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Special Districts Association of Oregon (SDAO) Honors Special Districts and Individuals

Three Oregon special districts and five individuals were recognized on Saturday, February 10th at the 2018 SDAO Awards Banquet in Seaside, Oregon. Each year, the SDAO Awards Program honors member districts for accomplishments which allow them to provide better service to the public and gives recognition to individuals who have greatly contributed to the success of their special district.

Nominations were collected throughout the year and reviewed by the SDAO Awards Committee. The winners were selected using a scoring matrix. The 2018 award categories and recipients include:

Outstanding Special District Program Award

Special districts are recognized for innovative projects and programs, outstanding safety, public information, public involvement in a district decision-making process, and outstanding achievement.

- **5 or Less Employees:** Aumsville Rural Fire Protection District
- **6-25 Employees:** Sisters Park and Recreation District
- **26 or More Employees:** Salem Area Mass Transit District (Cherriots)

Outstanding Special District Service Award

This category recognizes an individual board member, manager, staff member, or volunteer who has contributed substantially to the improvement and successful operation of his or her district.

- **Board Member:** Ted Schoenborn, Bend Metro Park & Recreation District
- **Manager:** Ernie Palmer, Basin Transit District
- **Employee:** Vicki McKelvy, North Unit Irrigation District
- **Volunteer:** Samantha Carter, Westridge Water Supply

Lifetime Educational Achievement Award

This award recognizes an educator that has demonstrated a commitment to communicating the importance of Oregon's special districts in teaching, research, and service.

- Professor Craig Shinn, Portland State University

The spring issue of the *SDAO News and Risk Management Review* will cover each award recipient and their achievements in greater detail.

Special Districts Association of Oregon represents over 900 special districts in the state of Oregon assisting them in providing cost-effective and efficient public services to the people of Oregon. For more information, please visit www.sdao.com.

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