RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING STAFF TO PROCEED WITH THE ADVANCED METERING INFRASTRUCTURE (AMI) PROJECT

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors' Strategic Plan, adopted in 2014, included as a key strategic initiative consideration of the costs and benefits of implementing an AMI Project to replace OWASA's present processes for collecting customers' water consumption data; and

WHEREAS, in light of the technical complexity of alternative meter reading technologies, OWASA hired a leading, nationally-known consultant to evaluate numerous aspects of AMI and other meter reading technologies; and

WHEREAS, the consultant's study showed that AMI would be a sound investment and would likely pay for itself in avoided planned investments in our current meter reading system and in reduced operating costs; that it would reduce the safety risks involved to employees engaged in traditional meter reading tasks; that would increase customers' access to real time consumption information; that it would provide a method for early leak detection, and thus reduce unintended water use; and that it would reduce emissions caused by vehicle use required to transport meter readers to or by OWASA's existing meters; and

WHEREAS, OWASA has engaged the community in accordance with an ongoing Community Engagement Plan to inform and empower customers with information about AMI through numerous methods (paper and electronic mailings, website information, notices on bills, a news release, contacts with major customers and local governments, guest columns in local media, Twitter, and including providing access to this information in Spanish); and by providing a number of opportunities for customers to comment and ask questions of OWASA from early February through tonight's Board meeting; and more than 60 citizens have participated in that engagement process; and

WHEREAS, the feedback from citizens, and community engagement has been very informative and helpful to the Board of Directors, and has indicated that the AMI proposal is well understood and supported by a majority of those providing feedback;

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

- 1. That the OWASA Board of Directors has determined that adoption and full implementation of the AMI Project is in the best interests of its customers, and has therefore determined to proceed with implementation of the AMI Project.
- 2. That the Board of Directors authorizes staff to proceed with the AMI project, including planning, implementation and procurement phases, as well as investigation of

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options that could allow customers to opt out of using AMI services to report water use; and staff shall inform customers and stakeholders of this decision.

Adopted and presented this the 24th day of March, 2016.

John A. Young, Chair

ATTEST:

Heather Payne, Secretary