

Orange Water and Sewer Authority

Work Session of the Board of Directors

April 13, 2017

The Board of Directors of the Orange Water and Sewer Authority (OWASA) held a work session on Thursday, April 13, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. in the Community Room in OWASA's Administration Building, 400 Jones Ferry Road, Carrboro.

Board Members present: John A. Young, Chair; Barbara Foushee, Secretary; Yinka Ayankoya; Terri Buckner; David Moreau; Bob Morgan; and Heather Payne. Board Members absent: Jeff Danner, Vice Chair; and Ruchir Vora.

OWASA staff present: Ed Kerwin; Mary Darr; Monica Dodson; Greg Feller; Alicia Grey; Stephanie Glasgow; Katie Harrold; Simon Lobdell; Kenneth Loflin; Andrea Orbich; Ruth Rouse; Todd Taylor; Stephen Winters; and Robert Epting, Esq., Epting and Hackney.

Others present: Daria Barazandeh; Margaret Holton, Water, Sewer and Reclaimed Water Coordinator, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; Rebecca King; Debbye Krueger, NC Department of Health and Human Services; James Ostick; Wendy Schwade; Rhonda Stephens, NC Oral Health Section; Claire Viadro; Tim Wright; and Tanner Anderson, Callie Badu, Jackson Boone, Ivy Brisbin, Brittney Ciszek, Don DiMichele, Marc Gonzalez, Fred Harris, Melanie Hebert, Brittany Klein, Kelsey Knight, Lew Lampirus, Jordan Mays, Alexander Nicopoulos, Yuri Oh, Kenen Sanchez, Avie Smith, Sarah Spaitenstein, Annetta Streater, Darby Stroud, Meghan Valdes, Darryn Weinstein, and Andrea Zandona, UNC School of Dentistry.

There being a quorum present, Chair John Young called the meeting to order.

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Motions

1. Robert Morgan made a motion to approve the Minutes of the March 9, 2017 Work Session of the Board of Directors; second by Heather Payne and unanimously approved.
2. Robert Morgan made a motion to approve the Minutes of the March 23, 2017 Meeting of the Board of Directors; second by Heather Payne and unanimously approved.
3. BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Directors of the Orange Water and Sewer Authority adopts the Resolution Awarding a Construction Contract for the Eastowne, Eubanks and Meadowmont 1 Pump Station Rehabilitation Project. (Motion by Robert Morgan, second by Heather Payne and unanimously approved.)
4. Terri Buckner made a motion that Board direct the Executive Director to implement staff's Action Plan to improve the safety and reliability of the fluoride feed system at the Jones Ferry

Road Water Treatment Plant; to keep the Board and public advised as to staff's progress towards completion of the improvements; and to announce in advance the date fluoridation of OWASA drinking water will resume. The motion was seconded by Barbara Foushee and the passed with a vote of six to one with Yinka Ayankoya opposed because of the plan cost and she does not want fluoride in the drinking water.

5. Terri Buckner made a motion that the Board of Directors approve the Energy Management Plan and authorize the Executive Director to proceed with the projects, studies, and strategies described in the Plan, including incorporation of the proposed projects and studies in the Fiscal Year 2018 Operating Budget and Capital Improvements Budget excluding \$50,000 to engage a consulting firm to conduct a technical review of biogas-to-energy options; the Executive Director will provide for, at least, an annual update of the Plan, and inform the Board if and when significant changes occur in underlying assumptions, funding and partnership opportunities, etc. Second by Dave Moreau and unanimously approved.

6. Heather Payne made a motion that the Natural Resources and Technical Services Committee meet in the fall of 2017 to discuss options for converting biogas at the Mason Farm Wastewater Treatment Plant to useable fuel; second by Barbara Foushee and unanimously approved.

7. Robert Morgan made a motion that staff assimilate information regarding the resources and time commitment needed to issue a Request for Proposal for banking services; second by Terri Buckner and unanimously approved.

#### Announcements

John Young said that any Board Member who knows of a conflict of interest or potential conflict of interest with respect to any item on the agenda tonight is asked to disclose the same at this time; none were disclosed.

Mr. Young said that the full Board will serve as the Nominating Committee in accord with the Board's recent decision, and that Yinka Ayankoya will Chair the Committee.

Terri Buckner reminded the Board that a new OWASA appointment to Orange County's Intergovernmental Parks Work Group will be necessary when her term ends in June 2017. The Board agreed to appoint a new member later this year.

David Moreau said that he will no longer be a Chapel Hill resident in August 2017 and that he will withdraw his application to the Town of Chapel Hill for reappointment to the OWASA Board of Directors.

#### Item One:        Quarterly Report on Attendance at Board and Committee Meetings

The Board accepted the Quarterly Report on Attendance at Board and Committee meetings as an information item.

Item Two: Minutes

Robert Morgan made a motion to approve the Minutes of the March 9, 2017 Work Session of the Board of Directors; second by Heather Payne and unanimously approved. Please see Motion No. 1 above.

Item Three: Minutes

Robert Morgan made a motion to approve the Minutes of the March 23, 2017 Meeting of the Board of Directors; second by Heather Payne and unanimously approved. Please see Motion No. 2 above.

Item Four: Resolution Awarding a Construction Contract for the Eastowne, Eubanks and Meadowmont 1 Pump Station Rehabilitation Project

Robert Morgan made a motion to approve the resolution; second by Heather Payne and unanimously approved. Please see Motion No. 3 above.

Item Six: Action Plan to Improve the Fluoride Feed System

The Board agreed to discuss this item sooner because of the large number of people attending the meeting for this item.

Annetta Streater, Tim Wright, Don DiMichele and Frederick Harris expressed support for fluoridating OWASA's drinking water.

Claire Viadro opposed fluoridation and wondered if there was an opt out choice for fluoride.

After discussion, the Board agreed and approved the Action Plan proposed by staff.

Terri Buckner made a motion that Board direct the Executive Director to implement staff's Action Plan to improve the safety and reliability of the fluoride feed system at the Jones Ferry Road Water Treatment Plant; to keep the Board and public advised as to staff's progress towards completion of the improvements; and to announce in advance the date fluoridation of OWASA drinking water will resume. Second by Barbara Foushee and the passed with a vote of six to one with Yinka Ayankoya opposed because of the plan cost and she does not want fluoride in the drinking water. Please see Motion No. 4 above.

Item Five: Review Employee Health and Dental Insurance

The Board received a status report on discussions with Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina regarding renewal of health and dental insurance with currently negotiated cost increases of 9.0 percent and 6.8 percent respectively.

After discussion, the Board requested evaluation of additional options for employee health insurance for the May 11, 2017 Board meeting and that staff provide the cost detail for employee health insurance in advance of the meeting.

Item Seven:      Discuss Draft Energy Management Plan

After discussion, the Board approved the Energy Management Plan with strategies to reduce OWASA's use of electricity and natural gas (with the exception of the proposal to engage an outside consultant to assist with evaluating options for a biogas-to-energy project at the Mason Farm Wastewater Treatment Plant).

Terri Buckner made a motion that the Board of Directors approve the Energy Management Plan and authorize the Executive Director to proceed with the projects, studies, and strategies described in the Plan, including incorporation of the proposed projects and studies in the Fiscal Year 2018 Operating Budget and Capital Improvements Budget excluding \$50,000 to engage a consulting firm to conduct a technical review of biogas-to-energy options; the Executive Director will provide for, at least, an annual update of the Plan, and inform the Board if and when significant changes occur in underlying assumptions, funding and partnership opportunities, etc. Second by Dave Moreau and unanimously approved. Please see Motion No. 5. above.

Heather Payne made a motion that the Natural Resources and Technical Services Committee meet in the fall of 2017 to discuss options for converting biogas at the Mason Farm Wastewater Treatment Plant to useable fuel; second by Barbara Foushee and unanimously approved. Please see Motion No. 6 above.

Item Eight:      Review Board Work Schedule

Robert Morgan made a motion that staff estimate the resources and time commitment needed to issue a Request for Proposals for banking services; second by Terri Buckner and unanimously approved. Please see Motion 7 above.

The Board agreed to defer the discussion of Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) manual read option and to bundle it with other AMI-related policies to be considered by the Board later in the year.

The Board agreed to discuss the Land Management Overview on May 25, 2017.

Item Nine:      Executive Director will Summarize the Key Staff Action Items from the Work Session

Ed Kerwin said the items for staff follow-up are:

- Remind the Board to make an appointment to Orange County's Intergovernmental Parks Work Group this summer;
- Implement the fluoride feed system improvement Action Plan and keep the Board and public informed;
- Provide the Board cost detail for employee health insurance;

- Prepare an evaluation of options for employee health insurance;
- Implement the Energy Management Plan as approved;
- Schedule a Natural Resources and Technical Services Committee meeting in the fall of 2017 discuss options for converting biogas at the Mason Farm Wastewater Treatment Plant to useable fuel;
- Staff will provide the Board information about the resources and time commitment needed to issue a request for proposals (RFP) for banking services;
- Reschedule and bundle the AMI manual read option with other AMI-related policies for consideration by the Board later in the year; and
- Reschedule the Land Management Overview discuss for the May 25, 2017 Board meeting.

Item Ten:      Closed Session

Without objection, the Board of Directors convened a Closed Session for the purpose of discussing a personnel matter.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:



Andrea Orbich  
Executive Assistant/Clerk to the Board

Attachments

**RESOLUTION AWARDING A CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR THE  
EASTOWNE, EUBANKS, AND MEADOWMONT 1 PUMP STATIONS  
REHABILITATION PROJECT**

**WHEREAS**, there is a need to renovate the Eastowne, Eubanks, and Meadowmont 1 Pump Stations; and

**WHEREAS**, plans and specifications for the construction of this project have been prepared by Kimley Horn and Associates; and

**WHEREAS**, advertisement for contractor qualifications was published on the websites of the North Carolina Institute of Minority Economic Development, North Carolina Department of Administration, and OWASA on December 8, 2016, and 11 contractors were qualified to bid; and

**WHEREAS**, on February 21, 2017, the prequalified contractors were formally invited to submit construction bids for the project, and six bids were received; and

**WHEREAS**, Water and Waste Systems Construction, Inc. of Garner, North Carolina has been determined to be the low responsive, responsible bidder for the project; and

**WHEREAS**, on June 9, 2016 the Board approved a resolution authorizing funds for Capital Improvement Projects, including funds for this project;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:**

1. That the Orange Water and Sewer Authority Board of Directors awards the construction contract to Water and Waste Systems Construction, Inc., the low responsive, responsible bidder for the Eastowne, Eubanks, and Meadowmont 1 Pump Stations, in accordance with the approved plans and specifications, in the amount of \$820,000.00, subject to such change orders as may apply.

2. That the Executive Director be, and hereby is, authorized to execute said contract, subject to prior approval of legal counsel, and to approve and execute change orders and such documents as may be required in connection with the construction contract.

Adopted this 13<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2017.

  
John A. Young, Chair

ATTEST:

  
Barbara M. Foushee, Secretary