

## **RAINY DAYS ARE HERE AGAIN...**

Greetings from the OHWA Board and although I am personally sick of the gray skies and the very wet April we have been having, as a member of the Water Association, I am delighted to see that we are catching up on some of our much-needed snow pack and reservoir volumes for the year. The forecast for spring and summer is still calling for drier than average conditions and warm temperatures overall. Because of this and the anticipation that we will continue to see the effects of climate change affecting weather patterns and water availability year after year, the Board is focusing efforts on finally completing the Master Plan for OHWA with projections and guidance focused on the next 20 years of operations.

We are anticipating installing a new Cartridge Filter system at the mothballed water treatment plant this summer that will allow us to bring the treatment plant on-line again and allow us to tap into additional water from the spring well in the summer months. We are also exploring possible ways to develop other water assets within the system.

We will be keeping the membership apprised of capital improvement decisions and changes as more information becomes available.

## **BACKFLOW TESTING UPDATE**

The contracted back flow testing program worked very well for the Association last year and will continue this year with Tom Hempel Testing performing all backflow testing in the summer months. Members can expect to see a one-time assessment for this service on the June/July billing statement for each device connected to OHWA. If anyone has a prior standing arrangement with another testing agency, please remember to cancel this service.

## **NEW BOARD MEMBER – MICHELE SPARKS**



Michele grew up in West Salem and currently lives on Orchard Heights Ct with her husband, Ryan, her two daughters and a variety of pets. She and her family have been on the Orchard Heights Water system for about 5 years, since 2013.

Michele is an elementary teacher with the Salem-Keizer School District. She enjoys reading and loves to

camp, work in the yard, and spend time with her family.

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