



# ORANGE WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY

*A public, non-profit agency providing water, sewer and reclaimed water services to the Carrboro-Chapel Hill community.*

## Summary of the OWASA Board of Directors' Meeting on August 25, 2016

**Please note:** *The summary below was prepared by OWASA staff and is not approved by the OWASA Board of Directors. Audio recordings of OWASA Board meetings and the Board's minutes, when adopted, are available for review. Video recordings are available for Board meetings at the Chapel Hill Town Hall on fourth Thursdays of most months.*

### The Board of Directors:

- Approved OWASA Board of Directors approved the use of OWASA land for the Mountains-to-Sea Trail (MST).

The OWASA Board took action Thursday after a deliberate, thoughtful and open engagement process over the past few months. The Board considered about 50 oral comments by residents in meetings on June 23<sup>rd</sup> and August 25<sup>th</sup> and about 60 written comments. About 80 residents of Orange County and the surrounding area expressed their views.

The OWASA Board prescribed conditions in the resolution adopted Thursday night to ensure the plans and implementation of the trail:

- Protect water quality in the Cane Creek Reservoir,
- Use no OWASA funds for the trail, and
- Mitigate risks associated with hikers using OWASA property.

Arrangements with Orange County and the specific trail alignment on OWASA land will require final approval by the OWASA Board in order to safeguard these objectives.

[Please click here](#) to read the resolution adopted by the OWASA Board.

The MST is a 1,000-mile trail from the Great Smoky Mountains to the Outer Banks. Orange County is working with other agencies and the public to develop specific plans for the MST in Orange County. OWASA owns land in the County's trail planning corridor.

- **Deferred action on other items** due to the number of people who attended the meeting to comment on the MST.

*The Board will hold its annual meeting on Thursday, September 22 at 7 PM in the Council Chamber at the Chapel Hill Town Hall, 405 Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard. For more information, please see the agenda materials at <http://www.owasa.org/board-of-directors-meetings>.*