

**MEMO TO BOARD: Agenda Commentary for Draft Agenda April 3, 2024**

**2023 FAST Program Repayment** – We'll start with a conversation with Sean Keener of Carbon Farms and discuss his FAST 2023 contract, which was found to be in error.

**Action Items**

- a. **Mosier Million #2 Contracting:** We reopened the bidder pool and received one application from Cascade Well Drilling LLC.
- b. **Lower Deschutes CWMA Lead Entity Status:** The Lower Deschutes Cooperative Weed Management Area is struggling with staffing and grant management issues. I recently participated in a discussion with the partners, and they suggested moving the position to the Wasco SWCD. Funding is available through ODFW, BLM, and the Sherman County SWCD. I'd like to discuss this with the board.

**ODA Program Update** – Theresa DeBardelaben has taken a position with OWEB. Nina Caldwell is our new ODA Ag Water Quality Specialist for the region and will introduce herself and provide some ODA updates.

**Updates**

- a. **Next Regular Mtg, May 1, 2024, 1:00 PM USDA Service Center (Budget committee meets Wed, May 1, 2023, at 10:00 AM)**
- b. **Tree Sale** – The tree sale was held on March 16. Scott will share an update on how it went this year.
- c. **15mile MUS** – Staff are working on some requested updates to the OWRD final report. We continue to coordinate with OSU and GSI on additional testing funded under the new TA grant.
- d. **Highline Ditch**– Josh will provide an update.
- e. **2020 White River Fire & 2022 Miller Road Fire** – Josh will provide an update.
- f. **SDAO Best Practices Checklist** – I've started working through this year's checklist. We're currently at 6% of the total 10% possible discount. The two remaining areas that will need to be addressed are the new Public Meetings Public Meetings Law Training Requirement for board members and updating our Public Meetings Policy. We have until November to complete these requirements.
- g. **Director Elections** – This is an election year, and we have 4 positions up for election: Zone 1 (Ken Bailey), Zone 3 (Bill Hammel), Zone 5 (Bob Krein), At-Large 1 (Larry Powell). ODA intends to release elections documents on April 1. The first day to file is July 18 and the last day to file is Aug 27. Write-ins can file through Oct 22. Election Day is Nov 5, and the new term will begin on Jan 1, 2025. See ODA's website for more information:

<https://www.oregon.gov/oda/programs/NaturalResources/SWCD/Pages/Elections.aspx>

**Routine Reports:** Committees, Agencies, Manager



**Coordinating Board Meeting to Follow**