

**OLWS – Proposed Budget FY 2024-25  
Post April 2, 2024 Budget Meeting Submitted Questions**

**Question: On page 21, given how robust earnings have been, is the interest income understated?**

**Answer:** Interest Income is budgeted very conservatively. Actual interest income earned is dependent on the investment account rate and the balance in that fund each month. Since that fluctuates throughout the year, a conservative amount is budgeted to ensure there is not a budget shortfall in this budget line.

**Question: On page 23, what is the \$200,000 in personnel costs over 23-24?**

**Answer:** This is a combination of two things:

1. Two vacant positions were held open until October 1, 2024, resulting in a budgeted savings of \$74,000. These two positions are filled and the 24-25 budget includes the full year of salary and benefits.
2. The Communications Specialist position is transferred from Human Resources to Technical Services, at a budget of \$130,000, including salary plus benefits.

**Question:** There are a large number of dues and subscriptions and duplicate types of memberships for certain personnel. What is the cost of the following and who is attending? What is the purpose of each membership or subscription and are reports given to the other staff about what is learned by the individual attending or receiving information?

- A. Engaging Local Government Leaders-  
Communications Specialist membership, No current membership.
- B. National Association of State Agencies for Surplus Property  
This is an OLWS membership, \$39, allows OLWS to buy surplus supplies which are at a reduced rate from new.
- C. Oregon Association of Water Utilities-  
This is an OLWS membership, \$1,350. This organization provides training for water and wastewater. This is actively used by staff.
- D. Oregon Water Utilities Council  
This is an OLWS membership, it is the Pacific NW chapter of the AWWA, \$1,400.
- E. Oregon City/County Manager's Association-  
This is held by the General Manager, \$415. It is a great resource for leadership training.
- F. Rotary Club of Milwaukie-  
Communications Specialist membership, \$350. This is used as another means of reaching an audience for the work OLWS is performing in the community.
- G. Tri-County Water Association-  
Association renamed to Oregon Association of Water Utilities.

As a whole, this information is shared within the organization amongst staff and managers at meetings. The memberships provide a different source of outreach for our community members or streamlined training for staff.