Orange Water and Sewer Authority

OWASA is Carrboro-Chapel Hill's not-for-profit public service agency delivering high quality water, wastewater, and reclaimed water services.

Summary of the OWASA Board of Directors' Annual Meeting
September 26, 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 September 26th meeting are available here.*

The Board of Directors:

- Received OWASA's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the period July 2018 through June 2019 (fiscal year 2019). The independent auditor gave an unmodified opinion that OWASA's financial statements are fairly presented. In the 2019 fiscal year, OWASA met or surpassed all standards for the quality of its drinking water and treated wastewater.
- Authorized and directed staff to implement the forest management plan on OWASA-owned lands: to prioritize and select initial areas appropriate for active management in accordance with the incremental approach recommended by staff and in accordance with the Board approved Vision, Guiding Principles and Community Engagement Plan. The plan was developed as sustainable forest management helps protect OWASA's watersheds, plus other environmental benefits such as reducing risk of wildfire. Staff will provide the Board with regular updates including semiannual progress reports, as appropriate to keep the Board and public informed of this work.
- Approved moving forward with finalizing a lease agreement with our consultant and to engage in a design process for the installation of solar panels on OWASA facilities to generate and use renewable energy. This project will help OWASA achieve its goal of reducing purchased electricity use by 35% by 2022 and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by over 800 metric tons per year.
- Approved resolutions directing staff to file an application with the North Carolina Local Government Commission (LGC) to issue revenue bonds and asking the LGC to approve the financing team.
- Reappointed the Firm of Epting and Hackney as General Counsel to the Orange Water and Sewer Authority.

The Board will hold its next two meetings on Thursday, October 10, 2019 at 6 PM in OWASA's Community Room, 400 Jones Ferry Road, Carrboro; and Thursday, October 24, 2019 at 7 PM in Council Chamber, Chapel Hill Town Hall, 405 Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, Chapel Hill.