

RESOLUTION ADOPTING A DROUGHT RESPONSE OPERATING PROTOCOL

WHEREAS, OWASA is responsible for providing current and future customers with a reliable, sustainable, and cost-effective supply of high quality drinking water at all times and is committed to making the highest and best use of our local water resources; and

WHEREAS, OWASA's role with respect to growth is explicitly addressed in its *Mission Statement*: "We will manage our responsibilities in a manner consistent and compatible with the adopted growth management policies and land use plans of the Town of Carrboro, the Town of Chapel Hill, and Orange County"; and

WHEREAS, OWASA's water use efficiency, conservation, and reclaimed water programs, which are key components of its sustainable resource management strategy, have successfully and consistently reduced water consumption during the past ten years among all customer groups; and

WHEREAS, notwithstanding these significant community-wide achievements in water use reduction, OWASA's University Lake, Cane Creek, and Quarry Reservoir supplies will be increasingly susceptible to shortages during extended periods of severe drought, especially until the expanded Quarry Reservoir is available in the mid 2030s; and

WHEREAS, it is OWASA's duty to proactively plan and prepare for water supply shortages due to extended periods of severe drought; and


WHEREAS, OWASA's *Water Shortage Response Plan* (November 11, 2010), as approved by the North Carolina Division of Water Resources, includes Response Triggers for a range of supply and demand conditions and describes the actions that OWASA will take during periods of water shortages; and

WHEREAS, community members and elected officials from Carrboro and Chapel Hill have requested clarification of the procedures and criteria that OWASA will use for making water supply and demand management decisions during extended periods of severe drought, including provisions to assure prompt and complete public notice of potential Water Supply Shortage declarations, water purchases, and/or the use of OWASA's Jordan Lake water supply storage allocation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF ORANGE WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY THAT:

OWASA shall use the *Drought Response Operating Protocol* text and graph attached hereto as its procedures and criteria for making water supply and demand management decisions during periods of extended drought, including provisions for public notice of potential Water Supply Shortage declarations, water purchases, and/or use of OWASA's Jordan Lake water supply storage allocation.

Adopted this 10th day of January 2013.



Alan E. Rimer, P.E., Chair

ATTEST:



Amy Witsil, Secretary