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' Meeting
October 24, 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 October 24th meeting are available here.*

The Board of Directors:

- Supported a Care to Share Customer Assistance Day on November 21, 2019 and a new logo. On Care to Share Day, OWASA and partners will invite customers and community members to contribute to the program. Care to Share is OWASA's customer assistance program administered by the Inter-Faith Council for Social Services. All funds raised will go directly to helping families in need pay for water and sewer services.

- Received an update on water main break and Water Treatment Plant (WTP) and Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) Reliability and Risk Assessment Action Plans. Staff reported on significant investments in enhancements to emergency response, communications, training and infrastructure improvements. Specifically highlighting the addition of staff and equipment for valve maintenance in our water distribution system, improvements made in emergency communications, and investments in developing our staff. Several key infrastructure improvements were also discussed including replacing critical drinking water pipes at the WTP, upgrading chemical facilities at both the WTP and WWTP, and rehabilitating concrete in a treatment structure at the WWTP.
- Discussed annual report on strategic trends and utility planning issues and annual report on progress in implementing OWASA's Strategic Plan. Staff reported that based on current demands and projections, we will meet raw water demands under most conditions; there is no anticipated need to expand capacity of our treatment plants for several decades; and continued investment in renewal and replacement of infrastructure is needed to ensure reliable and high-quality service.
- Approved Series Resolutions for Series 2019 Revenue Bonds and Series 2020 Revenue Refunding Bonds. Proceeds from the Series 2019 revenue bonds will be used to fund capital improvement projects and the Series 2020 refunding bonds will replace currently outstanding bonds at a lower interest rate.
- Received Financial Report for the First Quarter of Fiscal Year 2020 (the three-month period ending on September 30, 2019). All performance measurement targets were met for the period except for meeting the target balance in the working capital reserve and this target will be resolved once funding is secured with loans from the State of North Carolina in the coming months as well as the issue of water and sewer revenue bonds in November 2019.

The Board will hold its next two meetings on Thursday, November 14, 2019 and Thursday, December 12, 2019 at 6 PM in OWASA's Community Room, 400 Jones Ferry Road, Carrboro.