

District Seeking Solutions To Financial Squeeze

The economic crisis has hit your water district just as hard as many businesses and individuals. We have taken some drastic steps to lower costs to get by with declining revenue. However, more needs to be done and we are continuing to look for smart solutions to accomplish more with less through a process called **MSWD 2.0**.

A Story of Fixed Costs And an Aging System

One of the biggest challenges facing the District is that most of its costs are fixed. That means whether the District sells a lot of water or a little, the costs of maintaining the water and sewer systems change very little; the bills still need to be paid.

Furthermore, wells, reservoirs and pipelines continue to age and require maintenance and replacement. As revenue declines, so does our ability to maintain the water and sewer systems.



Sustainability Challenge: Solutions Sought Through MSWD 2.0

Despite cutting costs and increasing efficiency in many ways, current levels of service are not sustainable. That is why the District is undertaking a comprehensive review of all aspects of its operations and finances through the **MSWD 2.0** Financial Master Plan. We are committed to identifying additional efficiency improvements that will lower costs without jeopardizing critical services.

Cost Savings Through Creative Solutions

Your water District has already achieved hundreds of thousands of dollars in cost savings through outsourcing, implementing technology improvements, reducing the number of employee positions, cross training, freezing salaries and reducing overhead costs, but even more needs to be done.

MSWD 2.0: A Community Approach

A committee of 20 citizens from diverse backgrounds is working with MSWD staff and consultants to learn about the challenges faced by the District, review proposed solutions, and provide input to the Board of Directors from the customers' perspective.



MSWD wastewater team that earned the top awards described in the story to the right. From left: Chief Operator, Wayne Robertson, Chris Jacobson, Lee Boyer, Shane Wienecke, Chris Pepple' and Greg Chapman.

DISTRICT CAPTURES TOP AWARDS DESPITE BUDGET CUTBACKS

Mission Springs Water District received top honors for Wastewater Treatment Plant of the Year and Sewer Collection System of the Year from the California Water Environment Association, Colorado River Basin Section.

Achieved by Great Field Crews

"The crews that work on your water and sewer system are state-certified and specially trained professionals" said Mr. Arden Wallum, General Manager, "and they have done an incredible job, even as resources have been severely restricted."

DID YOU KNOW...? The MSWD Board recently approved a solar project that will reduce electricity costs to the wastewater treatment plant for the next 20 years.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: call us or log on to MSWD.org and click "Stay Up-to-Date" in the left hand column under "MSWD 2.0 Financial Master Plan."