



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' Public Hearings and Meeting on May 23, 2019

Please note: The summary below was prepared by staff and is not approved by the OWASA Board. OWASA's [webpage with Board meeting information](#) includes the Board's adopted minutes, agenda materials, staff's meeting summaries, audio recordings of Board meetings on second Thursdays of the month, and videos of Board meetings on fourth Thursdays. The agenda and related information for the May 23rd meeting are available [here](#).

The Board of Directors:

- **Mr. John Cooley, an appointee of the Town of Chapel Hill, took the oath of office as an OWASA Board Member.**
- **Chair Yinka Ayankoya announced the Chapel Hill Town Council reappointed Bruce Boehm and appointed Bruce Runberg to serve on the OWASA Board (effective July 2019).**
- **Held public hearings on the Preliminary Annual Operating and Capital Improvements Budget for Fiscal Year July 2019 through June 2020 (FY 2020) and proposed Schedule of Rates, Fees and Charges.** The Board will consider approving the budget and rates in the June 13th meeting. A 5% increase in monthly rates is proposed to be effective October 1, 2019. The average family in the community uses about 4,000 gallons of water and wastewater service per month. The 5% increase the Board is considering would increase the average family's bill by \$3.60 per month.

The proposed FY 2020 budget includes: \$23.6 million for operating expenses of the water, wastewater and reclaimed water systems; \$26.4 million in capital improvement projects upgrading pipes, pumps, equipment, and more; \$8.1 million in debt payments for financing infrastructure/capital projects.

- **Approved a construction contract for the Mason Farm Wastewater Treatment Plant Secondary Clarifier Rehabilitation.** This work will replace all metal components of the existing clarifiers with corrosion resistant stainless steel and will provide a long life for the restored clarifiers.
- **Discussed employee merit pay for Fiscal Year 2020.** The Board will consider action on merit pay at the June 13th meeting.

The Board will hold its next two meetings on Thursday, **June 13, 2019** at 6 PM in the OWASA Community Room, 400 Jones Ferry Road, Carrboro and Thursday, **June 27, 2019** at 7 PM in Council Chamber at Chapel Hill Town Hall, 405 Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, Chapel Hill.