**Meeting Summary**
**Orange Water and Sewer Authority**
**Natural Resources and Technical Systems Committee**
**March 5, 2013 (5:00 – 6:00 p.m.)**

## Members Present

Terri Buckner (Chair), Dana Raborn, Will Raymond

## Other Board Members Present

John Young

## Staff Present

Ed Kerwin, Mason Crum, Pat Davis

## Visitors Present

None

## Item(s) Discussed:

The Natural Resources and Technical Systems (NRTS) Committee met to discuss the items that Committee members might like to discuss in the coming year. Items that were identified as potential topics included:

- Contracts and technical issues surrounding OWASA's ability to gain access to its Jordan Lake allocation
- Watershed partnership with municipal and County partners
- Consider dropping OWASA's membership in the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Chamber of Commerce
- Improve OWASA's outreach efforts (website improvements, local media, rural neighbors)
- Consider accelerating the "Smart" metering project
- Explore opportunities to partner with others on solar and wind power projects using OWASA-owned properties
- Pursue additional technology improvements
- Sustainable forest management on OWASA-owned properties

- Explore opportunities to prevent pharmaceuticals from entering OWASA's wastewater collection and treatment processes. Also assess their impacts on the biosolids generated by OWASA

- Partner with others to promote water conservation standards on par with Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED)

- Explore opportunities to improve regional planning in regards to water supply and demand trends

- Biosolids recycling

- Ensure the goals and objectives of the NRTS Committee are closely aligned with OWASA's ongoing strategic planning efforts

- Explore opportunities for the NRTS Committee to take a more active role in the technical aspects of the annual budget review process

- Can OWASA encourage more use of harvested rainwater?

- Explore opportunities to have a security audit performed on OWASA's IT systems

- Establish a workgroup with the Towns to further refine the water conservation standards outlined in existing Town ordinances and OWASA policy

- Determine whether OWASA should conduct another greenhouse gas inventory

The Committee took no formal action, and also recognized the two "active" items currently under the Committee's consideration:

1. Follow-up actions on the petitions received requesting that OWASA cease its practice of fluoridating the drinking water provided to OWASA's customers

2. Further discussion on OWASA's recreation programs at University Lake and the Cane Creek Reservoir

Following the meeting, Michael Hughes, who was not able to attend the March 5 meeting, added the following items:

- Receive an update on staff efforts to identify and map easements for the sewer collection system

- Receive a technical briefing from staff on the challenges resulting from the most stringent nitrogen removal regulations that will go into effect this year

- Request Jeff Cruickshank from Hazen-Sawyer to provide the NRTS committee with a seminar/presentation on regional water distribution interconnections
- Receive a step-wise briefing on the process and procedures staff use for project and contract management reporting
- Revisit the discussion of forestry management on OWASA lands
- Review and discuss upcoming water/sewer replacement projects as well as deficiencies in the collection, distribution and treatment systems

**Next Meeting**

Time and agenda items for the next Committee meeting will be determined at a later date in consultation with the NRTS Committee Chair.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:05 p.m.

Meeting Summary Prepared by: Mason Crum, PE
Director of Engineering and Planning