



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 June 10, 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:

- **Approved the budget for the fiscal year from July, 2010 through June, 2011 (FY 2011), the 15-year capital improvement program and rate increases that will go into effect on October 1st.** For a residential customer who uses 5,000 gallons of water and sewer service per month, the 9.25% rate increase will add \$6.95 to the monthly bill.

The primary reasons for the rate increase are reduced water sales in the coming year, the need to replace and renew aging infrastructure, a substantial decline in revenue from new customer connections, increased workload and cost increases.

The operating and maintenance budget of \$18.8 million for FY 2011 is a 1.7% increase over the budget for FY 2010. In addition to jobs cut in the current FY 2010 budget, three additional positions are proposed to be eliminated in FY 2011. Since 2004, OWASA has reduced positions by almost 15%.

- **Elected officers for the coming year.** As of July 1st, Gordon Merklein will serve as Chair of the Board, Alan Rimer will be Vice Chair and Braxton Foushee will be the Secretary. Board Members expressed appreciation to the current Chair, Randy Kabrick, who is going off the Board after six years of service as a Board Member including two years as Chair.
- **After discussion of OWASA land that might be sold or transferred, agreed that OWASA should permanently retain ownership of the Cane Creek Mitigation Tract, a 490-acre property north of the Cane Creek Reservoir near Buckhorn Road.** OWASA acquired the Mitigation Tract in the 1980s to meet a Federal requirement to offset the loss of wildlife habitat and hunting due to construction of the Cane Creek Reservoir.
- **Reviewed a draft succession plan for use in the absence or disability of the Executive Director.**
- **Approved contracts for liability, health and dental insurance.**

For more information, please see the agenda materials on our website, www.owasa.org.