

Orange Water and Sewer Authority  
Special Meeting of the Board of Directors  
January 30, 2020

The Board of Directors of the Orange Water and Sewer Authority (OWASA) held a Special Meeting on Thursday, January 30, 2020, at 6:00 p.m. in OWASA's Community Room, 400 Jones Ferry Road, Carrboro.

Board Members present: Raymond (Ray) DuBose (Chair), Ruchir Vora (Vice Chair), Bruce Boehm (Secretary), Yinka Ayankoya, John Cooley, Jody Eimers, Robert Morgan, John N. Morris and Bruce Runberg.

OWASA staff present: Mary Darr, Monica Dodson, Patrick Davis, Vishnu Gangadharan, Robin Jacobs (Epting and Hackney), Ed Kerwin, Andrea Orbich, Ruth Rouse, Todd Taylor, Mary Tiger, Stephen Winters and Richard Wyatt.

Others present: Meg Holton (UNC Water Resources Manager) and Terri Buckner.

Motions

No Motions were made.

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Announcements

Ray DuBose asked if any Board Member knows 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.

Item One:      Preliminary Evaluation of Supply and Demand Management Alternatives for the Long-Range Water Supply Plan

Ed Kerwin, Executive Director, provided background information on OWASA's update of the Long-Range Water Supply Plan (LRWSP). The LRWSP is Carrboro-Chapel Hill's roadmap to ensure there is reliable, high-quality supply of water for the community through 2070. Mr. Kerwin said OWASA has a long history of being proactive and making important decisions regarding the communities' water supply. He provided a summary of OWASA's key water supply actions since 1977.

Ruth Rouse, Planning and Development Manager, said OWASA is currently at low risk of running out of water; she further noted that the information in the agenda package is a working draft, and costs and other technical information may be updated in future reports. She then provided a presentation on the background information of the draft evaluation of Supply and

Demand Management Alternatives for the LRWSP. The Board and staff had a lengthy discussion on the nine supply alternatives.

Staff stated that as part of Alternatives 1 – 4 (alternatives to access Jordan Lake), staff will recommend the Drought Response Operating Protocol be updated to include flexibility to utilize OWASA's Jordan Lake allocation during non-peak demand periods.

Board comments on the supply alternatives included:

- Requested the Board approved 2016 goals be listed in the agenda documents;
- Recognized that the Board should make short-term and long-term decisions concerning water supply;
- Requested that Western Intake Partners (Jordan Lake Alternative 4) have high environmental standards for a new intake and plant; Staff noted that the Western Intake Partners are evaluating the use of the Institute of Sustainable Infrastructure Envision program;
- Deep Quarry Reservoir alternative (Alternative 6) seems expensive; Board members also requested that the cost of the improvements to the Cane Creek pump station and parallel raw water line be estimated separately from the Quarry pump station needs and provide more information on the capacity of the Cane Creek pipeline;
- Reclaimed water options (Alternatives 7, 8, and 9) will result in reduced flow in Morgan Creek and this should be noted; and
- Summary table of options should include some way to evaluate the impact of the option on drought or the risk of needing mandatory water conservation measures.

The Board noted that Demand Management Alternatives will impact revenue. The Board agreed to review the Demand Management Alternatives at a future spring meeting and staff will provide a consolidated summary table of the alternatives that evaluates their impacts from a social, environmental, and financial perspective. The Board also requested staff provide OWASA's mutual aid agreements with Town of Cary and City of Durham.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

*Andrea Orbich*

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Executive Assistant/Clerk to the Board