

**Conservancy District**  
Board of Directors Meeting  
February 10, 2026

The Board of Directors of the Maumee Watershed Conservancy District met in regular session at the Maumee Watershed Conservancy District office in Defiance, Ohio, on February 10, 2026. In attendance were David Kuhn, Mark Keber, and John Motter, Directors; Wendy Yunker, General Manager; Emilee Rankin, Secretary/Treasurer; Kurt Warnimont, Maintenance Manager; Jim Weaner, Legal Counsel; Steve Wilson, Project Manager; Adam Hoff, Engineer; William Bateson, Timothy Bechtol, and Jeffrey Hunker, Hancock County Commissioners.

President David Kuhn called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of the December meeting were approved as mailed. Motion was made by John to accept the minutes. Seconded by Mark, Yeas 3.

**Approval of Financial Reports:** The financial report for December and January along with the CD tracking were approved as mailed. Motion was made by John to accept the financials. Seconded by David, Yeas 3.

**Hancock County Commissioners:** Timothy spoke about the \$5 million that was originally allocated for Norfolk Southern Railroad bridge project in 2016. He stated that in these 10 years the county has spent half a million on snow removal and mowing as part of city ordinance. Last month Hancock County Commissioners provided \$50,000 for 2026 Administrative costs. They have asked that these funds be used to cover strictly Norfolk Southern Bridge costs, including administrative costs for the bridge. They would like any remaining funds to go towards Phase 2 benching construction.

After discussion, a motion was made by John to approve the following resolution:

**Resolution No. 2407**  
**Use Remaining Hancock County Commission Funds**  
**For Phase 2 Benching Construction**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Directors of the Maumee Watershed Conservancy District move to enter into a verbal agreement with Hancock County Commissioners. That any monies left over after the Norfolk Southern Bridge Project is complete would go directly towards Phase 2 benching construction.

Mark Seconded the motion, Yeas 3.

**Blanchard River Watershed Partnership:** David moved to renew the membership in the amount of \$50 for the Blanchard River Watershed Partnership. John Seconded. Yeas 3.

**US Signal Fiberoptic Routing:** These planned improvements will provide improved fiberoptic communications services to the surrounding areas. They will consist of open cut and horizontally directionally drilled HDPE ducts along county roads and passing under local streams. Adam Hoff has reviewed the plans and stated the proposed work should not result in direct impacts to the capacity of the existing streams or local floodways and floodplains. He is

recommending approval by the Board, with the suggestion that Turnkey confirm the clean out depth or elevation of the various streams that will be crossed to ensure the 60” clearance is sufficient for the future.

After discussion, a motion was made by John to approve the following resolution:

**Resolution No. 2408  
To Approve US Signal Fiberoptic Routing**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Directors of the Maumee Watershed Conservancy District move to approve US Signal Fiberoptic Routing Section 4-7 as submitted for plan review.

Mark Seconded the motion, Yeas 2. John Abstained.

**Allen County Bixel Ditch Petition:** The proposed improvements for Allen County Bixel Ditch will consist of cleaning and re-shaping of approximately 0.78 stream miles. Adam Hoff has reviewed the plans and stated that the capacity of the existing ditch segment will be enhanced, should improve overland flooding conditions upstream and should aid in enhancing the water quality tributary to Riley Creek and the western Lake Erie basin. He recommends approval by the Board.

After discussion, a motion was made by David to approve the following resolution:

**Resolution No. 2409  
To Approve Allen County Bixel  
Ditch Petition #1349**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Directors of the Maumee Watershed Conservancy District move to approve Allen County Bixel Ditch Petition #1349 improvements as submitted for plan view.

Mark Seconded the motion, Yeas 3.

**Williams County Sloan Petition #743 (Option 2):** Proposed improvements for Williams County Sloan Petition # 743 (Option 2) of approximately 0.23 miles and will consist of replacing a broken clay tile. Adam Hoff has reviewed the plans and stated that the capacity of the existing drainage tile segments will be enhanced, should improve localized overland flooding conditions upstream and should have negligible impact to the Tiffin River flood plain downstream and recommends the approval by the Board.

After discussion, a motion was made by David to approve the following resolution:

**Resolution No. 2410  
To Approve Williams County  
Sloan Petition #743 (Option 2)**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Directors of the Maumee Watershed Conservancy District move to approve Williams County Sloan Petition #743 (Option 2) improvements as submitted for plan view.

John Seconded the motion, Yeas 3.

**Annual Meeting Updates:** Wendy stated the Annual Court date is set for May 1 at 10 am. The Directors will present the financials, year in review, and maintenance to the court as done in previous years. Judge Schmenk has served on the Conservancy Court since 1991, and this will be his last year. The board would like to recognize him at the Court for his 35 years of service.

**Upper Blanchard River Update:** Steve Wilson reported on the following items:

Upper Blanchard – Funding

- Rumor has it the FEMA grant has been approved but official announcement has been delayed due to the partial government shutdown.

Upper Blanchard – NS Bridge

- Work Agreement with NS has been signed by MWCD and is working its way through the channels at NS.
- The Columbia Gas pipeline relocation will begin on March 16. Flaggers have been secured for March 16-20.
- MWCD is investigating the possibility of entering a separate contract to perform tree clearing on the NS right of way to have it completed before March 31, the beginning of bat mating season.

Upper Blanchard – Hydraulic Improvements Phase 1

- The Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) has been formally submitted to FEMA. Stantec has responded to the initial list of review comments.

Upper Blanchard – Additional Hydraulic Improvements

- The Brownfield removal of lead contaminated soil has concluded.
- Waiting for approval of the FEMA grant to begin the bidding process.

Upper Blanchard – Eagle Creek

- Manders and Schroeder have signed their flowage easement purchase agreements.
- Continuing to work with BRWS to secure remaining flowage easements.
- A date for the next Planning Advisory Committee has not been scheduled.
- Waiting for approval of the FEMA grant to begin the bidding process.

US 68/15

- ODOT has requested some additional field work. Bockrath will perform the tasks as weather permits.

**Little Auglaize River Update:** Wendy stated stream inspections and log removals are being done, weather permitting.

**Grassy Creek and Schaller Ditch Update:** Wendy stated that stream inspections are taking place.

**St. Joseph River Update:** Wendy stated that the contractor has been working and has removed 33 logjams since the beginning of the year.

**Legal Counsel Update:** Jim stated that he worked on the NS and Kedar Army items. He also reviewed the title report, attachments and easements for the Helen Dr property and does not see where MWCD has any claims.

### **General Manager Report:**

- Completed and submitted 2025 financial audit reports to the State Auditor's office
- Submitted the 2025 Annual Report to the print company for mock up
- Sent the MWCD Judges a save the date email for the annual hearing
- Mailed out tax exempt application for MWCD parcel purchased in 2025 in Hancock County
- Completed the close out for 2025 which includes:
  - financial reports for Directors
  - filed all required annual IRS tax forms
  - Completed and sent out W2's for all employees
  - Completed and sent out 1099 forms to our contractors
  - Boxed up all important financial documents from 2025 in preparation for the Auditor
- Researched new tax withholdings for 2026 and mileage rate for 2026 – .725/mi
- Sent out the Van Wert miscellaneous assessments and have been documenting the payments received – received all but 5 so far
- Sent out contractor paperwork for 2026 season
- Took the Edge in for oil change
- Prepared documents to begin our electronic record scanning journey
- Emilee looked into upgrading our phone/internet package – transferred to Verizon
- Signed agreement with Norfolk Southern after officials review and approval
- Continuing to work with Scott Gordon for court case against Army's
- Working with Padmnbah legal counsel for an easement on Helen Dr. stone road
- Request health insurance company to shop around for better rates if more than 10% increase
- All invoices are paid up to date with supporting vouchers filed
- Check our bank accounts daily to verify their balance matches our balance

### **Maintenance Report:**

- Went to St. Joseph River to view Logjam removal from waterway by Contractor
- Inspected Grassy Creek and Schaller Ditch in Perrysburg
- Repaired flat tire on 2017 District Truck
- Serviced 2012 and 2015 District Trucks
- Removed Logjams from (1)Hoaglin Creek, (1)Maddox Creek, and (1)Town Creek
- Removed Snow from District Office (2X) Parking lot, and District Storage Facility
- Inspecting District areas mainly from Bridges due to excessive amounts of Snow on District Right-of-ways
- Helped with Maintenance pages for Annual Report
- Equipment Maintenance on District Chainsaws

**Meeting dates 2026:** March 10, April 7, May 1 (Court), June 9, August 11, September 8, October 13, November 10, December 8

**Adjournment:** John moved for adjournment at 9:59 a.m. Mark seconded. Yeas 3.

---

David Kuhn, President

---

Emilee Rankin, Sec/Treas.

**Maumee Watershed Conservancy District  
Audit Committee Meeting  
February 10, 2026**

The Maumee Watershed Conservancy District Audit Committee met in regular session at the District Office at 1464 Pinehurst Dr., Defiance, Ohio, on February 10, 2026. In attendance David Kuhn, Mark Keber, and John Motter Directors; Wendy J. Yunker, General Manager; Emilee Rankin, Secretary/Treasurer; Jim Weaner, Legal Counsel.

David called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Emilee explained the financial procedures, while the committee reviewed the vouchers, bank reconciliation and financial statements to be in accordance with, and to satisfy the State Auditors' checks and balances of an accounting system.

Mark moved to adjourn the Audit Committee meeting at 10:49 a.m.

---

David Kuhn, President

---

Emilee Rankin, Sec/Treas.