



Orange Water and Sewer Authority

OWASA is Carrboro-Chapel Hill's not-for-profit public service agency delivering high quality water, wastewater, and reclaimed water services.

Summary of the OWASA Board of Directors' Virtual Meeting on June 25, 2020

Please note: The summary below was prepared by staff and is not approved by the OWASA Board. OWASA's [webpage with Board meeting information](#) includes the Board's adopted minutes, agenda materials, staff's meeting summaries, recordings of Board meetings on second and fourth Thursdays of the month. The agenda and related information for the June 25th meeting that was held virtually are available [here](#).

The Board of Directors:

- Approved a resolution appointing Todd Taylor to serve as OWASA's next Executive Director effective July 6, 2020. Taylor will succeed Ed Kerwin, who announced in June 2019 his intentions to retire after 24 years of service as OWASA's Executive Director. Taylor has served as OWASA's General Manager of Operations since 2013. Since October 2019, OWASA worked with a consultant to conduct the national search and solicited feedback from local government partners to help craft the recruitment profile for the position.
- Received an update on OWASA's response to COVID-19 and a phased plan for returning to normal operations. OWASA continues to take proactive measures to ensure we provide the community with high-quality and reliable water, wastewater, and reclaimed water services during the COVID-19 pandemic. OWASA opened the lake recreation season on May 29, 2020, utilizing an electronic reservation system and COVID-19-specific guidelines (visit owasa.org for more details). Staff began collecting lake-use fees on June 12 via credit or debit card transactions only. OWASA will continue the suspension of service disconnection for non-payment through at least the end of July 2020 and will keep the Board informed on plans for customer payment plans and utility billing assistance. Chair DuBose transmitted a letter on June 12 to our State elected officials providing support for state funding of utility bill assistance.
- Approved an amendment to the Fiscal Year 2020 budget. The amendment reallocated \$1.2 million from the Capital Improvements Program to the operating budget to offset a shortfall in water and sewer revenue resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Board will hold its next meeting remotely on Thursday, July 9, 2020 via Microsoft Teams at 6 PM; a link will be provided on OWASA's website at www.owasa.org/board-of-directors-meetings.

OWASA's administrative office is closed to the public to help mitigate the spread of COVID-19. Customers in need of assistance can still contact OWASA from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Monday through Friday by calling (919) 968-4421, emailing customerinquiries@owasa.org, or using the chat function available in the bottom-right corner of www.owasa.org. Please allow for additional time for OWASA staff to respond during this time. We appreciate your patience.

