continued April El Paso County Planning Commission hearing on a site plan and plat for the proposed conversion of some abandoned Glenmeade golf course property to 56 residential lots was continued again to May 2, due to lack of a quorum who had heard all the previous testimony at the previous hearings.

For more information, see the El Paso County Planning Commission article on page 23 in the June 1 issue of OCN. For more information about the proposed Gateway development on the Holbein east end of Montrose Struthers Roads.

The meeting adjourned at 2:58 p.m.

The next board meeting will be held at 1:30 p.m. on May 18 in the district conference room at 15650 Holstein Drive. Information at 488-3603 or www.donalawater.org. Meetings are normally held on the third Thursday of the month.

Jim Kendick, a licensed wastewater operator, can be reached at jkendick@ocnm.e.

Petersen noted that he would be participating in the joint Arkansas Basin Roundtable and Arkansas River Forum meetings in the last week of April. He reviewed the current status of some bills under review by the state Legislature. He said he might have current status of some bills under review by the state Legislature. He said he might have