



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 Meeting on February 25, 2010

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. Videotapes of OWASA Board meetings in the Chapel Hill Town Hall on the fourth Thursdays of the month are also available.

The OWASA Board of Directors:

- **Received a report on a community meeting on February 24th regarding OWASA's long-term sustainable management plans for the forested areas on all OWASA-owned lands and the specific management activities planned for OWASA's 490-acre forested Cane Creek Wildlife Mitigation Tract (also called the Buckhorn Gameland).** Citizens at the meeting provided a number of questions and comments about the science that is the foundation for modern forestry management. They commented on the need to reduce off-site impacts from the active management measures that are proposed to be taken on the land. At a future Board meeting, the Board of Directors will consider finalizing the forest management plan for the Cane Creek Mitigation tract and authorizing staff to move forward with implementing the plan.
 - **Approved a change in the schedule and allowable number of State permits for archery hunting for deer on the OWASA Mitigation Land/Buckhorn Gameland.** In January, staff of the NC Wildlife Resources Commission had proposed changes in the present hunting program. After discussion and receiving public comments, the OWASA Board agreed to seek public comments early in 2011 after experience with the changes.
 - **Received a report from Gordon Merklein, Chair of the Board's Finance Committee, on staff work to date in developing the proposed fiscal year 2010-11 (FY 2011) budget and 15-year Capital Improvements Program.** Operating budget requests from OWASA departments total about 1% (\$250,000) more than the present FY 2010 budget. However, further reductions in water demand and fees from new development are expected in FY 2011. The Budget Committee will meet on March 25th to receive financial projections including rates.
 - **Received a report from Alan Rimer, Chair of the Board's Natural Resources and Technical Systems Committee, regarding the feasibility of installing water meters which can be read by radio, and plans for a 3-state conference on biosolids management, which will be held in Raleigh at a date to be determined.**
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For more information, please see the agenda materials on our website, www.owasa.org. The next scheduled business meeting of the OWASA Board will be on Thursday, March 25th at 7 PM in the Chapel Hill Town Hall, 405 Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard. The March 11th business meeting has been cancelled but the Board will hold a work session on that date at 5:30 PM to discuss strategic planning.