

## Highlights from the 2025 Annual Meeting of October 14<sup>th</sup>

- The Treasurer gave a state of the HOA briefing and financial summary. Overall, we are at about the same bank balance as we were at this same time last year. We have some more expenses before the end of the year, but we expect end-of-year funds up slightly from last year. Current balance is about \$14,000 but there will be near year-end expenses that will bring that down to between \$9K and \$10K. This year we're budgeting for an \$800 surplus. As for dues, though we moved the due date up, everyone still paid on time. Payment due for the 2026 assessment will again be February 15th.
  - Arnold explained that he talked to the other 2 nearby HOA's to consolidate to get a better price on trash collection, but they were not interested. They do not want to save money (really).
  - We were kind of spoiled for a while because everyone was just putting whatever they had out on the sidewalk for pickup and the trash people were accepting it: branches, many types of containers and boxes of whatever, and bags of leaves, grass, and yard waste. Now, they've tightened up to where they only take items in the one official container, unless you make prior arrangements and pay additionally. Our contract is for container pickup only – nothing to the side. One weekly container for regular household waste and one biweekly container for recycle.
  - Please see the website "cottonwoodwesthoa.org" for a list of things forbidden in the trash or dumpsters. Same rules as always – just need everyone to follow the rules.
  - Pets: pick up their waste and keep them leashed. Please don't put their waste into other people's trash containers.
  - Trailers or boats should not be parked on the street or driveway. They must be behind a fence.
  - We can talk about a block party next spring. Perhaps we can get volunteers. Somebody can take charge of it, and then maybe just make it an ice cream social. Those aren't expensive to pull off.
  - Make sure you remove your snow and clear the walks within 24 hours, as required by ordinance.
  - Matt Williams is resigning as Board President of the HOA. Pam Motyl will take the position temporarily since she is now Vice President. We will need to find someone to get on the Board and then we can elect a new President.
- and to end,
- The Board decided to increase the annual assessment 5% for 2026 as we expect trash and dumpster costs to increase. The assessment notice will be distributed by email and also by USPS soon after New Year's.