



Snow capped peaks and golden aspens mark the coming of winter.

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER – TOWN OF RICO - 2004

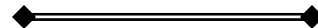
Quasiquicentennial – Rico’s 125th Birthday Party was a lot of fun. State Senator Jim Isgar and State Representative Mark Larson attended. Special thanks goes out to the Rico Women’s Club, Rico Fire Protection District, and Rico Historic Society for all the hard work to organize this event.



Sewer Site Studies: Town is conducting additional studies on the proposed alternate sewer site north of the cemetery (between Highway 145 and Dolores River). Wright Water Engineers was retained to determine the presence of wetlands in or near the proposed site. Federal funding requires the Preliminary Engineering Report and Environmental Assessment to be amended to address this new proposed sewer site.

These documents should be amended within thirty days. Once these documents are revised, the Town will conduct a thirty day public comment period per federal requirements. This new proposed site will also require a zoning change to allow waste water treatment. Rico Renaissance has indicated that they are intending to donate the proposed sewer site, which will improve the overall sewer construction budget.

It is possible that the sewer project could begin in spring of 2005. Right now, sewer tap connection fees are planned at \$3,200.00 per residential unit. The first phase is planned for the Main Street commercial core area and adjacent residential properties. Connection to the sewer system is planned to be mandatory for all properties in Rico. Sewer tap fees could be due and payable by early summer next year. More information will be presented in the near future concerning proposed sewer tap fees, monthly availability fees, and monthly user charges.

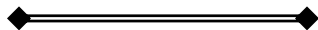


Town Manager Vacancy: Advertisements for a Public Works Director/Town Administrator have been published in regional papers, statewide public

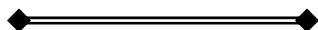
employment newsletters, and three national public employment publications. Thus far, Town has received four applications. The closing date for applications is October 15th. Selection of finalists and interviews should occur in November. A public works director with an engineering certification and utility construction experience was deemed desirable due to the number of pending public utility and other construction projects.



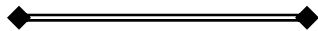
Rico Soils VCUP: Atlantic Richfield Corporation has completed soil sampling of approximately 80% of the properties in Rico. Nine residences have been identified as containing soils with 3,000 p/p/m or higher lead content which are scheduled for immediate clean-up this fall. Within 2 to 4 weeks, complete soil sampling results should be available for public review. Once the soil sampling results are available, community meetings will be scheduled to discuss health risks and appropriate clean-up levels in Rico.



Town Budget: A draft of the 2005 Town Budget will be available for review on October 15th. The draft budget will be available in the Rico Town Hall and will added to the Town's website.

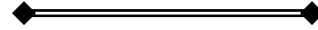


DWCD Petitions: Petitions to join the Dolores Water Conservancy District were submitted to the District Court. A hearing has been scheduled for October 22nd. If no protest petition is submitted before the hearing then it is likely that the District Court Judge will approve the Town of Rico's petition to join the Dolores Water Conservancy District. The tax imposed by DWCD will be assessed next year.

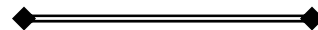


Code Enforcement: The Town is actively removing abandoned vehicles from Town. If your vehicle is not registered and operable

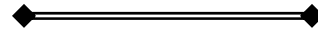
it is deemed to be an abandoned vehicle and a nuisance. It is also time to start clearing stored materials from Town streets. It is easier and faster for Dennis to plow in the winter when streets are clear. The Town Board may consider an ordinance this fall declaring storage on town streets to be a nuisance. *Please clean-up your streets before it begins snowing!*



Courthouse Restoration, Phase II: The Town Board selected William Granda of Durango for the Phase II restoration project. Phase II restoration includes refurbishing all the windows and the front entry door/vestibule area, water proofing the foundation, and repointing all the exterior masonry. Work on Phase II may begin this fall.



November 2nd Election: Three town board seats will be filled by election this November 2nd, including Judy Schaefer's, Bruce Kinsey's and Steve Snelling's seats. Absentee ballots can be obtained by faxing a written request to Earlene White, Dolores County Clerk, at (970) 677-4144 [phone: (970) 677-2381].



Meetings Schedule: All meetings are at the Rico Town Hall unless otherwise stated.

- October 20th, 7:00 p.m. Trustees
 - Regular meeting
- October 26th, 6:30 p.m. Rico Planning Commission
 - Regular Meeting
- October 27th, 7:00 p.m. Trustees
 - Work Session



Vacancies: No vacancies exist on the Rico Town Board or Rico Planning Commission.