



President, Ted Bertke called the April meeting of The Marion Community Development Organization to order by reciting The Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting was held on April 13, 2021 at 8:00 a.m. at the Marion Township Building. Meeting minutes that include updates not covered at the meeting were approved as discussed.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's report was given by Jean Bender. Elaine Wolters moved to approve the Treasurer's report. Nick Moeller seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

### CURRENT TOTAL ASSETS    **\$237,531**

#### *Asset Allocations*

Checking	\$205,873
CD's	\$16,562
Savings	\$15,096
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b><u>\$237,531</u></b>

#### *Funding Allocations*

Recreation Fund	\$15,385
General Fund – MCDO	\$39,289
Marion Soccer	\$16,057
Girls' Softball	\$9,213
ML FFA	\$35,594
ML FFA Pork Producers	\$17,833
Boys Baseball	\$18,520
Ag Ed Boosters	\$32,682
Ag Ed Scholarship	\$1,500
ML Bowling	\$1,746
Marion Industrial Park Association	\$11,654
Woods Chapel Maintenance Fund	\$2,937
Multi-Use Path	\$32,526
Fundamental League	\$2,595
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b><u>\$237,531</u></b>

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### RECREATION COMMITTEE

*Committee Chairperson – Nick Boeckman*

The weekly winners of the 301 Club are as follows:

March 22:	Nathan & Katy Kirwen	April 5:	Jason & Michelle Winner
March 29:	Dale & Pam Schulze	April 12:	Ron & Marlene Tuent

### MARION TOWNSHIP PARK

*Committee Chairperson – Lee Heitkamp*

Please follow Marion Township Park on **Facebook (Marion Township Park)** and on **Twitter (@MarionTwpPark)**. You can also contact us through email: [mariontwppk@gmail.com](mailto:mariontwppk@gmail.com). The Monthly Park Raffle Winners for March and April:

March	April
\$50            Kurt Dippold	Paul Gagel
\$30            Bart Homan	Joe & Shirley Frey
\$25            Jay Heitkamp	Randy & Lynn Wolters
\$25            John McFarland	Lucy Hutchinson

## **MEMBERSHIP AND PROMOTION COMMITTEE**

*Committee Chairperson – Bob Dippold*

The Annual MCDO Membership Drive is continuing. Membership for the year is \$15.00 for a family and \$60.00 for a business. You can pay by cash, check or Venmo. The Venmo username is @MarionCommunity-DevelopmentOrg and a screenshot is shown below. Enter 5010 to confirm the last 4 digits of the phone number. Please include “MCDO Membership” in the description. Please contact Bob Dippold (419) 305-0128 or Shannon Everman (419) 925-5707 or email to [admin@marioncommunities.com](mailto:admin@marioncommunities.com) if you have any questions about the status of your membership.



Marion Community Development Organization  
(MarionCommunity-DevelopmentOrg)  
Member since: June 2020  
Connect to Facebook

## **HEALTH, SAFETY, & EDUCATION**

*Committee Chairperson – Elaine Wolters*

The Knights of St John, Maria Stein will host a blood drive on Monday, May 3rd from 12:00PM – 6:00PM. Please call 1-800-733-2767 for an appointment or schedule online at [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org).

### ***Allergy Season***

Seasonal allergies are those allergies that come with the change of seasons. Approximately two-thirds of spring allergy sufferers actually have year-round symptoms. These include a runny nose, coughing, sneezing, and/or itchy, watery eyes.

The most common seasonal allergy triggers include grass, pollen, and mold. Though these are triggers for symptoms, the actual cause of allergies lies within the immune system. It mistakes innocent things in the environment for a serious threat and attacks them, resulting in symptoms.

General suggestions to combat allergy symptoms include: staying inside when the pollen count is high, wash your hair before going to bed to rid your hair of trapped pollen, decrease stress (stress can increase your allergy response), keep the temperature in your house cooler to ward off dust mites, and wash bed sheets frequently and dry in the dryer to remove allergens.

Combating the symptoms often includes an antihistamine, but knowing your triggers is important to ensure you are taking the right precautionary and reactive measures. To do so, a visit to your doctor is a good place to start. They may refer you to see an allergist who will further investigate the cause and treatment regimen for your symptoms.

## **HOUSING**

*Committee Chairperson – Bob Unrast*

The St. Francis housing development south of Chickasaw has six building lots available. The lots are between .381 and .711 acres starting at \$28,500 and include village water and sewage. Contact Tess Mescher for more information at 419-305-0106.

The Lochtefeld Addition in Chapel Hill still has lots available for sale. For more information, call 419-678-4384.

The Woodview Estates subdivision still has lots available for sale. For more information, please contact Jay Ruhenkamp at 937-295-4244.

Heitkamp Developers has two additional lots in Marion Acres for sale. Please contact Dan Heitkamp at 419-925-4307 for more information.

RCS Construction has lots along Washington Avenue North available for sale and new home construction. For information on all lots available for sale in Marion Acres, please contact Randy Bruns at 419-305-1869.

## **AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT**

*Committee Chairperson – Mark Hardesty*

The Marion Local FFA Chapter held their annual FFA Banquet Tuesday, March 23rd, recognizing members for participation in FFA events and awards. The keynote speaker was Greg Homan, sharing insights on Marion Local graduates and the importance of the FFA. FFA members Gabe Bruns, Peyton Otte and Robby Buschur were recognized for earning their State

Degrees. Past members Ashley Bergman and Kelsey Broering were also recognized for becoming finalists for the American FFA Degree. Mrs. Bev Seger was recognized as an honorary member of the FFA chapter for her help yearly with many FFA activities. Members Owen Siefring, Libby Mescher, Robby Buschur, Kendra Wendel, and Hannah Meier were also recognized by Mr. Elsass as Star Chapter members. Lastly, the new 2021-2022 Marion Local FFA Officer team was installed.

The Ag Business class is completing 3 service-learning projects. One group held a coin drive to donate to Heifer International. The group raised over \$3000! Another group is installing birdhouses at our pollinator plot at Grand Lake St. Mary's and the last group is conducting a can drive for Rustic Hope in Russia, OH. These students develop a plan and goals to carry out these service projects.

We competed in the Dairy Cattle Evaluation and General Livestock contests in March. Most notably, the Dairy Evaluation team finished 12th among 90 teams from across the state. The dairy team was led by Zach Albers, Ben Knapke, Joe Kunk and Amber Wendel.

While the FFA State Convention is virtual this year, students will be participating at an event held at Marion Local High School. Along with watching sessions of the convention, students will also hear from various career/industry speakers and participate in a communications workshop.

Ag Solutions Update: The manure nutrient recovery project will start at Ivo Post's farm this week. It will take a couple of weeks to setup the equipment and work through any issues. Manure should be flowing by the end of April, and will continue for 5-6 months. A new wetland conservation area project is still on schedule for 2021 in the Grand Lake St. Mary's watershed. There is also a smaller project scheduled for Spring/Summer 2021 in the watershed as well. Research on the effectiveness of a saturated buffer practice installed in the Grand Lake watershed is ongoing and will continue for the next 2 years. Finally, they are continuing to work on a process that will hopefully be available for Mercer County that could be a real game-changer. Ag Solutions is planning to have an actual meeting again in the Summer 2021. More information to follow!

The next Ag Ed Boosters meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 19, 2021 at 8:00 p.m. in the Ag Ed Room. All are invited to attend!

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

### **MULTI-USE PATH**

The Marion Community Greenway Project was able to complete a portion of the land acquisition. Construction is planned for 2021, and bid notification will be going out on March 18, 2021. The contract for seeding has been approved and hopefully will be complete by fall. Total cost of the project is estimated at \$1,175,000. The Ohio Public Works Commission's Clean Ohio Fund Green Space Conservation Program was awarded \$869,500 in grant funds in 2019. The committee had requested funding thru the 2021-2022 Ohio Capital Budget, which was recently approved and the Greenway Project will be awarded \$85,000. After the Ohio Capital Budget award is applied, the remaining balance needed for the project is \$39,886. The Committee is continuing the Founders Brick Club Pledges are still being accepted and details can be found at [www.marioncommunities.com](http://www.marioncommunities.com). This entire project would not be possible without the generosity and support of many organizations, businesses and people, all of which help make this community incredible!

### **OTHER**

The Marion Community Land Development, LLC owns 80 acres to the North of the existing Industrial Park for a Phase IV expansion of the Industrial Park. Several buyers have shown interest in and are committed to various lots in the Park. There is only one lot available for purchase. For more information, please contact Gary Moeller, Scott Huelsman, or Dan Heitkamp.

## **VILLAGE, TOWNSHIP AND SCHOOL REPORTS:**

**Chickasaw** – No new information to report.

**Chickasaw Park Board Report** – For information on renting the park shelters, call Kelli Thobe at 419-925-5810.

**Osgood** – No new report.

**Osgood Park Board Report** – For information on renting the park shelters, call Alan Wendel at 419-582-4502.

**Marion Township** – No new information to report.

**Marion Township Park Board** – For information or concerns about the park, call Ryan Stucke 419-852-5088.

**Marion Local Schools** – The School will be installing a new polyurethane track over the summer. The new elementary addition is progressing well.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:48 a.m., with a motion from Nick Moeller and seconded by Jean Bender. The next scheduled MCDO meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 11, 2021 at 8:00 a.m. in the Marion Township Building.

Submitted by: Ted Bertke, President

**Board of Directors**

Ted Bertke, President	419-852-1072
Shannon Everman, Secretary	419-925-5707
Jean Bender, Treasurer	419-925-4254
Shannon Everman, Coordinator	419-925-5707

**Committee Chairpersons**

Agricultural Development:	Mark Hardesty, DVM 419-925-4212
Business Retention & Dev.:	Jill Nagel 419-925-9101
Health, Safety & Education:	Elaine Wolters 419-925-4620
Housing:	Bob Unrast 419-925-4151
Infrastructure:	Nick Moeller 619-884-9958
Membership:	Bob Dippold 419-305-0128
Recreation:	Nick Boeckman 937-638-8579



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