

**FRIDAY E-NEWS**  
**FOR PEN 1/PEN 2/MCDD/SDIC BOARD MEMBERS, STAFF AND**  
**FRIENDS**  
**August 27, 2010**

Disseminated periodically, as events and time allow, as a quick overview of some of the goings-on with the drainage districts.

**DISTRICT BUDGETS FOR FY 2010-2011**

All four Districts adopted budgets prior to the start of the new fiscal year on July 1, 2010. Here are the numbers:

PEN 1 - Adopted a budget of \$379,394 with an assessment of \$210,200. The assessment was raised about 9% this year over last year to make the payment on a \$150,000 flexlease, basically a low-cost loan the Board authorized to fund updates to the main pump station in the system. The loan premium payment is approximately \$20,000/year. Last year's budget was \$175,760 with an assessment of \$193,000. What, you say. The assessment is larger than the budget? That's because there are unpaid assessments and early payment discounts taken that diminish the amount of the assessment to work with.

PEN 2 - Adopted a budget of \$688,149 with an assessment of \$671,475.

This is an assessment increase of 5.0% which allows for the completion of significant capital projects such as cross levee stabilization (a shared cost with MCDD), completion of the stormwater master plan, \$35,000 for the Bridgeton levee tree planting fund, and \$60,000 for ditch and culvert maintenance. Last year's budget was \$600,954 with an assessment of \$639,500.

MCDD - Adopted a budget of \$3,270,924 for operations/maintenance/capital with an assessment of \$2,091,577, and \$595,000 for bond retirement.

The adopted budget is about the same as last year's budget if you subtract the flex lease of \$150,000 authorized by the Board this year. The flex lease will be used for a variety of small capital projects that could not be delayed further. Of the \$3.27M budget, a little over \$2.7M is in

fixed or semi-fixed categories. These would be bond retirement, stormwater IGA, insurance, electricity, audit and staff. This allows the remaining \$570,000 to be allocated to capital improvement and maintenance/operations of pump stations, ditches, levees and office. Last year's budget was \$3,096,921 with a general assessment of \$1,909,547 and a bond assessment of \$588,560.

SDIC - Adopted a budget of \$355,815 with an assessment of \$160,000.

Included in this year's budget is \$150,000 from the City of Troutdale for the Salmon Creek weir, funds for a BFE LOMR application to FEMA, sediment testing funds (a portion of which is matched by DEQ funds), and flood storage improvements.

For information on any budget questions, please contact the district office at 503-281-5675 x 300.



## DISTRICT NEWS BRIEFS

### PEN ONE

◆◆ The next PEN 1 Board meeting is scheduled for September 9 for a tour of facilities, an annual requirement by the State of Oregon, from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. If you would like to join on the tour, please contact the office at 503-281-5675 x 300. There is room for two or three guests.

◆◆ The Board has set a new course for the upgrading of the PIR Pump Station by providing funds to encase the now open intake area with sheet pile creating wet wells, building and placing a grate to catch debris before it gets into the pumps, and installing a walkway from which the grates can be kept clean. The engineer's estimated cost is \$85,000 and will be funded with a flex lease, a low cost loan from Special Districts of Oregon. This will handle the most pressing concern, that of sucking debris - weed, wood, etc. - into the pump intakes and causing damage that would shut down the pump station until repairs could be accomplished. The district would like to have this done this fall, but it could be completed into the winter since the

contractor's work will not affect the pump's operation.

◆◆ There are two other projects prominent in PEN 1's work this FY. First is the sediment testing necessary prior to doing any dredging work. DEQ has agreed to help with matching funds for both testing and for the actual work project, a new program initiated by Dave Hendricks of the drainage district staff. DEQ funds come from two different sources, but are primarily available as a result of fines levied against landowner's or businesses which have fouled water through discharges into the system. These fines accumulate and are used to fund clean up. Seems like a no-brainer, but this is the first time for the DEQ/Pen 1 partnership. If it works as well as everyone thinks it will, there should be an opportunity to continue this in years to come. The testing results are good for five years, allowing the District time to fashion a funding package.

The second is the removal of street trees along the north side of Marine Drive, and from the railroad berm on the west side of the District. This is mandated by the US Army Corps of Engineers in their accreditation inspection this year. Mitigation will be accomplished by planting trees along Broadacres Street, the roadway through the north portion of Portland International Raceway. Cost for this project is estimated at \$43,000 and will be done this summer and fall.

◆◆ Board members David Ernst and Kurt Redd were re-elected to the PEN 1 Board of Supervisors at the annual meeting held Thursday, July 15.



## PEN TWO

◆◆ The next PEN 2 board meeting is scheduled for September 23rd for a State mandated tour of facilities. In addition, the Board may meet in a business session to discuss a number of items. If you would like to attend the meeting, or go on the tour, you may call 503-281-5675 x 300 for more information. It is scheduled from noon to three o'clock. There is room on the tour for two or three guests.

◆◆ The PEN 2 Board members scrapped an idea for a bond issue this fall for a single reason. One of the advantages of the bond was that its premium payments could be retired without raising the assessment of the

district. Unfortunately, the interest rate estimates for the bond were high enough that that could not be done, and the board felt this was not the year to raise assessments to make payments on a bond. And it was deemed unwise to reduce the size of the bond to meet the premium payment that could be offered without an assessment increase.

◆◆ There will be three board seats up for election this winter at the annual meeting. Board seat #2, currently held by Vic Stibolt, is a hold-over from 2009, a landowner meeting at which there was not a quorum. Vic, who was appointed to the seat in 2007 following a board member resignation, will be a candidate for the position. In addition, seat #3, held by District President Dick Shafer, will be up for election and Shafer will be a candidate. He has been on the Board for eleven years. Seat #4, held by Karen Myers will also be up for election. Myers has been on the board for two years, elected in 2008 when the board expanded to five members. Board terms of office are distributed over a three year period so there is no single year drain on experienced leadership. Myers drew the first time term of a new supervisor of two years.. Now that seat #4 is in the rotation, it will be up for election every three years. Karen will be a candidate for re-election

Others wishing to run for the seat should contact the District and ask for a board member information packet, which will help in understanding the responsibilities and obligations of a board member. By state law, 35% of district voting acreage in attendance, or by proxy, will constitute a quorum at this annual meeting to be held December 2, starting at 6:00 p.m. District office number is 503-281-5675 x 300.



## MCDD

◆◆ The next board meeting is scheduled for October 14<sup>th</sup> with a tour of facilities from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.. If you would like to join the Board for this tour, please call the office at 503-281-5675 x 300 to attend. There is room for two or three guests.

◆◆ The District hosted the Columbia Slough Watershed Council's Small Boat Regatta on the last Sunday of July this year. There were about 420 in attendance with a total of 178 boats. It was a good day weatherwise,

and there was much activity, color and energy. Congratulations to CSWC for all their efforts.

◆◆ A District Engineer has been hired. BYRON WOLTERSDORF is a veteran out of the private sector with fourteen years experience, chosen from nearly 45 candidates for the job. He has grasped many things very quickly, almost intuitively. His reason for making the shift was to find a job with an opportunity to advance, while making a difference in the projects designed and incorporated into the system. Welcome Byron.

◆◆ The Airport Planned District Plan is nearing completion. Working with City staff, the Districts have gained exemptions needed to do the routine maintenance work in the slough and ditches, and on the levees, without permits. The Planning Commission considered the plan on August 24<sup>th</sup> and sent their recommendation on to the City Council, who will look at it for the first time sometime in October.

◆◆ The District staff continues to work with City staff on the new tree ordinance, Chapter 11. At question is the same issue as under the Planned District Plan - can the Districts do what needs to be done without permits and with controlled mitigation? A programmatic agreement was proposed but still needs work to be what the districts wanted it to be. An interesting question has arisen with the potential passage of this new chapter - the price tag to implement the plan is about one million dollars. Will the City fund it?

◆◆ The CSWC has moved into its new headquarters office at Whitaker Ponds. The Bunn House is larger and in much better shape than the old house the Council inhabited. Now they are moved, the old house/office has been 'de-constructed'. About \$35,000 in renovation work went into the Bunn House, but good neighbor IKEA donated all the office desks, chairs, tables and bookshelves at a value of \$17,000. So stop by, or watch the website at [www.columbiaslough.org](http://www.columbiaslough.org) to learn when the open house will be.

◆◆ In other Whitaker Pond news, the District helped remove two old and collapsing culverts, restore the open drainage way between Whitaker Pond and Whitaker Slough, and place a walking bridge over the drainage way to connect the trail. The project was a partnership between Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, CSWC, City of Portland Parks and the District. A private contribution from a corridor landowner also helped with the funding.

◆◆ The City of Fairview has received an OK from Metro for the USS

Ranger, a mothballed but very useable navy Aircraft Carrier, to be berthed just east of Chinook Landing where it might be used for a variety of educational and museum uses. This is a major check-off for Fairview and the USS Ranger Committee's check list. Best case scenario is 3-5 years for all to come together before the carrier can be moved from its current berth in Puget Sound to the Columbia where it hopes to stand alongside the other five vessels stationed around the US and used for the same museum and educational purposes.

◆◆MCDD has proposed a concept for planting trees that will provide shade and enhance fish habitat on the Columbia River. Coordinating with a variety of local and regional agencies, MCDD has gained support for the project, titled the *Corps 536/MCDD Columbia Shallow Water Project*, from the US Army Corps of Engineers which has authorized \$100,000 for a 16-18 month feasibility study. If the project is found feasible, construction funds would come from several agencies and could total two-three million dollars. The project would dredge the south channel of the Columbia River between I-205 and NE 122<sup>nd</sup>, depositing the dredged sand along the base of the levee and then on out into the river to create a tree planting area that is not on the levee. If successful, it could be duplicated along many other stretches of the river. There is still a great deal of work to be done, but the first part of this concept has been started.



## SDIC

◆◆The next SDIC Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for October 7th for a mandated tour of facilities. The time is noon to 2:30 p.m. There is room for four or five guests. If you would like to join the Board on this tour, please contact the office at 503-281-5675 x 300.

◆◆The winter rains caused several landslides into ditches. These have been repaired behind TJ Truck Stop, and the other behind the wood recycling depot. Sites had to be sediment tested for contaminants before slide repair work could begin.

◆◆The outlet pipes from the SDIC pump station have been repaired. A beaver swam up into the pipe and chewed through the 1 1/2 " thick high density polypropylene pipe. It seems it was trying to dig a den. The chew was discovered when the outlet pipe squirted water when the pumps were working. The pipe, which was at or near water level, was replaced with a steel

pipe. Total cost was about \$31,000.



## LEVEE INSPECTIONS

◆◆Engineering firm HDR, hired by the US Army Corps of Engineers, is inspecting the levees this week in MCDD and SDIC. PEN 1 AND PEN 2 were done earlier this summer. Their report will note deficiencies in the levees that may or may not require district work before accreditation will be granted. It is expected the Corps will do this every five years, while the districts will be expected to do annual inspections at district expense.

## 4MAT

◆◆The quarterly roundtable of the Four District Management Advisory Team (4MAT) was held on July 29th, hosted by MCDD. Agenda items included a discussion about each of the district budgets. Guest speakers Morgan Tracy and Mindy Brooks from the City planning staff spoke about the proposed new tree ordinance and the district presidents offered their thoughts and ideas.

The next roundtable will be held in October with SDIC hosting. An agenda is not yet determined.

## GOLF

◆◆The annual Columbia Corridor Association fund-raiser golf tournament is being played on Monday, September 13<sup>th</sup> at Riverside Golf and Country club. Now is the time to register you and or a team to play. You can do so by calling the CCA office at 503-287-8686 and talk with Marissa or Corky. Shotgun start is at 12:30 for this scramble format, dinner at 6:00 and prizes distributed after dinner. Also, there are still opportunities for sponsorship. Talk with CCA staff about that, too. This is a great event and you, and/or your business, should be a part of it in some way.



Enjoy these great summer days....~Bob~



Comments, ideas, articles, critiques (if gentle) are all welcomed.



Friday E-News

Presented by Multnomah County Drainage District #1

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