

MCDO MISSION STATEMENT

The Marion Community Development Organization (MCDO) is an organization under the laws of the State of Ohio, not-for-profit. The mission of the organization shall be to act as a coordinating body to assist local organizations meet the changing needs of the Marion Community through planned development while maintaining its agricultural profile. The activities will be directed toward, but not limited to, development of infrastructure, housing, family care, education, small business, recreation, and agriculture.

President, Ted Bertke called the March meeting of The Marion Community Development Organization to order by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting was held on Tuesday, March 17th, 2026, at 7:30 a.m. at the Marion Township Building.

TREASURER REPORT:

Jean Bender presented the financial report. Lisa Buschur made a motion to accept the report and Dr. Hardesty seconded I, the motion passed. The report for the month ending February 28, 2026, is as follows:

Total Cash Balance: $367,192

Cash Summaries	
Checking	$312,304
CD's	$22,502
Savings	$32,386
Total Cash	**$367,192**

Organization Fund Summaries	
Recreation Fund	$35,534
General Fund – MCDO	$35,511
Marion Soccer	$11,485
Girls' Softball	$9,482
ML FFA	$40,754
ML FFA Pork Producers	$24,510
Boys Baseball	$51,608
Ag Ed Boosters	$30,974
Ag Ed Scholarship	$1,500
ML Bowling	$959
Marion Industrial Park Association	$28,613
Woods Chapel Maintenance Fund	$794
Multi-Use Path	$65,508
Fundamental League	$3,174
Girls Youth Basketball	$2,921
Boys Youth Basketball	$4,382
Carthagena Park	$19,486
Total Organization Funds	**$367,192**

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. **RECREATION COMMITTEE:** *Committee Chairperson – Doug Bender*

The weekly winners of the 301 Club are as follows:

February 16th: Jimmy & Carla Kramer

February 23rd: Don & Tess Mescher

March 2nd: Brian & Keisha Wolters

March 9th: Kevin & Katrina Schlarman

March 16th: Nate & Jodi Wendel

2. MEMBERSHIP AND PROMOTION COMMITTEE: *Committee Chairperson –Allison Moeller*

MCDO is the umbrella group that helps the facilitation of our community through fund management of various organizations. These include Marion Local FFA, Marion Township Greenway Bike Path, Chapel Hill Preschool, and many youth sports activities in conjunction with the 301 Club. This generates growth for infrastructure and business development, agricultural education for our students, agricultural solutions for farmers, and housing development.

Every membership is invested locally, for the benefit of all current and future residents and generations! The 2026 membership drive is underway, please see a link to the membership form on this email or on page 4. We would appreciate your support in 2026!

3. HOUSING: *Committee Chairperson – Bob Unrast*

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

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

Dan Jutte has a development underway off Jackson Street. Please contact him at 419-733-0053 for more information on the available lots.

Osgood has residential lots and a commercial lot for sale through Arling Real Estate. This development is on the west end of town off State Route 705 and Mendenhall Road to the north of OPPAC and Osgood Community Veterans Center. Please contact Brandon Arling at 567-644-4851 for details.

4. HEALTH, EDUCATION, & SAFETY: *Committee Chairperson – Lisa Buschur*

Mercer Health is offering Community Health 101, a community education series to empower you to live a healthier life. This is free and open to the public. The next session is Cause and Effect: Obesity and Its Impact on Your Sleep, Heart, & Liver. Maria Muhlenkamp CNP, and Ashley Schoen PA from the Center for Healthy Weight and Wellness will present on April 20th at 6:00 pm at the Mercer County Community Hospital. They will discuss the impact of obesity and excess weight on body systems, including effects on sleep, heart, and liver function. Also, options to lose weight and prevent co-morbidities, including GPL-1 medications. For additional information, contact Mercer Health at myhealth@mercer-health.com or call 419-678-5247.

5. AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT: *Committee Chairperson – Mark Hardesty*

March is a busy time for the FFA Chapter. Students are competing in various contests, including general livestock judging, agronomy, floriculture and dairy evaluation. Tuesday, March 17th was our 15th annual FFA Banquet held at the Knights Hall. We recognized many student members of the chapter for their contributions throughout the year, installed the new officer team, recognized Brenda Schwieterman as our honorary member, and had a delicious meal from Everyone Cooks. We also held our annual Pie Auction which helps support our members with leadership opportunities such as FFA Camp. We sincerely appreciate the families and businesses that donate their money to the auction. The FFA chapter has multiple community service opportunities for its members coming up, as well as other activities.







OTHER BUSINESS:

- There are lots available in the Maria Stein Industrial Park. If you are interested, please reach out to Gary Moeller at 419-305-4511
- If anyone is interested in joining the MCDO Board in any capacity, please contact Deb Otte at admin@marioncommunities.com.

VILLAGES, TOWNSHIP, PARKS, & SCHOOL REPORTS:

1. **Carthagena Park Report –** To reserve the park please call Nancy Koesters at 419-925-5192.
2. **Chickasaw** – No new information to report.
3. **Chickasaw Park Board Report –** For information on renting the park shelters (both the VFW and Ball Diamond), contact AJ Homan at 419-733-1171.
4. **Osgood –** No new information to report.
5. **Osgood Park Board Report –** For information on renting the park shelters, call Nick Beasley at 937-621-7718.
6. **Marion Township** – No new information to report.
7. **Marion Township Park Board Report –** Please follow Marion Township Park on **Facebook (Marion Township Park)** and on **Twitter (@MarionTwpPark)**. You can also contact us through email: **mariontwppk@gmail.com**.
   The Monthly Park Raffle Winners for February are as follows:

$50 – John & Bonnie McFarland	$30 – Don & Kay Homan
$25 – Ben Moeller	$25 – Nick & Amy Pierron

8. **Marion Local Schools –**Congratulations to our Marion Local Flyers Boys' Basketball Team for winning 2026 State Runners' Up! What a season!
   There have been several announcements of retirements in various positions. Please check the Marion Local Schools website for job opportunities.

Bob Unrast made a motion to adjourn and Allison Moeller 2nd it. The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 am. The next MCDO meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 21st, 2026, at 7:30 a.m. in the Marion Township Building.

Submitted by: Ted Bertke, President

Board of Directors

Ted Bertke, President	419-852-1072
Deb Otte, Secretary	419-305-4014
Jean Bender, Treasurer	419-925-4254
Deb Otte, Coordinator	419-305-4014

Committee Chairpersons

Agricultural Development:	Mark Hardesty, DVM 419-925-4212
Business Retention & Dev.:	Jill Nagel 419-925-9101
Health, Safety & Education:	Lisa Buschur 419-305-0858
Housing:	Bob Unrast 419-305-4485
Infrastructure:	Nick Moeller 619-884-9958
Membership:	Allison Moeller 567-644-5207
Recreation:	Luke Bertke 419-953-6114

2026 MCDO Membership Form

2 Membership Form Options:

- Complete the online form at http://marioncommunities.com.
- Complete and mail the membership form below.

MCDO Membership Business $60 / Family $15			
Name:			
Address:			
City, State, Zip:			
Email:			
Phone:		Date:	

3 Payment Options:

- Please make checks payable to: Marion Community Development Organization
  - *Please send remittance to: MCDO - PO Box 65 - Maria Stein, OH 45860*
- Pay by Venmo - Username: @MarionCommunity-DevelopmentOrg
  - *(Please include "MCDO Membership" in Description)*
- Pay by Paypal: paypal.me/marioncommdeveloporg

Marion Community Develop...
@MarionCommunity-DevelopmentOrg

venmo

Marion Community Development Organization
Box 65
Maria Stein, OH 45860-0065