



# Orange Water and Sewer Authority

*A public, non-profit agency providing water, sewer and reclaimed water services to the Carrboro-Chapel Hill community.*

## Summary of the OWASA Board of Directors' Meeting on September 8, 2011

*Please note: The summary below was prepared by OWASA staff and is not approved by the OWASA Board. Audio recordings of the OWASA Board's meetings and the Board's official minutes, when adopted, are available to citizens for review. Video recordings of OWASA Board meetings in the Chapel Hill Town Hall on the fourth Thursdays of the month are also available.*

- **Resolution of appreciation for Sandy Beckham:** The Board recognized the achievements and service by Mr. Beckham, who retired on August 31<sup>st</sup> after 32 years as a Technician in OWASA's Engineering and Planning Department. Mr. Beckham played a crucial role in improving the accuracy of OWASA's Geographic Information System and (since 1982) has spearheaded the efforts behind numerous OWASA-sponsored Red Cross blood drives.
- **Plans for the Phase III odor control project work and for improvements to the aeration system in the biological treatment process at the Mason Farm Wastewater Treatment Plant:** Stuart Carson, Engineering Manager for the Capital Improvements Program, reported that design work will begin this month for these improvements, which will be completed as a single construction contract to save money and minimize plant disruptions. In accord with commitments by the OWASA Board, odor control improvements will be completed by the end of 2014.
- **Annual report on the Taste of Hope Customer Assistance Program:** Heidi Lamay, Finance and Customer Service Manager, reported that 1,270 or 6.5% of OWASA's customers donated \$7,809 in the last fiscal year to assist 175 customers in need. The Taste of Hope program provides temporary financial help to local families when they are unable to pay an OWASA bill. Customers who choose to donate may have their monthly bills rounded up to the nearest dollar or to add any whole dollar amount to their bill payments. Citizens also have the option of giving donations directly to the Inter-Faith Council, which administers Taste of Hope funds.
- **Outreach and Education Committee:** The Committee will meet on September 22<sup>nd</sup> to discuss a draft public engagement plan.

For more information, please see the agenda materials on the OWASA webpage at <http://www.owasa.org/about/board-meetings.aspx>. The OWASA Board's next scheduled business meeting will be on Thursday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7 PM in the Chapel Hill Town Hall, 405 Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard.