ORANGE WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY

A public, non-profit agency providing water, sewer and reclaimed water services to the Carrboro-Chapel Hill community.

MEETING SUMMARY
Finance Committee Meeting
March 27, 2014, 5:30 - 7:00 PM, in the OWASA Boardroom

Committee Members:	John Young (Chair), Terri Buckner, Michael Hughes, Heather Payne, Amy Witsil, Alan Rimer (ex-officio)
Other Board Members:	Will Raymond
Staff:	Mary Darr, Pat Davis, Stephanie Glasgow, Ed Kerwin, Dan Przybyl, Kevin Ray, Kelly Satterfield, Todd Taylor, Stephen Winters
Public:	None

The Finance Committee met on Thursday, March 27, 2014 to discuss adjustments to monthly water and sewer service rates, potential rate structure modifications, and the preliminary draft Fiscal Year (FY) 2015 Operating Budget.

Rate Adjustment

Based on the preliminary draft FY 2015 Budget and projections of future years' revenue and expenditures, the Committee unanimously supported no increase in OWASA's monthly water and sewer rates for FY 2015. At the April 10, 2014 Board meeting, the Committee will recommend to the Board of Directors that the Board authorize staff to publicize the preliminary draft FY 2015 Budget including the plan to not implement a rate increase. The OWASA Board will not make a final decision on the FY 2015 Budget and rate adjustment until June 2014 after customers and the public have had an opportunity to comment and provide input. If approved, FY 2015 will be the third consecutive year in which OWASA has not increased its rates.

Rate Structure Modifications

The Committee is studying and considering modifying OWASA's rate structure to improve service affordability and continue to promote conservation. After discussing alternatives, the Committee unanimously decided to defer further considerations of rate structure modifications until the first half of FY 2015 and will not recommend that the Board adopt changes during this budget cycle.

Preliminary Draft FY 2015 Operating Budget

The Committee reviewed the preliminary draft FY 2015 Operating Budget at its meeting on March 13, 2014. Following that meeting, staff provided additional information as requested by Committee members. At its meeting on March 27, the Committee had no further questions.

Next Meeting

The next Finance Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, April 24, 2014 in the OWASA Boardroom, at 5:30 PM.

Stephen Winters, CPA
Director of Finance & Customer Service