

Orange Water and Sewer Authority
Meeting of the Board of Directors
March 8, 2018

The Board of Directors of the Orange Water and Sewer Authority (OWASA) met in a work session on Thursday, March 8, 2018, at 6:00 p.m. in OWASA's Community Room, 400 Jones Ferry Road, Carrboro.

Board Members present: Robert Morgan (Chair), Yinka Ayankoya (Secretary), Jeff Danner, Barbara Foushee, John N. Morris, Ruchir Vora and John A. Young. Board Members absent: Heather Payne (Vice Chair) and Ray DuBose.

OWASA staff present: Mary Darr, Robert Epting, Esq., (Epting and Hackney), Katie Harrold, Ed Kerwin, Kenneth Loflin, Andrea Orbich, Ruth Rouse, Todd Taylor, Mary Tiger, Stephen Winters and Richard Wyatt.

Others present: Margaret Holton (University of North Carolina Water Resources Manager), Ben Poulson (UNC Associate Director of Energy Services) and Lexi Valent.

Motions

1. Yinka Ayankoya made a motion to approve the Minutes of the February 8, 2018 Work Session of the Board of Directors; second by Barbara Foushee and unanimously approved.
2. Yinka Ayankoya made a motion to approve the Minutes of the February 22, 2018 Closed Session of the Board of Directors for the Purpose of Discussing a Personnel Matter; second by Barbara Foushee and unanimously approved.
3. John Young made a motion that the Board of Directors approves the Energy Management Plan, and authorizes 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 2019 Operating Budget and Capital Improvements Budget; the Executive Director will provide for 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 Jeff Danner and unanimously approved.

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Announcements

Robert Morgan asked if any Board Member knows of a conflict of interest or potential conflict of interest with respect to any item on the agenda tonight to disclose the same at this time; none were disclosed.

Barbara Foushee announced that the Human Resources Committee will meet on Monday, March 19, 2018, to continue discussing retiree health benefits for new hires and OWASA's deferred compensation (457) plan.

John Young said that the Natural Resources and Technical Services Committee met on February 26, 2018, to review the existing Drought Response Operating Protocol (DROP) and discuss potential changes that could provide greater flexibility to respond to extended drought conditions.

John Morris suggested that the Board include a fourth item under announcements on the agenda cover titled, "Additional comments, suggestions, and information items by Board Members". The Board agreed to follow this practice for two months.

Mr. Morris mentioned that the Chapel Hill Public Library is planning a prescribed burn on their property and if he finds out in advance when the burn will occur, he will notify the Board for those who would like to observe the burn.

Todd Taylor announced that he will provide an update on OWASA's Advanced Metering Project (Agua Vista) to Carrboro Board of Aldermen on Tuesday, March 20, 2018 and to the Chapel Hill Town Council on April 11, 2018.

Ruth Rouse announced that OWASA will conduct a prescribed burn on a portion of OWASA's Mitigation Tract in April or early May. A Community Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 21, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at the Maple View Agricultural Education Center in Orange County to educate the public on the reason for the prescribed burn and to answer questions. Ms. Rouse said that, in conjunction with the NC Forest Service, a public notice about OWASA's prescribed burn and frequently asked questions will be distributed.

Item One: Minutes

Yinka Ayankoya made a motion to approve the Minutes of the February 8, 2018 Work Session of the Board of Directors; second by Barbara Foushee and unanimously approved. Please see Motion No. 1 above.

Item Two: Minutes

Yinka Ayankoya made a motion to approve the Minutes of the February 22, 2018 Closed Session of the Board of Directors for the Purpose of Discussing a Personnel Matter; second by Barbara Foushee and unanimously approved. Please see Motion No. 2 above.

Item Three: Review and Approve Energy Management Plan Update

Jeff Danner requested additional information on real time nitrification monitors at the wastewater treatment plant.

The Board accepted the plan and the progress of the strategies; updates will be provided annually.

John Young made a motion that the Board of Directors approves the Energy Management Plan, and authorizes 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 2019 Operating Budget and Capital Improvements Budget; the Executive Director will provide for 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 Jeff Danner and unanimously approved. Please see Motion No. 3 above.

Item Four: Continue Discussion on Unregulated Compounds in Water Resources, Including Recent Regional Analysis of Per-Fluorinated Substances

Jeff Danner asked if there is any communication or monitoring OWASA should do proactively in the watershed and /or is there more monitoring on an occasional basis in Cane Creek Reservoir or University Lake.

After discussion the Board agreed to continue discussion as Mr. Danner requested with the Board's Natural Resources and Technical Services Committee later this year. Staff will continue to stay abreast of scientific research of unregulated compounds and provide updates as needed. Staff will also provide background information on source water protection at the same Committee meeting.

Item Five: Review Preliminary Fiscal Year 2019 Budget Information

The Board reviewed and discussed a draft of the Fiscal Year 2019 operating expenses budget; and requested additional information including a list of potential items that could be removed from the budget if determined necessary. Staff will provide this information as well as information about rate adjustment options at the March 22, 2018 meeting.

Item Six: Review Board Work Schedule

The Board agreed to rename "April 26, 2018 Draft Banking Request for Proposals" to "Draft Criteria for Banking Request for Proposals."

The Board agreed to move the Strategic Trends and Strategic Plan Update report from October 25th to September 27th meeting. The Board also agreed to schedule the third Session with VISIONS, Inc. on April 4, 2018 from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the OWASA Boardroom.

Item Seven: Executive Director Will Summarize the Key Staff Action Items from the Work Session

Ed Kerwin noted the following items for staff follow-up:

- On a trial basis (two months), add a fourth item under announcements to each agenda titled, "Additional comments, suggestions, and information items by Board Members".

- Answer follow-up questions on Energy Management Plan.
- Schedule a Natural Resources and Technical Services Committee meeting later this year to discuss whether OWASA should be taking additional actions to monitor activities that may affect water quality in its water supply watersheds.
- Answer follow-up questions on the draft FY 2019 operating budget to include information on possible discretionary expenditures in operating expenses for the March 22, 2018 Board meeting.

Item Eight: Closed Session

Without objection, the Board convened in a closed session for the purpose of discussing a personnel matter.

The Board Work Session was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:



Andrea Orbich
Executive Assistant/Clerk to the Board