

**SUMMARY OF MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MUSKINGUM WATERSHED CONSERVANCY DISTRICT
Held at Kent State University Tuscarawas
August 18, 2023, 9:00 a.m.**

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District was held at Kent State University Tuscarawas, 330 University Drive NE, New Philadelphia, Ohio, on Friday, August 18, 2023, at 9:00 a.m., pursuant to notice duly given all Directors, and the general public in accordance with law.

1. ROLL CALL

Directors present were: Ronald Dziedzicki, Gordon Maupin, James Gresh, Robert Moorehead, and Jennifer Ponchak. Mr. Gresh, President of the Board of Directors, presided.

MWCD staff in attendance were Adria Bergeron, Julie Bickis, Mary Burley, Craig Butler, Jamie Carlisle, James Crandall, Shane Hart, Brad Janssen, Ryan McCleaster, Jonathan Mizer, Dylan Sayre, Boris Slogar, Eric Stechschulte, Matt Thomas, Nate Wilson, and Ethan Zucal.

2. INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS AND PUBLIC COMMENT

Also, in attendance for all or portions of this meeting were: Shelia Hurley (*Muskingum Watershed Conservancy Foundation*); Mark Waltz (*MWCD Board of Appraisers*); Allie Hinton and Zac Morris (*Rea & Associates*); Jansen Wehrley (*Guilford Township, Chippewa Subdistrict*); Reed Byrum, Debra Baughman, Bob Cooke, and Greg Clapper (*Seasonal Lot Campers at Seneca Lake Marina Point*).

Shelia Hurley of the MWCF gave a monthly report on the Foundation's activities. She reported that the MWCF Annual Golf Outing had 22 teams participate. The top four teams were: 1.) Antero/Select Energy Services; 2.) Dick Bible and Friends; 3.) AYC led by Ron Dziedzicki; 4.) Environmental Design Group. The 2024 date for the Annual Golf Outing has been set for Thursday, August 8 at Oak Shadows. Ms. Hurley also reported that the Melges 15 Sailboat was picked up in early August and already in use at Atwood Lake. The Melges 15 was purchased by the Atwood Yacht Club for their young sailors' program. She also reported the Foundation is still working on expanding board membership. Lastly, Ms. Hurley noted that the next MWCF Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 20 at 10am at the MWCD Annex.

Allie Hinton and Zac Morris from Rea & Associates presented to the Board the results of the 2022 District Audit. Mr. Morris stated that the audit was clean, and the only reason the audit was extended was due to the first year of the District implementing procedures required by GASB Statement No. 87. GASB Statement No. 87 required an audit of all receivables from cottage site leases. He reported that there were no instances of noncompliance for this new standard either. *Packets regarding the audit distributed by Rea & Associates are on file.*

After the presentation of the 2022 Audit of District Records by Rea & Associates, Mr. Crandall asked for the Board to vote on Item 6.02b. Please note this is cross referenced to 6.2b's corresponding section.

6.02b AUDIT OF DISTRICT RECORDS

On motion by Mr. Maupin, seconded by Mr. Dziedzicki, proposed audit report, as recommended and set forth in the above memorandum, was approved.

Mr. Thomas reported on his work with Mrs. Martin regarding her concerns about removing vegetation from a bay at Atwood where her property is located. He stated that MWCD operational policy gives the private property owner (Mrs. Martin) the ability to request the services of a contractor with MWCD oversight of the project. Mr. Thomas explained that Mrs. Martin would be able to contract with a vegetation removal specialist, but the contractor would have to work with MWCD and follow MWCD, State, and Federal guidelines.

Mr. McCleaster gave an update on his work regarding the anonymous letter received by MWCD which stated its concerns about the cleanliness of Tappan Marina, specifically seagull feces. Mr. McCleaster spoke with Atwood Marina Owner, Michael Valot, about their techniques of repelling seagulls. The Valots had placed a florescent string around the roof of the marina and this deterred seagulls. MWCD staff was in the process of installing florescent string on the Tappan Marina. Not all installation could be completed because scaffolding to reach the higher peaks of the roof was still needed.

Mr. McCleaster also stated that the anonymous letter's concern about the no mow zones was also being addressed. Signs explaining the reasoning behind the no mow zones were installed. Additionally, MWCD staff will do maintenance cutting of the no mow zones in the fall to clean out invasive species.

After addressing the anonymous letter, Mr. McCleaster addressed the concerns of the Seneca Lake Marina Point Seasonal Campers regarding the hard awning phaseout. Mr. McCleaster gave a brief history behind the decision to phase out hard awnings. He explained that in 2013 the district-wide Master Plan was being developed, the Master Plan would require some campers to be temporarily removed from their sites for construction or shoreline stabilization work. In 2015, legal counsel, Mr. Pringle, recommended the phase out of the hard awnings because of liability issues to the District. During this time, the Army Corps. of Engineers made a strong recommendation to the District that campers should not have permanent fixtures which would prevent quick and easy removal for flood mitigation purposes. MWCD staff in 2017 had decided that a phaseout of hard awnings would be designated for the year 2027. The year 2027 was chosen because 10 years is the term of the factory warranty on these products. Those campers who already had hard awnings were grandfathered in until 2027.

Mr. McCleaster stated that all parks were different, and no uniform application of campground rules could be extended regarding these hard awnings. He therefore stated that the prior campground rules about hard awnings would go back into effect until a rubric for phaseout could be developed. It was determined that the campground rules regarding hard awnings need more clarification as well. It was recommended by the Board that MWCD staff and campers create a committee to iron out some of the verbiage in the rules and determine a way forward regarding hard awnings.

Mr. Bob Cooke from Seneca Lake Marina Pointe also expressed his concerns about the need for greater safety measures around the docking systems at the lakes and parks in general. He described a few situations where campers have fell into the water and there were no safety rings or ladders on docks to help the campers out of the water. He also described an incident where a camper had a heart attack and no AED's were readily available. The Board recommended that a safety/advisory committee comprised of MWCD staff, campers, and local law and medical services be established. This committee would establish safety guidelines and enforce them at the parks.

Mr. Reed Byrum of Seneca Lake Marina Point brought up another concern. He explained that an outside vendor, not affiliated with MWCD, was being hired by campers to perform RV repair work, but that this vendor was a sex offender and on the registry. He wanted to know if MWCD could prevent him from coming onto MWCD lands. Mr. Mizer, Legal Counsel for MWCD, explained that by law, MWCD cannot ban him from public land. Mr. Mizer and Board member Mr. Dziedzicki recommended that Mr. Byrum "pull on" his legislative

levers to get Ohio law changed regarding sex offenders.

Lastly, Mr. Jansen Wehrley of Guilford Township in the Chippewa Subdistrict addressed the Board. He presented a resolution from a Guilford Township Trustee meeting (*copy on file*). Mr. Wehrley implored the MWCD Board not to allow the land swap between MWCD and Medina Parks to occur. The land swap of 4 acres to MWCD from MCPD is located across from Mr. Wehrley's residence. He stated that he and other Guilford Township residents didn't want the land swap to occur because they want to preserve the residential nature of the Township. The Board took the information under advisement.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion by Mr. Maupin, seconded by Mr. Dziedzicki, the minutes of the July 21, 2023, meeting of the Board of Directors were approved.

4. FINANCIAL

Attached (*copies on file*) is the financial report for the seventh-month period ending July 31, 2023. The total operating income is \$14,193,203 compared to \$16,275,292 in 2022. The Operating net income without the Utica Shale royalties is \$3,247,571, an increase of \$104,436.

The operational revenue is \$25,751,840 compared to \$27,237,374 in 2022, or a 5% decrease.

- Natural Resource and Land Management is \$2,532,549 (58% of budget), a 7% decrease from the prior year. Cottage revenue is contained in this number and is \$1,455,340 or 9% decrease from 2022. As noted previously, this is a timing issue due to a change in accounting software. Docking revenue is \$559,567 and 102% of budget.
- Oil and Gas revenue is \$10,945,632, a 17% decrease over the prior year and 26% of the budget. We continue to monitor commodity prices in relation to budgeted figures. New wells at Tappan will come online in the third quarter.
- Park Revenue is \$8,482,846 YTD (74% of budget), a 2% increase from the prior year, but slightly behind last year from budget perspective (2%).
- Marina Revenue is \$2,612,218 (72% of budget), which is up 5% over the prior year. This is a 1% increase from the prior year from budget perspective.

Operational expenses are \$11,558,637, an increase of 5% over the prior year. Personnel expenses are \$6,140,248 of this amount, and are up 11% over the prior year, which is attributable to having fewer open positions than the prior year and the addition of several new positions. Utility expenses are up 12% over the prior year. All areas are within budgeted expectations.

Capital improvement and park master plan expenses are lower, however, pay applications for the larger construction projects will increase through the remainder of the third quarter and fourth quarter.

Maintenance Assessment Fund

Maintenance Assessment revenue is \$4,124,169 through July, which is 4% greater compared with the prior year. Expenditures are \$2,916,852, a 3% decrease from the prior year. Expenditures are within budgeted expectations.

The Conservancy District is in a good financial position through the first half of the year and will continue to monitor our operational areas in relation to the budget.

On motion by Mr. Dziedzicki, seconded by Ms. Ponchak, the financial report was accepted as presented.

5. PAYMENT OF BILLS

On motion by Mr. Maupin, seconded by Mr. Moorehead, the report of the payment of bills for the period ending July 31, 2023, was approved as presented. *(Copies on file)*

6. BUSINESS

6.01a LEASE TRANSACTIONS

On motion by Mr. Maupin, seconded by Mr. Dziedzicki, the assignments, cancellations, new leases, farm leases, mortgage consent and agreement cancellations, and mortgage consent and agreements were approved and execution by the proper officers of the MWCD authorized.

6.01b 2023 COTTAGE SITE REAPPRAISAL PROPOSALS

On motion by Ms. Ponchak, seconded by Mr. Maupin, proposed negotiation of contract, as recommended and set forth in the above memorandum, was approved. Mr. Dziedzicki—abstained. Mr. Moorehead—abstained.

6.01c EAP OHIO, LLC LEASE | LEESVILLE RESERVOIR; SAUERS NORTH UNIT

On motion by Mr. Dziedzicki, seconded by Mr. Moorehead, proposed lease, as recommended and set forth in the above memorandum, was approved. On motion by Mr. Moorehead, seconded by Mr. Dziedzicki, proposed resolution on lease, as recommended and set forth in the above memorandum, was approved.

6.02a INVOICES PRIOR TO PURCHASE ORDERS

On motion by Mr. Maupin, seconded by Mr. Dziedzicki, a “then and now” certificate for invoices received prior to processing of a purchase order, as recommended and set forth in the above memorandum, was authorized.

6.02b AUDIT OF DISTRICT RECORDS

On motion by Mr. Maupin, seconded by Mr. Dziedzicki, proposed audit report, as recommended and set forth in the above memorandum, was approved.

****** After the presentation of the 2022 Audit of District Records by Rea & Associates during the public participation period, Mr. Crandall asked for the Board to vote on Item 6.02b. Please note this is cross referenced to the public participation section above. ******

6.02c 2023 ABANDONED INES LANDS ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION (AMLER) GRANT APPLICATION

On motion by Mr. Gresh, seconded by Mr. Dziedzicki, proposed request for authorization, as recommended and set forth in the above memorandum, was approved.

6.02d US ARMY CORP OF ENGINEERS | ZOAR LEE LOCAL COST SHARE FUNDING REQUEST

On motion by Mr. Maupin, seconded by Ms. Ponchak, proposed payment request, as recommended and set forth in the above memorandum, was approved.

6.02e 2023 H2OHIO WETLAND GRANT APPLICATION

On motion by Mr. Maupin, seconded by Mr. Moorehead, proposed resolution of authorization, as recommended and set forth in the above memorandum, was approved.

6.03a HUMAN RESOURCES SUMMARY

On motion by Mr. Maupin, seconded by Mr. Dziedzicki, human resources activities, as recommended and set forth in the above memorandum, were approved.

6.04a ATWOOD LAKE PUBLIC LAUNCH RAMP PAVING IMPROVEMENTS | BID AND AWARD RESULTS

No Board action is required.

6.04b LEESILLE NORTH FORK MARINA LIFT STATION GENERATOR

No Board action is required.

6.04c SENECA LAKE PARKSIDE BEACH AMENITIES | BID AND AWARD RESULTS

No Board action is required.

6.04d SENECA ST. ANDREWS LANE AND SUNSET DRIVE ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS | BID AND AWARD RESULTS

No Board action is required.

6.04e LEESVILLE GLENS COTTAGE AREA DREDGING AND SHORELINE STABILIZATION PROJECT | FINAL PROJECT ACCOUNTING AND CHANGE ORDER RATIFICATION REQUEST

On motion by Mr. Maupin, seconded by Mr. Moorehead, proposed ratification of the execution of the change order request, as recommended and set forth in the above memorandum, was approved.

6.04f PLEASANT HILL LAKE FRONTIER FIBER EASEMENT

On motion by Mr. Maupin, seconded by Mr. Moorehead, proposed easement, as recommended and set forth in the above memorandum, was approved.

6.05 OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Butler recognized Boris Slogar for his outstanding service to MWCD for the last 16 years. Mr. Slogar will be retiring on September 15, 2023.

7. REPORTS

7.01 UTICA ROYALTY REVENUE REPORT

Utica royalty revenue is currently generated by **112** producing wells at Clendening, Seneca, Dover, Piedmont, Atwood, and Leesville Reservoirs. A breakdown of the monthly royalty revenue can be seen on the attached page.

Utica royalties for **July** totaled **\$0.87M** (\$871,388.20) which was an approximate **13%** decrease in month-over-month revenue from June (\$1.00M).

Royalty Report Exhibit *copy is on file*.

7.02 NATURAL RESOURCES AND LAND MANAGEMENT REPORT

- Timber sales have been progressing according to plan this year. A hardwood sale was completed in late May that contained more than 238,000 board feet that was in the Piedmont region. There were multiple objectives for the sale which included thinning, regeneration, and salvage. A hardwood regeneration project located near Dellroy was also recently completed. Slowing summer pine markets delayed another section to be harvested in the same area but is anticipated it will begin in September. This harvest will focus on thinning a white pine stand that was planted in the late 70's. Finally, a sale located along the northwestern section of Clendening Lake is expected to be completed by mid-August. This sale focused on regeneration of hardwoods as well as creating early successional habitat with a final removal of white pine across an 18-acre stand.
- Invasive species control has been on-going this summer. Forestry has been diligently working on projects to reduce the abundance of invasive species from spreading in woodlands that are to be harvested/managed in the future. The primary focus of control has been on Tree of Heaven, Autumn olive, bush honeysuckle, and barberry. A combination of basal bark and foliar treatments are being utilized.
- A contractor recently completed a vine control project on a 15-acre tract in the Beach city area. The primary focus was to control both grapevines and oriental bittersweet in trees. These vines can be especially damaging to these young trees by shading out canopies and girdling young trees. The area will be marked for crop tree release in 2024.
- Leases and Forestry are working with Davey Tree on a potential proposal for a pilot project regarding tree assessment on MWCD lands in and around cottage areas.
- Leases is working with Engineering on the next batch of drainage and walkway improvements in the Atwood Glens cottage area.

7.03 ENGINEERING REPORT

MASTER PLAN IMPLEMENTATION AND RECREATION IMPROVEMENT (ONGOING)

Projects in Design

- **Clendening Marina Building and Site Improvements**

- **Leesville South Fork Launch Ramp Parking Improvements**
- **Pleasant Hill Covert Road Culvert Replacement**
- **Seneca Chestnut Grove WWTP – Phosphorus Removal Improvements**
- **Tappan Cabin Hill Water Booster Pump Improvements**
- **Tappan Lake Park Area 1 Bridge Replacement**

Projects Under Construction

- **Atwood Activity Center Renovation:** The new walls are being framed. The middle section of the building is under roof. Electrician is pulling wires. Completion is scheduled for July 2024.
- **Atwood/Piedmont Basketball Courts:** Bids were opened on June 27th. Stanley Miller Construction was the low bidder and Notice to Proceed has been signed. Substantial completion is scheduled for August 2023.
- **Atwood Main Launch Ramp Pavement Improvements:** Project was awarded to Most Paving. Substantial completion is scheduled for October 2023.
- **Clendening WWTP and Sewer Improvements:** Electricians have installed communication conduits. Underground tanks have been installed. The contractor has been working on installing piping. The footer for the new operations building has been poured. Substantial completion is scheduled for April 2024.
- **Clendening Lake Marina Cabin Area Improvements:** Project will consist of a new building that will contain a water treatment plant in addition to an adjoining laundry facility for use by Clendening staff as well as the public. Substantial completion is scheduled for April 2024.
- **Leesville North Fork Wastewater Treatment Plant:** Project is out for bid. Bids open on August 24, 2023. This project will construct a new 8k gpd wastewater treatment facility at Leesville North Fork Marina.
- **Leesville North Fork Marina Lift Station Generator:** Bids were opened on July 25, 2023. CS Electric and Excavating was the apparent low bidder. A notice of award will be issued once funding approval is received from Ohio EPA.
- **Pleasant Hill Park Main Lift Station Generator:** The transfer switch was installed in late July, and startup is scheduled for mid-August.
- **Pleasant Hill Lake Park Amenity and Activity Area:** The project is substantially complete. The Contractor is working on punch list items.
- **Pleasant Hill Lake Park Area A Lift Station Generator:** Notice to Proceed was issued to Spring Electrical Construction Co. Substantial Completion is scheduled for September 2024.
- **Seneca Beach Amenity and Activity Areas:** Project was awarded to Wolf Creek Contracting. Project includes the addition of new sport courts, splash pad, lawn games and shade areas at the beach.
- **Seneca St. Andrews and Sunset Drive Pavement Improvements:** Project was awarded to Parnell and Associates.
- **Tappan Marina Building Backup Generator:** Wood Electric has installed new panels in the marina basement and is working on the generator pad and underground conduits. Generator delivery expected in January 2024.
- **Tappan Lake Beach Concession/Restroom Upgrade:** The project is substantially complete. Waiting for drinking fountain to be installed.
- **Tappan Lake Welcome Center:** Contractor is installing underground utilities. Completion is scheduled for June 2024.

DREDGING AND SHORELINE (ongoing)

Dredging Program

- **Pleasant Hill Boat Club Dredging:** Project is currently in design.

Shoreline Program

- **Atwood Lake – Arcadia Drive:** Project is currently in design.

- **Charles Mill Lake – South Peninsula:** Project is currently in design.

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS PROJECTS/PROGRAMS (ongoing)

Zoar Levee

- Ribbon cutting is scheduled for August 16 at 1:00 pm. Post Implementation Evaluation is underway as is the review of the levee's DSAC (Dam Safety Action Class) Rating.

Magnolia Levee

- USACE supplemental budget request is under review for the project. It is anticipated that the Project Partnership Agreement (PPA) will be sent to MWCD sometime in September with an updated final construction cost.

Senecaville Dam

- Gates within the spillway structure are being cleaned and rehabilitated over the next few months. The project will require periodic closure of the road over the dam to allow for crane operations associated with removing the gates. Road closure and detour information are posted on MWCD's website.

7.04 CONSERVATION REPORT

Improving Water Quality

The Muskingum Watershed maintains the highest water quality compared to other similar sized watersheds in the state, but sedimentation, nutrient loading, acid mine drainage, and occasional algal blooms do impact water quality to some degree.

To have a better understanding of this dynamic system and its tributaries, MWCD hosted Dr. Laura Johnson, Director of the National Center for Water Quality Research (NCWQR) located at Heidelberg University, Tiffin Ohio, for a 3-day tour of the watershed.

One of first steps for MWCD to actively improve water quality and to become a leader in water quality research for the region is "filling the gaps" in the data where they exist.

MWCD is the largest financial supporter of the USGS gage system in the Muskingum Watershed. This network provides continuous, accurate, water quality data that is free and available online. The site selection of these 41 gage sensors and weather stations stem from the recommendations identified within the *USGS Baseline Water Quality of an Area Undergoing Shale-Gas Development in the Muskingum River Watershed, Ohio 2015-16* study. Over the next few years, MWCD Conservation will be working closely with its agency partners, local colleges and universities to find better ways to collaborate, improve technology, increase monitoring, and share data.

Protecting Healthy Ecosystems

MWCD Conservation is working with a wide group of partners to better understand the populations of Little Brown Bats, *Myotis lucifugus*, currently using the Clendening Marina as a summer refuge.

Leading this investigation is Dr. Joe Johnson, University of Cincinnati. A small pilot study, supported by MWCD Conservation, has helped his lab monitor roost temperatures, track individual animal movements, and accurately estimate population size.

Bat populations have dropped dramatically across the Midwest due to White Nose Syndrome making suitable habitat capable of supporting large populations even more critical. Our Clendening bat colony is estimated to be the largest known population of Little Brown Bats in Ohio according to ODNR Division of Wildlife.

The land surrounding MWCD lakes in Carroll and Harrison Counties have been shown to provide excellent habitat to support these populations. The bats in turn remove thousands of insects every night around the lakes. The 20 bat boxes being used as part of this multi-year study were built by Buckeye Career Center students in July 2023.

A Note on Water Quality Monitoring

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This summer we have seen relatively good water quality compared to previous years. Bacteria levels have been low overall, with no *E. coli* beach advisories posted on ODH BeachGuard to date.

2022 CFU	Charles Mill	Pleasant Hill	Atwood	Tappan	Senecaville	2023 CFU	Charles Mill	Pleasant Hill	Atwood	Tappan	Senecaville
4/19/22	116.9	98.3	12.2								
4/27/22	5.2	9.8	3.1	59.5	14.8						
5/3/22						5/3/23				6.3	28.2
5/10/22						5/8/23		1.0			
5/17/22	5.2	7.4	18.3	416.0	328.2	5/15/23			1.0	21.1	1.0
5/25/22	448.4	18.3	6.0	42.8	7.5	5/22/23	85.7	37.7	3.0	8.6	98.5
5/31/22	79.4	17.5	3.1	13.4	25.9	5/30/23	38.6	22.9	8.5	139.6	14.8
6/7/22	115.3	121.1	101.8	12.1	30.1	6/5/23	46.5	38.3	1.0	29.9	9.7
6/14/22	2419.6	980.4	93.4	152.9	186.0	6/12/23	140.3	48.8	21.1	25.9	56.3
6/21/22	146.7	14.5	186.0	128.7	13.0	6/19/23			1.0		10.9
6/28/22	12.2	4.1	93.3	28.0	178.5	6/20/23		166.4		75.9	
7/5/22	1413.6	261.3	613.0	14.8	166.4	6/21/23	184.2				
7/11/22	35.5	33.2	157.6	117.8	13.5	6/26/23	129.6	25.7	6.2	13.0	8.6
7/18/22	211.0	148.3	6.0	107.6	46.4	7/2/23	114.5	150.0			
7/26/22	48.0	19.7	14.4	59.1	25.6	7/3/23			6.3	204.5	13.5
8/2/22	16.1	119.8	28.8	18.9	44.3	7/10/23	228.2	81.3	50.4	30.1	3.0
8/8/22	26.6	113.3	20.9	26.9	109.0	7/17/23	21.3	20.1	8.6	13.5	12.1
8/15/22	43.1	25.9	228.2	12.1	13.5	7/24/23	25.0	28.5	3.0	3.1	7.5
8/23/22	30.7	78.5	95.9	30.9	129.1	7/31/23	125.4	25.0	146.6	51.2	82.3
8/30/22	38.8	8.6	24.1	36.4	41.7	8/7/23	149.5	7.5	7.5	34.5	
9/6/22	218.7	40.8	12.2	56.3	69.7						
9/12/22	61.6	47.9	8.6	4.1	36.9						
9/19/22	17.0	25.0	60.8	122.9	42.2						
Seasonal Average	262.4	104.5	85.1	73.1	76.1	Seasonal Average	107.4	50.2	20.3	46.9	26.6



A small algal bloom was spotted on 8/2/23 by MWCD Charles Mill Park staff. As a response, samples were taken and independently analyzed. A coordinated effort between Charles Mill Park, MWCD Programs, and Conservation was able to change the location for a scheduled evening activity as a precaution.

Results revealed this was not a harmful algal bloom (HAB) but was determined to be a species of plankton not capable of producing toxins. Information on this algae bloom was reported to the public through OEPA's Weekly HAB Update Report. The bloom has since dissipated and is no longer visible.

Outreach Activities

- 7/10 Shrinkwrap Educational Event, Atwood Lake, Delroy Ohio
- 7/14 Pleasant Hill Activity Zone Ribbon Cutting, Perrysville Ohio
- 7/22 Staff Appreciation Lunch, Seneca Lake Marina, Senecaville Ohio
- 7/25 Encino Rig Tour, Carrollton Ohio
- 7/26-28 Heidelberg University, NCWQR watershed tour, New Philadelphia Ohio
- 7/28 DAC Quarterly Meeting, Dennison Ohio
- 7/26 Rural Action AJEDI training, Shade Ohio
- 7/31 Ohio Scenic Rivers Meeting, Columbus Ohio
- 8/9 Monarch Meadows Ribbon Cutting, Canton Ohio
- 8/10 Appalachian Ohio Watershed Council (AOWC), Columbus Ohio
- 8/11 Dawes Arboretum, Newark Ohio

7.05 RECREATION REPORT

Marinas Report

- Marina Staff preparing for reduction in staff with seasonals and gearing up for Labor Day weekend.
- Titan decking installed for our rental boats/courtesy docks (20 slips) at Clendening Marina.
- Collaborating with Conservation on "No Mow Zones" and waste management/recycling containers at our marinas. Tappan Marina will be the first marina we analysis and complete an assessment on to set a standard for other marinas.

Parks Report

- Park Staff preparing for reduction in staff with seasonals and gearing up for Labor Day weekend.
- Planning for a Maintenance Cleanup Day(s) at each park starting in mid-September to late-October per our risk management tours with Hylant Insurance. We will team up with Finance, Safety, and Conservation with other staff members assisting cleanup of maintenance buildings including recycling efforts, inventory, and general campground items.
- Our internal team, including the Oversight Committee, met several times over the past month to discuss the findings in the Sage Outdoor Advisory Group study. The development of a Glamping Resort is concluded to be feasible, as the rates of return are well within market parameters. The proposed resort has an opportunity to capitalize on a strong tourism market. Based on the marketing analysis, there is sufficient market support for the proposed resort.



- The Trails Department along with Engineering Dirt Crew built a new trailhead parking lot at Seneca Lake. We are actively developing plans to resubmit the Wills Creek project for AMLER in September and other trails for the Appalachian Community Grant due by December. Lastly, we are considering a gravel bike race through a portion of Atwood Lake in September. Will continue to discuss with third-party terms and expectations as we move forward.
- Our trails promotion, CAPTURE THE CANVAS, continues to show a steady flow of traffic. Below are some images of a marketing campaign we put together for the month of August. Promotion ends after Labor Day weekend.





7.05 MARKETING/COMMUNICATIONS REPORT

ONGOING/ UPCOMING PROJECTS

- Updates to website/ social media
- Marketing/ advertising for 2023
- Tourism Ohio co-op campaign for 2023
- General RV Camper Promotion
- Strategic Plan Communication
- Concert at Atwood Lake Park – August 19, 2023
- Bounty on the Bridge – October 12, 2023
- Website redesign

OUTREACH COORDINATOR PROJECTS

- Development Advisory Committee – 7 new members (22 total)
 - 4 full DAC quarterly meetings (next meeting is November 3 – Atwood Yacht Club)
 - 4 subcommittees (Marketing, Conservation, Trails, Revenue and Development)
 - 12 subcommittee meetings in total
 - 10 subcommittee meetings mid-year
- Appalachian Community Grant
 - Carroll, Coshocton, Harrison, Muskingum, Tuscarawas Counties
- DAC/Board of Directors Pad Tour Hosted by Encino Energy – July 25, 2023
 - 15 attendees
- Legislative Day – Friday, November 10 in Carrollton, Ohio
 - Encino Hosted Rig/Pad Tour
- State Rep. Melanie Miller Pleasant Hill Visit – August 25, 2023
- State Rep. Brett Hillyer Kayak Event – August 30, 2023
- LakeViews
 - Fall Edition Distribution – mid-September
- 90th Anniversary
 - 3 Open Houses (May 26, June 3, and June 24 – 404 people attended)
 - Continued media coverage
 - Additional Open House Scheduled for Friday, August 25, 2023
- Ohio Travel Association – RUBY Submissions

- 2023 Annual Report
 - 90th Anniversary Featured Exhibition
- Ohio River Basin Alliance
 - Legislative Day – Washington D.C.
 - Ohio River Basin Hill Day – Washington D.C.
 - Congressman Bill Johnson District Tour – Marietta
 - Ohio River Basin Alliance Summit 2023 – Cincinnati

PROGRAMMING AND EVENTS

- Staffing: Fully staffed at each park and training is mostly complete (program leader/ program assistant)
- Ohio Boater Education Courses: Tappan – April 8, PH – April 22, Seneca – May 6, PH (for Kids) – June 20-21
- Kayak programs have begun and are selling out, including Moonlight Kayaks, Meteor Shower Kayak Tours, and Poker Paddles. Poker Paddles will be at each lake: Piedmont – July 15, Seneca – July 16, Atwood and PH – July 30, Clendening – August 6, Tappan – August 27, CM – September 2
- Women Making Waves is a new kayak themed event at Clendening on August 4-6
- Day Camps for Kids are happening around the district. Themes include Outdoor Adventure Camp, Nature Exploration Camp, Outdoor Cooking Camp, Creepy Crawly Camp, and Messy Play Art Camp
- Car Shows and Cruise-ins are scheduled at Atwood on July 28, Tappan on July 29, Seneca on August 6.
- Events:
 - April 8: Easter Egg Hunts: successful at every location Approx 400 kids district-wide
 - April 1, 15, 22, 29: Guided hikes at Seneca, Atwood, CM
 - April 28, 29: Mohican Wildlife Weekend (CM, PH)
 - May 13, 20: Guided hikes at Atwood, Tappan
 - Coffee with the Chief - Series of sessions at each location throughout the season
 - Memorial Day: Live music, guided hikes, crafts
 - Bike safety and helmet giveaway – Atwood: May 13, Tappan: May 20, Pleasant Hill: May 20
 - 4th of July Weekend and Fireworks happened on July 1 at Atwood, CM, Seneca, and Tappan
 - July 15: Christmas in the Park at Pleasant Hill with Fireworks
 - T-shirt Tie Dye programs have been popular at the Lake Parks

PRESS RELEASES IN JULY

- July 12: MWCD Celebrates Park and Recreation Month
- July 26: MWCD Law Enforcement Scholarship

INTERVIEWS IN JULY

- July 17: WHBC (Stark Co) Memorial Day Weekend Updates, RV Rental
- May 22: WJER Capture the Canvas, 90th Anniversary, Pet Friendly, Race Brimstone at Atwood
- May 31: WHBC – General MWCD, 90th Anniversary, Events
- May 31: 90th Anniversary Media Day – WJER, WTUZ, WTV-9, WTRF-7
- June 26: WTUZ (Tusc Co) Craig Morgan Concert at Atwood Lake Park

E-BLASTS IN JULY

- July 5: Poker Paddles 2023
- July 11: Pleasant Hill Ribbon Cutting
- July 17: Summer Lakeviews
- July 24: Save the Date of Bounty on the Bridge

PUBLICATIONS IN JULY

- Ohio Magazine
- Compass Magazine
- Horseman's Corral: Pleasant Hill Equine Trails and camping
- Travel Host Magazine
- Herald Star
- Quest Digital
- Cleveland Plain Dealer

RADIO IN JULY

- WTUZ: Atwood and Tappan Camping and Boating, Country concert
- WJER: Outdoor Minute
- WQMX: General MWCD
- iHeart Radio: Ashland/ Mansfield, Wheeling – Events at CM/PH
- iHeart Radio: Wheeling – Clendening/ Piedmont, Seneca/ Tappan: boating, camping
- WHBC: Canton – 90th Anniversary, Camping, Boating, Reservations

TELEVISION IN JULY

- WHIZ (Zanesville)
- WOIO – Channel 19 (Cleveland)
- WEWS – Channel 5 (Cleveland)
- WKYC – Channel 3 (Cleveland)

CONNECTED TV/ OTT/ IN JULY (markets)

- Cleveland, Columbus, Pittsburgh, Wheeling, Youngtown, Akron, Mansfield

DIGITAL IN JULY (markets)

- Platform: Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, Paid Search, Digital Advertising
- Markets: Cleveland, Columbus, Pittsburgh, Wheeling, Youngtown, Akron, Mansfield

PARTNERSHIPS IN JULY

- Newsymom.com
- WQMX/ General RV – RV There Yet

Website and Social Media Analytics

July 2023	Website (Users)	Facebook (followers)	Instagram
MWCD	27,670 (+63.09%)	6,787	597
Atwood	22,528 (+19.01%)	15,052	1,397
Charles Mill	7,442 (-5.27%)	5,179	995
Clendening	1,736 (-28.26%)	2,006	130
Piedmont	2,467 (+2.96%)	5,646	218
Pleasant Hill	11,120 (-23.48%)	17,658	1,590
Seneca Marina	3,553 (-5.10%)	1,313	711
Seneca Park	9,969 (-1.78%)	13,344	711
Tappan	13,564 (-14.95%)	13,580	1,046

Percent change from LY

2023 COMMUNITY PRESENTATIONS

- January 17: Columbus, OH – The Ohio State University Conservation Capstone Course: MWCD Conservation Efforts (Thomas)
- February 7: Akron, OH – University of Akron Career Fair (Mahaffey/Lautenschleger)
- February 14: New Philadelphia, OH – New Philadelphia Rotary: MWCD Overview (Bergeron)
- February 22: Mansfield, OH – Mansfield/Richland County CVB: Upcoming projects/events (Andres)
- February 22: Mansfield, OH – College of Wooster: MWCD Overview/Black Vultures (Andres)
- February 23: Zoar, OH – Zoar Rotary: MWCD Overview/Atwood Update (Zucal)
- March 2: New Concord, OH – Muskingum University: MWCD Overview/PWM and Internship Opportunities (Thomas)
- March 15: Canton, OH – KSU – Stark: MWCD Overview and a day on the job for GIS (Sponaugle-Schrock)
- March 29: Millersburg, OH – Millersburg Rotary: MWCD Overview and Ranger (Brockmeier)
- April 17: New Philadelphia, OH – New Philadelphia Lions Club: MWCD Overview (Zucal)
- April 21: Dellroy, OH – Atwood Marina West: Conservation Presentation re: Aquatic Invasives, Zebra Mussel Control, and Recreational Boat BMPs (Suggs)
- April 27: Dennison, OH – Twin City Chamber of Commerce Annual Awards Banquet: MWCD 90th Anniversary (Zucal)
- May 9: Cambridge, OH – Cambridge Kiwanis: MWCD Maintenance Assessment/Seneca/Wills Creek Overview and Updates (Bergeron)
- May 10: Columbus, OH – Ohio Tourism Day: booth on the Statehouse lawn (Bergron/ Miller)
- May 22: New Cumberland, OH – Ladies Homemakers Group: MWCD Overview and Atwood Lake Update (Zucal)
- June 3: Dennison, OH – MWCD 90th Anniversary Featured Exhibit Public Open House (Zucal)
- June 15: Cadiz, OH – Harrison County Chamber of Commerce Coffee Connection: Tappan Lake Overview and Updates (Zucal)
- June 24: Dennison, OH – Dennison Railroad Depot Museum: MWCD 90th Anniversary Featured Exhibition Public Open House (Zucal)
- July 20: Cadiz, OH – Harrison County Chamber of Commerce Coffee Connection: Tappan Lake Overview and Updates (Zucal)

7.07 IMMEDIATE OR PENDING LITIGATION

None.

8. SUBDISTRICTS

8.01 PAYMENT OF BILLS – CHIPPEWA SUBDISTRICT

On motion by Mr. Maupin, seconded by Mr. Dziedzicki, the report of the payment of bills for the period ending July 31, 2023, for the Chippewa Subdistrict, was approved as presented.

Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District			
Chippewa Subdistrict			
Payment of Bills			
July 1, 2023 through July 31, 2023			
CHECK NUMBER	PAYMENT DATE	PAY TO NAME	PAYMENT AMOUNT
0000002984	7/13/2023	COMDOC	41.47
0000002985	7/13/2023	Crocker Excavating	11150
0000002986	7/13/2023	FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS	510
0000002987	7/13/2023	Graham C Lowe	780
0000002988	7/26/2023	COMDOC	47.63
0000002989	7/26/2023	ENTERPRISE FLEET MANAGEMEN	642.37
0000002990	7/26/2023	HOME DEPOT	20.95
0000002991	7/26/2023	MAST-LEPLEY SILO	64.28
			\$13,256.70

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion by Ms. Ponchak, seconded by Mr. Dziedzicki, the Board of Directors entered into executive session at 12:20 pm to discuss matters related to ORC §121.22 (G) (1) matters of employment, and (4) matters of preparing for, conducting, or reviewing negotiations for the bargaining sessions. On roll call: Mr. Dziedzicki-yes; Mr. Gresh-yes; Mr. Maupin-yes; Mr. Moorehead-yes; and Ms. Ponchak-yes. The executive session ended at 1:05 pm.

10. ADJOURN

There being no further business, on motion by Ms. Ponchak, seconded by Mr. Dziedzicki, the meeting of the Board of Directors was adjourned. The next regularly scheduled meeting is Friday, September 22, 2023, at 9:00 a.m., at Kent State University Tuscarawas.

9.12.2023, jlc

Approved 9.22.2023