

The Annual Report For Multnomah County Drainage District #1



FY 2008-2009
prepared
March 2010



Tim Warren
President

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

FY 2008-2009 brought a change in the Board of Supervisors. Chuck Harrison spent four years on the Board and proved himself a valuable member. He accepted a new job outside the District so was forced to resign his seat in late 2008. George Donnerberg, owner of McGuire Point Marina on the Columbia River and a certified appraiser, was appointed to the Board when Harrison stepped down. George has appraised virtually every piece of property within MCDD so there isn't much he doesn't know about what goes on here.

Remaining Board members include:

Tim Warren, Three Oaks Development

Larry Cooper, Cooper Tractor

Bruce Holte, Port of Portland Commission

George Lingelbach, Fairview Lake Property Owner

In March of 2009, the MCDD Board joined the three Boards from adjacent districts to take training from the Special Districts

Association of Oregon (SDAO). In the Best Management Practices questionnaire that SDAO issues each district every year, several topics of board education were noted as missing. These were included in the training. As a result, each Board can now get its general liability insurance from SDAO at the lowest possible premium.



PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

The annual landowner meeting was held in January of 2009 and attended by about 35 people. A specially prepared power point production was presented which highlighted the district's efforts over the last year. It was well received.

District staff attended the Fairview Lake Property Owner's Association annual meeting and made a presentation there. The District also continued to support the Columbia Slough Watershed Council and its fine work by helping with logistics for the Columbia Slough Small Craft Regatta in July 2008.

A number of tours were held this fiscal year in order to introduce agencies and their staff to the inside scoop of what a drainage district does and why it is so important to those who live and work inside its boundaries. Most people do not understand the district so this kind of education, offered also to elected officials, is critical. In addition, agency staff members change so a reintroduction is necessary to bring newer staff members up to speed. An 11-minute version of the 35-minute video made for the 2007 90th year celebration, entitled *Tested and Ready*, has been very useful in presenting the district to tour members.



Executive Director Bob Eaton sits on the Board of Directors for both the Columbia Corridor Association and the Columbia Slough Watershed Council. Dave Hendricks serves on the Columbia River Crossing advisory committee. There are a multitude of other commissions and advisory groups on which the staff serves.

STAFF

Janet Olson became the District Bookkeeper during 2008-2009. She came from private industry with a background in tracking multiple businesses, similar to keeping track of four drainage district budgets here. Her 15 years experience has served the district well and her interpersonal skills have borne fruit when working with other staff members at the District.

MCDD's field crew members continue to receive cross-training, enhancing their value to the district. And all MCDD staff have taken mandatory CPR and AED competency training.

There have been no time-lost accidents during this period. Congratulations especially go to the MCDD field crew for their awareness of on-the-job safety.



PLANNING

The District performed its annual district strategic planning exercise. The plan, found on the www.mcdd.org website, was reconfigured this year in a way to become work plans for the staff responsible for certain aspects of the plan. This plan is one of the tools used when the Board determines its annual goals for budget-planning purposes.

As a stakeholder representative, Eaton began to work with the City of Portland's look at issues surrounding tree mitigation and removal. A new ordinance that will be simpler and provide a one-stop shop is envisioned to be completed in 2010.

MCDD staff has met on a quarterly basis with the Portland International Airport operations staff to coordinate projects and compare budgets. Quarterly meetings with City of Portland Bureau of Environmental Services (BES) Columbia Slough Watershed staff have also been very productive. Research results have been shared, while projects along the slough have been planned and coordinated. In addition, MCDD staff meets monthly with public works directors from Troutdale, Fairview, Wood Village, Gresham and Multnomah County to do the same.

BUDGET

The District budget for 2008-2009 was distinctive in several ways. First of all its amount of \$3,005,000 was the smallest budget in four years, an effort by the board to keep costs down during a recession. Secondly, the total debt service was \$934,000, almost one-third of the budget. All personnel costs—the Board has seen fit to treat its employees well over the years so the average length of stay is near 13 years at the District—came to about \$1,325,000. That includes all full and part-time employees' payroll, taxes, medical and personnel support costs. There were only a couple of projects for the year, but the levee resurfacing, from mid-way on the airport levee east to the Sea Scout Base, at \$163,000 was the most costly, but would have been about three times that amount except for the great work by the District's Dave Hendricks who worked his magic by keeping soil costs to a bare minimum. All other on-the-ground-costs for electricity, dredging, pump station and ditch maintenance came to about \$590,000.

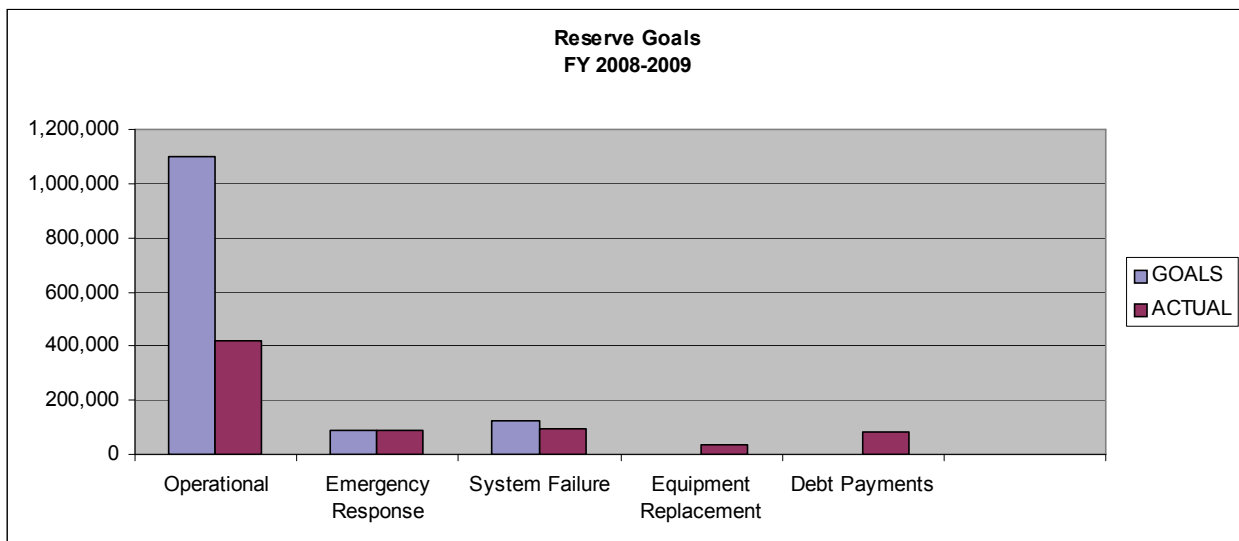
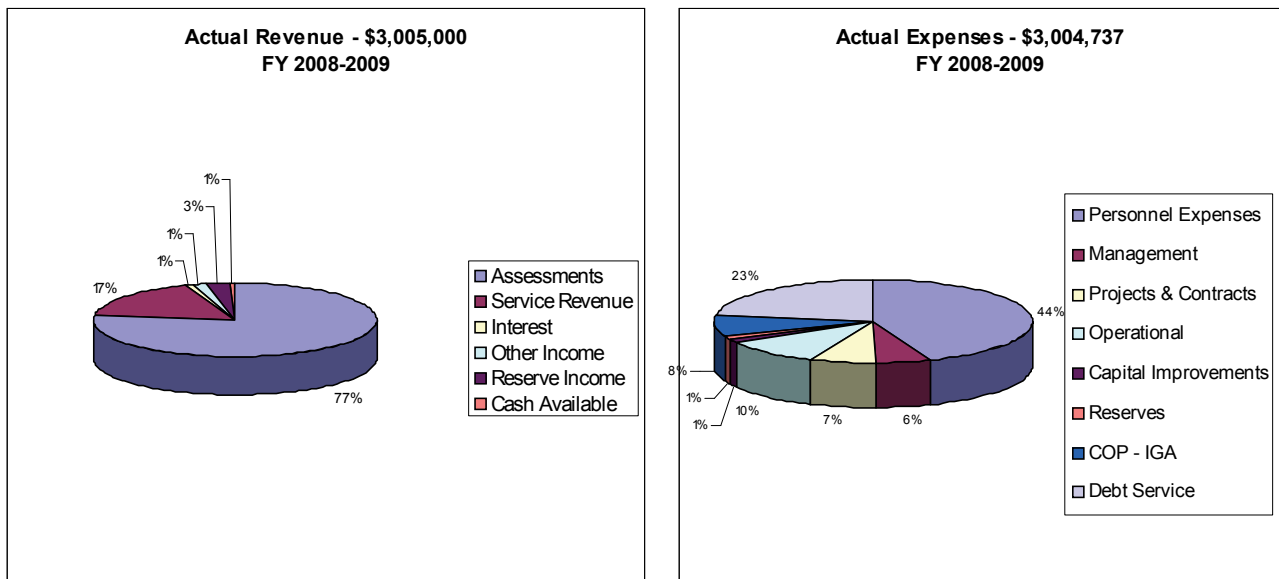
Please turn to the back page to see a cost breakdown for the year.

FINANCE PAGE

The financial statement for MCDD's FY 2008-2009 showed the following:

- The Board approved using reserve funds to make purchases rather than financing them;
- Approximately 31% of the total budget went to pay the Bond Issue that allowed the District to upgrade its facilities and equipment in 1997 and 1998, and to the annual City of Portland Storm-water IGA;
- The Board-approved budget allocated 44% of expenses to personnel, the single largest expense for the district which relies on its staff to perform service for four districts;
- Regarding revenue, 17% came from service contracts with other agencies, including the other three districts.

The following charts show how the revenues and expenses were categorized:



Please call MCDD if you have any questions about this report: 503-281-5675 x300