Meeting Summary
Natural Resources and Technical Systems Committee
April 25, 2016, 5:30 p.m.

Committee Members:	Dave Moreau (Chair), Ruchir Vora, John Young (ex officio)
Staff:	Mary Tiger, Mary Darr, Todd Taylor, Ed Kerwin, Ruth Rouse

The NRTS Committee met to review and discuss information regarding the development of OWASA's Energy Management Plan.

Energy Use Trends
Mary Tiger provided an update on OWASA energy use through calendar year 2015. Electricity use has been reduced significantly since 2010:

- Overall, electricity use decreased by 28% since 2010.
- Wastewater treatment continues to be the largest energy user, however, energy use at the Mason Farm Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) has declined significantly since the new blowers, mixers, and aeration system came online. Plant operations have also been optimized to reduce energy use. Electricity at the WWTP has dropped 36% since CY 2010.
- Raw water pumping electricity use dropped 36 percent since 2010 primarily due to a new, low-flow pump and Variable Frequency Drive motor installed at University Lake that has enabled us to better optimize system-wide raw water pumping across a wide range of demand conditions.
- Electricity use intensity (kWh/1000 gallons) has decreased 40% at WWTP and 15% at the Water Treatment Plant since 2010.

Natural gas use has increased since 2010:

- Natural gas use at the WWTP increased 93% primarily due to the removal of Digester 1 (and its gas storage capacity) from service for maintenance for the later part of 2015 and into 2016.
- Natural gas use increased 15% at WTP.
- Natural gas use increased 36% at support facilities such as the Administrative Building. Much of this use may be due to the old HVAC system in the Administrative Building, and there is an upcoming CIP project to upgrade that system.

The annual cost of energy in 2015 was approximately $200,000 less than in 2010.

Revised Draft Project Charter
Staff proposed three major revisions to the charter:

1. The timeline for completion of the Energy Management Plan (EMP) was updated.
2. The methodology for developing the EMP was adjusted to request significant input from the Board of Directors and stakeholders on the criteria to be used to evaluate clean energy opportunities.

3. The methodology for updating the EMP was adjusted to allow for on-going clean energy opportunity (i.e. annual) evaluation and implementation planning that can be coordinated with the Capital Improvements Program (CIP). The purpose, goals and objectives and overall Energy Management Program will not be modified on an annual basis.

Staff plans to seek Board approval of the draft criteria and Stakeholder Engagement Plan in early Fall 2016, final criteria (with stakeholder feedback) in December 2017, and the Energy Management Plan in February 2017.

The Committee supported staff recommendations on the charter, and made the following comments:

1. A rolling, annually-updated implementation plan makes sense.
2. Greenhouse gas equivalents should be estimated for clean energy projects.
3. Given the technical nature of the program, some key stakeholders identified in the Charter may be more able to provide input on the early stages of Energy Management Program.
4. General public feedback and customer's willingness-to-pay should be part of the criteria applied to larger, more involved projects. "Larger" and "more involved" will be defined in the Energy Management Plan.
5. As we develop more projects, it will become increasingly difficult to get additional reductions.
6. Clean energy project evaluation should include a preliminary evaluation with the NRTS Committee to save staff time on extensive evaluation.
7. Suggested revisions to the Charter:
    - Section C. Assumptions – Item 5 should be removed from the charter. Since we are developing an Energy Management Program under this charter, costs and technologies may change over time. These technologies should be at preliminarily evaluated in the first Energy Management Plan in order to document their efficacy against other options.
    - Section J. Roles and Responsibilities – The Board of Directors role should be changed from "Sponsor" to something like "Governance" and the responsibility should read something like "Approves program objectives; goals and objectives for energy management plan; scope of stakeholder engagement; resources for major projects. Makes final decision on energy management strategies to be implemented".
    - Section J. Roles and Responsibilities – A new line should be added for an Executive Leadership and Accountability role for the responsibility of making operational decisions.
    - Section J. Roles and Responsibilities – Project Manager and Task Leader should be changed to Program Manager and Task Leader.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:50 PM.

Prepared by:

Ruth C. Rouse

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Ruth Rouse, AICP
Planning and Development Manager