Orange Water and Sewer Authority

Virtual Work Session of the Board of Directors

October 14, 2021

The Board of Directors of the Orange Water and Sewer Authority (OWASA) held its duly noticed regular work session by virtual means in accordance with law, on Thursday, October 14, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. utilizing Microsoft Teams software.

Board Members present: Jody Eimers (Chair), John N. Morris (Secretary), Todd BenDor, Bruce Boehm, and Raymond (Ray) DuBose. Board Members absent: Yinka Ayankoya (Vice Chair) and Kevin Leibel.

OWASA staff present: Mary Darr, Monica Dodson, Robert Epting, Esq. (Epting and Hackney), Vishnu Gangadharan, Stephanie Glasgow, Robin Jacobs (Epting and Hackney), Andrea Orbich, Ruth Rouse, Todd Taylor, Mary Tiger, Stephen Winters, and Richard Wyatt.

Others present: Greg Characklis (Aqua Risk Management) and Reed Palmer (Hazen and Sawyer).

Motions

1. Ray DuBose made a Motion to approve the Minutes of the September 9, 2021, Work Session of the Board of Directors; second by Todd BenDor and the Motion was unanimously approved.

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Announcements

Chair Jody Eimers announced that due to COVID-19 public health concerns, the OWASA Board of Directors held this meeting virtually utilizing Microsoft Teams software. Ms. Ayankoya stated that Board Members, General Counsel, and staff participated in the meeting remotely.

Ms. Eimers asked if any Board Member knew of a conflict of interest or potential conflict of interest with respect to any item on the agenda tonight to disclose the same at this time. None were disclosed.

Ms. Eimers said that on October 21, 2021, Mary Tiger (Strategic Initiatives Manager) and she will attend the virtual Orange County Climate Council meeting.

Ms. Eimers said the Carrboro Town Council did not appoint an OWASA Board Member and the Board agreed to continue to encourage people to apply to the local governments to be an OWASA Board Member. General Counsel and staff will review Board Member compensation and provide an update either via email or at a future Board meeting.

Item One: Quarterly Report on Board and Committee Meetings

The Board accepted this as an information item.

Item Two: Minutes

Ray DuBose made a Motion to approve the Minutes of the September 9, 2021, Work Session of the Board of Directors; second by Todd BenDor and the Motion was unanimously approved. Please see Motion 1.

Item Three: Long-Range Water Supply Plan: Alternative Agreements to Reliably Access OWASA's Allocation of Water Supply in Jordan Lake

Ruth Rouse (Planning and Develop Manager) and Greg Characklis (Aqua Risk Management) provided a presentation on overview of work completed on OWASA's Long-Range Water Supply Plan, information on a set of alternatives to access OWASA's Jordan Lake allocation, and a proposed path forward before finalizing an alternative as well as a proposed community engagement plan.

Board discussion and comments included: leveraging the use of OWASA owned land for the future Jordan Lake intake; the need for planning level costs of each alternative and how they impact our budget; partnership considerations for OWASA with Western Intake Partners; rate increases; keep each of the alternatives to access Jordan Lake for additional analysis and present them against the guiding principles in a way the Board can understand. The Board discussed the importance to understand how these alternatives are impacted by regional water supply (e.g., when this plant comes online, there will be an additional way for all Jordan Lake allocation holders to access their allocation) and how the agreements may help OWASA defend its Jordan Lake allocation in the future. Staff will incorporate the Board's comments in future Jordan Lake alternatives updates and include an additional alternative that combines being a future partner with an option to access water.

Item Four: Strategic Plan Update

The Board received this as an information item and has scheduled strategic plan work sessions on November 18, 2021 and December 16, 2021.

Item Five: Review Board Work Schedule

Todd Taylor noted the Board tour of OWASA's Cane Creek Mitigation Tract is scheduled for Tuesday, November 2, 2021, at 10:30 a.m. and additional information will be emailed in advance of the tour.

Item Six: Summary of Work Session Items

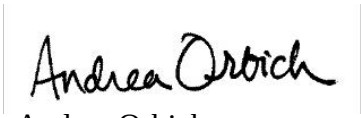
Todd Taylor said staff incorporate the Board's comments into updated Long-Range Water Supply Plan, Jordan Lake alternatives for future discussions.

Item Seven: Closed Session

Without objection, the Board of Directors convened in a Closed Session for the purpose of discussing a personnel matter as provided in N.C. General Statutes 143.318.11(6).

Following the Closed Session, the Board reconvened in open session, reported no action was taken in the closed session, and the meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:



Andrea Orbich
Executive Assistant/Clerk to the Board