

Property Tax Revenue

Its first property tax revenue, about \$2,600,000, is in LAPLAWD accounts. Directors established an investment program in area banks to secure the funds until construction begins.

Environmental Permitting Underway

Grayling LLC, environmental consulting firm based in Cortez, hired by LAPLAWD, is working with the Army Corps of Engineers to identify Threatened and Endangered Species issues. Gathering field data will likely begin this fall. The plan to use state highway and county road rights-of-way makes information sharing an open process.

Directors

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Tolen is LAPLAWD General Manager

Ed Tolen is LAPLAWD's General Manager as of September 1. The Board of Directors did a broad and exacting search for the district's manager. Tolen comes to LAPLAWD from Ute Water Conservancy District based in Grand Junction, CO. His accomplishments include developing and updating construction specifications and standard de-

tails, implementing a neutral construction project bidding process, reducing project costs, and working with federal, state and local agencies to permit projects.

Tolen can be reached at the LAPLAWD office in Ignacio or at etolen@laplawd.org

Treatment Plant Feasibility Study

Briliam Engineering from Pagosa Springs did a feasibility study for the Town of Bayfield and LAPLAWD to test whether a shared water treatment plant would serve the interests of both water suppliers better than separate facilities. Briliam's work indicates both would benefit. Construction cost would be about double for an independent water treatment plant with enough capacity for the coming 20 years.

The idea is for the Town of Bayfield to own the treatment plant that would double from its present size to serve growth in Bayfield and LAPLAWD's initial needs. Allocated capacity and cost-sharing responsibility

would be assigned to LAPLAWD. Details are being negotiated.

The recommended construction plan is staged to add 1,000,000 gallons per day (MGD) initially with room to add another 1 MGD when demand warrants.

Cooperating with Bayfield will allow LAPLAWD to put more of its resources into building a distribution system, thus getting water to users sooner.

The study is in the document section of the web site, www.laplawd.org.

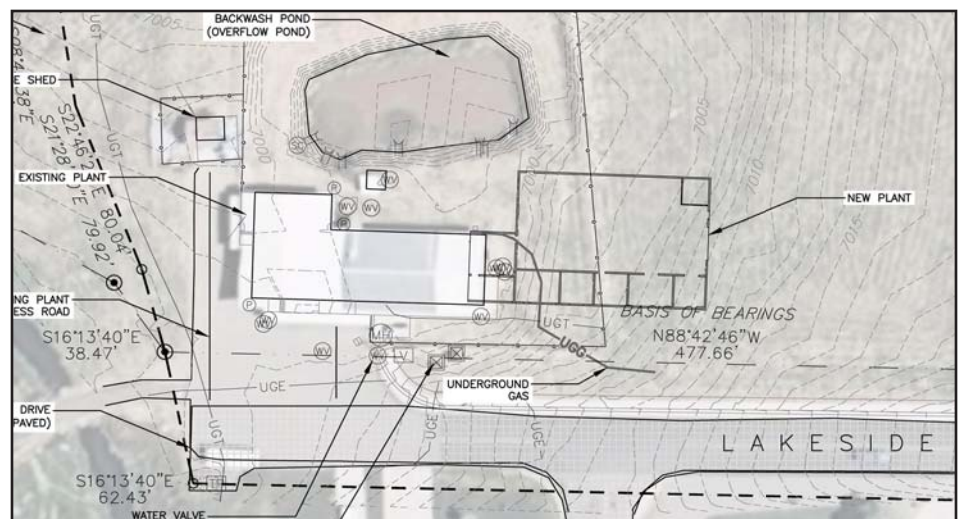


Exhibit A to Election Resolution

La Plata Archuleta Water District Ballot Issue 5A:

Shall La Plata Archuleta Water District debt be increased \$25,000,000, with a repayment cost of \$45,378,000, WITHOUT INCREASING EXISTING TAXES OR IMPOSING ANY NEW TAX, by the issuance of bonds or other financial obligations to acquire, plan and construct a rural domestic water system, including:

- Potable water treatment plants, pumps, pipelines, water storage tanks and valves;
- Water loading stations;
- Buildings, water meters and meter readers
- Excavation equipment and pipe installation equipment;
- Water quality monitoring equipment;

- Computers, software and communication equipment;
- and shall the revenue from the district's existing capital improvement, operations and maintenance mill levy of 5.0 mills be used as necessary, along with any other revenue of the District, to pay the principal of, premium, if any, and interest on such debt or any refunding debt (or to create a reserve for such payment), such debt to be evidenced by the issuance of bonds or other financial obligations bearing interest at a maximum net effective interest rate not to exceed 6.5%; such bonds or obligations to be sold in one series or more, for a price above or below the principal amount of such series, on terms and conditions, and with such ma-

turities as permitted by law and as the district may determine, including provisions for redemption prior to maturity with or without payment of a premium of not more than three percent; and shall the District be authorized to issue debt to refund the debt authorized in this question, provided that such refunding debt along with any other debt incurred by the District pursuant to this authorization, is issued on terms which do not exceed the principal, interest and repayment costs authorized in this question; and shall the earnings from the investment of such bond proceeds and tax revenues be collected, retained and spent as a voter-approved revenue change under article X, section 20 of the Colorado Constitution?

Rate Setting Process

LAPLAWD is starting a process to develop the details of a rate structure for its customers to connect to the system and use treated water from the district. The first meeting is set for 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, September 21, at the LAPLAWD office, 255 Ute Street, Ignacio. Please contact Harris Water Engineering, the district's engineer, 259-5322, or steve@durangowater.com.

You can help make communication less costly. In order to receive this newsletter by e-mail, go to www.laplafd.org and sign up. That web site contains district policies, election resolutions and ballot wording, meeting notices and minutes, Briliam's feasibility study, the master plan, and service plan. People who still have questions need only e-mail info@laplawd.org.

Get the information by e-mail

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- Treatment Plan Feasibility Study
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PLANNING PROCESS

LAPLAWD

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