



## 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 May 23, 2013

*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.*

#### **The OWASA Board:**

- **Received comments from three citizens in public hearings on the draft budget and rates for Fiscal Year (FY) 2014 and draft 5-year capital program.**

For the second consecutive year, no increase is proposed in monthly rates for water, sewer or reclaimed water service. (Some other fees, such as for meter installation, are proposed to increase in October based on updated cost information.)

The draft budget includes \$19.1 million for operations; \$16 million for capital improvements, \$7.9 million for bond repayments; \$650,000 for the rate stabilization and capital improvement reserves; and \$525,000 for capital equipment. No service changes or new positions are proposed.

On June 13, the Board may adopt the budget, rates and capital program.

- **Discussed plans for a new ad hoc committee to meet with representatives of local governments, the Inter-Faith Council for Social Service and other organizations to consider options for increasing funds available to help low-income OWASA customers.**
- **Approved resolutions authorizing refinancing of \$25 million of bonds this spring if market conditions remain favorable.** OWASA staff estimates savings from the refinancing would be about \$2 million over 18 years.
- **Received recommendations from the Natural Resources and Technical Systems Committee that OWASA continue to fluoridate drinking water; continue to monitor the fluoride issue so the Board and staff will stay abreast of any scientific developments, changes in best management practices, etc.; and expand information on the OWASA website about fluoridation.** The Board's agenda for June 13<sup>th</sup> is expected to include consideration and possible action regarding fluoridation.

- **Received a status report on current and pending capital projects.**

*For more information, please see the agenda materials at <http://www.owasa.org/about/board-meetings.aspx>. The OWASA Board's next business meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 13<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM in the Community Room at the OWASA Administration Building, 400 Jones Ferry Road, Carrboro.*