



## 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 August 22, 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 held in the Chapel Hill Town Hall on the fourth Thursdays of the month are also available. (Meetings on fourth Thursdays including August 22, 2013 will be held at another location due to renovation work on the first floor of Town Hall.)*

- **The Board received a preliminary financial report for the fiscal year from July 2012 through June 2013.** Operating revenues were 4% less than expected, primarily because rainy weather reduced water demand. Operating costs were 3% under budget and capital costs were 29% below budget because some projects began later than anticipated and some projects cost less than expected.
- **The Board approved the transfer of about three miles of water line to the Town of Hillsborough. The pipeline is a portion of the line OWASA built in 1979 to enable the transfer of drinking water between OWASA and Hillsborough when needed during severe droughts, operational emergencies or for system maintenance.** The Town of Hillsborough asked that OWASA transfer the 3-mile segment of water line along Old NC 86 between Davis Road and Exchange Park Lane so that the Town can enhance service to its customers. (Please click [here](#) for a map.) OWASA staff recommended the transfer based on the following:
  1. It will reduce OWASA's operating costs, and eliminate OWASA's future cost to replace the 3-mile segment of water line when it reaches the end of its useful life.
  2. It will not affect the ability to transfer drinking water between OWASA and the Town of Hillsborough.
  3. It is consistent with interlocal agreements regarding water and sewer service area boundaries and joint land use planning including the Rural Buffer for Orange County, Chapel Hill and Carrboro. OWASA will retain ownership of the seven miles of water line in the Rural Buffer and in OWASA's service area. In accord with current agreements, no water service connections will be made to the portion of the water line within the Rural Buffer.
- **Board Member Terri Buckner reported on the Natural Resources and Technical Systems Committee's recent discussion of options, potential savings and**

costs for system-wide installation of water meters which can be read remotely (via radio signals) and could provide continuous information to customers on their water use. Ms. Buckner also reported on recent discussions by an inter-agency group about the future scope and governance of OWASA's Taste of Hope Customer Assistance Program.

- **The Board asked staff to evaluate alternatives for televising Board meetings on fourth Thursdays of the month.** The first floor of the Chapel Hill Town Hall is being restored following flood damage, so Board meetings on fourth Thursdays temporarily will not be held or televised there.
- **Alan Rimer, Chair, reported the new committee assignments of Board Members.**

*For more information, please see the agenda materials at <http://www.owasa.org/about/board-meetings.aspx>. The OWASA Board's next meeting is a work session on strategic planning scheduled for Thursday, September 12<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 PM in the Boardroom at the OWASA Administration Building, 400 Jones Ferry Road, Carrboro.*