

Conservancy District
Board of Directors Meeting
September 13, 2022

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 September 13, 2022. In attendance were George Ropp, Mark Moats and David Kuhn, Directors; Wendy Yunker, General Manager, Sec/Treas; Emilee Rankin, Administrative Clerk; Todd Krugh and Connor Mosier, MWCD Maintenance workers; Jim Weaner, Legal Counsel; Steve Wilson, Project Manager; John Herchl, Resource Environmental Solutions.

President George Ropp called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the August meeting were approved as mailed. Motion was made by George and seconded by Mark. Yeas 3.

Approval of Financial Reports: The financial reports for August along with the CD tracking were approved as mailed. Motion was made by George and seconded by Mark. Yeas 3.

Re-Appropriation of Accounts: Wendy informed the Directors that a few accounts need re-appropriated for 2022.

Adoption of Resolution: Motion was made by Mark to approve the following resolution:

Resolution No. 2302
To Amend 2022 Receipts/Appropriations

<u>Acct#</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Add'l Approp</u>	<u>Total Approp</u>
10-22-01	Miscellaneous	500.00	5.00	505.00
30-01-04	Labor & Equipment MFSJ	55,000.00	10,000.00	65,000.00

Dave seconded the motion. Yeas 3.

John Herchl: John Herchl is the client solutions manager for Resource Environmental Solutions (RES) in Columbus. He discussed with the Directors a project that ODNR is interested in funding through the H2Ohio grant program. The land is located between Napoleon and Defiance and there is a purchase agreement in place that expires in October. John expressed that he was in search of a sponsor that could receive the grant funds and take ownership of the land. Director Ropp expressed concern with the timing of the project and explained the process that MWCD would have to go through to create funding for the ongoing maintenance of a project of this nature. John expressed his understanding and stated he would like to stay in contact and looks forward to meeting again to discuss any future projects that may come to fruition.

Lower Blanchard and H2Ohio Ottawa Update: Steve Wilson reported that Flood maps have been approved by FEMA and will take effect on November 25, 2022. Meadville Land Services will return in the Fall for treatment of invasive species and supplemental planting, no date has been set at this time.

Upper Blanchard River Update and Proposed Additional Hydraulics Improvement for the City of Findlay: Steve Wilson reported that Stantec has requested additional fees to cover the cost of delays with the NS plan review and coordination with the Federal Rail Administration for the RAISE grant.

Adoption of Resolution: After discussion, a motion was made by Mark to approve the following resolution:

**Resolution No. 2303
To Approve Stantec
Supplemental Fee Request**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Directors of the Maumee Watershed Conservancy District move to approve \$142,700.00 in additional expense for the Norfolk Southern Rail Bridge contingent upon Hancock County Commissioners approval for payment.

Motion was seconded by Dave, Yeas 3.

Steve continued to report on the following Upper Blanchard activities:

NS Bridge -

- Ross White, Stantec's lead for the bridge design, had a face-to-face meeting with the NS lead plan reviewer for the 1st time in 2 & ½ years. Discussion was very positive and will hopefully speed the review process and the potential for cost share from NS.
- Monthly conference calls are being held with Federal Rail Administration (FRA) to satisfy NEPA documentation. Process should be complete by the end of October.
- 90% plans have been submitted to NS.

Hydraulic Improvements Phase 1 -

- The pre-trial meeting for the eminent domain was held on August 5. Trial date (if needed) was set for June 25, 2023. Still trying to reach a mediated settlement agreement.

Additional Hydraulic Improvements -

- Tentative settlements have been reached on 3 of the 4 remaining parcels.
- Stantec submitted 100% plans on April 8.
- Bidding of this project will be dependent on the successful conclusion of property acquisition and remediation of the brownfield site.
- Hancock County has signed an agreement with a consultant to prepare remediation plans and bid documents for the brownfield site.

Eagle Creek Dry Storage Basin Planning Update and Property Acquisition: Steve Wilson reported a change order for asbestos remediation that has been received from All Excavating & Demolition in the amount of \$5,600.

Adoption of Resolution: After discussion, a motion was made by Dave to approve the following resolution:

**Resolution No. 2304
To Approve Change Order 1
With All Excavating & Demolition**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Directors of the Maumee Watershed Conservancy District move to approve Change Order 1 in the amount of \$5,600.00 to All Excavating & Demolition.

Motion was seconded by Mark, Yeas 3.

Steve Wilson continued to report:

- Demolition of the Alt, Beall, and Gibson properties will begin on September 12.
- Appraisal review for the farmland parcel (about 30 acres) has not been concluded.
- Appraisals have been completed for the remaining residential properties. Three (3) farmland parcels have agreed verbally; appraisals on these will take place after harvest this Fall.
- 404 and 401 permit applications have been formally submitted.
- Grass seed planted on July 1 is flourishing.

Little Auglaize River Update: Wendy reported that 4 contractors are currently working in the Little Auglaize Watershed. Herbicide application is complete for the season and about 172 miles have been spot treated. About 586 tons of rock have been placed this month.

Grassy Creek and Schaller Ditch Update: Wendy reported that her and Emilee inspected Grassy Creek and Schaller ditch last week. Wendy stated she responded to an email from a land owner along Grassy Creek in the Three Meadows area who was concerned about taking away butterfly's essential food source when the mowing is performed.

St. Joseph River logjam Update: The contractor has floated the Northern half of St Joe, from the Michigan state line to Montpelier and cut up a total of 50 log jams. Wendy stated that there are some type D logjams that the contractor will need to remove with an excavator at the beginning of next year.

Legal Counsel Update: Jim Weaner reported that the title cleanup is complete on the previous Alt property in Eagle township. Jim will continue to work on getting the billboard sign removed off of MWCD property in Eagle Township.

General Manager/Secretary Treasurer Report:

- Uploaded 2nd half payments for Van Wert and Putnam County. Emilee hand entered Defiance and Mercer County 2nd half payments
- Sent out land market value requests to the 7 counties. Received 5 of the counties files back, scrubbed them and uploaded them into our system for the certified levy amount
- Sent out the Certificate of Levy and the supporting excel files to those 5 counties
- Published the board meeting notice in the Crescent News
- Inspected Grassy Creek and Schaller Ditch with Emilee
- Inspected creeks in Van Wert and Paulding counties with Todd
- Prepared letter for Judge Schmenk requesting he seek nominations for the Director position
- Picked up the Ford Edge and traded in the Ford Explorer
- Weeks of training our new Administrative Clerk
- Spoke with St Joe Contractor about additional work needing done in Northern half
- Spoke with contractor regarding email from property owner along Grassy Creek concerning our mowing and taking away butterfly's essential food source
- Spoke with a landowner wanting to put in a boat/fishing dock on Little Auglaize, Washington Twp.
- All invoices are paid up to date with supporting vouchers filed – signed off on the vouchers
- Checked our bank accounts daily to verify the balance
- Addressed the 6 CDARS maturing this month
- Typed minutes from August meeting, distributed them to Jim Weaner and Directors for their review
- Uploaded the July meeting minutes onto our website
- Paid end of month taxes
- Met with Maintenance workers weekly
- Provided the Directors with Board meeting information packet: previous meeting minutes, agenda, financial reports, CDARS list
- Mowed the office lawn

Maintenance Report by Todd Krugh:

- Continue mowing town yards
- Spot sprayed overhanging trees in both concrete channels
- Concluded the 2022 spraying
- Off loaded spray rig from 2015 truck
- Rinsed spray rig and put away in storage building
- Contacted Right of Way Management and Defiance Soil and Water to speak with them about their spray rig. We will set up a time to meet with both businesses in the near future to observe and discuss spray rigs
- Upgraded front main drive shaft on John Deere tractor side mower. The previous set up had failed us and left us stranded in the field on numerous occasions. Also upgraded hydraulic pump after observing the splines were twisted
- Cleaned out 2019 Ford truck. Several repairs will be made to this pickup while at storage facility as the time permits
- Transported both mow tractors to Paulding County
- Fixed rear brakes on 2008 Ford truck
- Met with Kent Byrne contractor to show him repairs needed along L.A. on Shishler and Shaffer properties
- Took Wendy along L.A. to show her the major repair sites we will be working on
- Broke blade on Massey side mower. Replaced with new blade
- Transported welder and generator to Paulding County to weld several major stress cracks on old Massey side mower
- Continue to brush cut in Paulding County. This will be our main objective through this fall
- Met with City of Van Wert to spot check their work on Maddox Creek cut-throughs. Doing great work as we asked

The Directors asked Wendy for an update on MWCD Maintenance Manager, Kurt Warnimont. Kurt is currently still in the hospital and continuing to be slowly weaned off the ventilator. There is no time frame on when Kurt will be able to return. George stated that Todd and Connor have been doubling their work load in Kurt's absence to make sure maintenance continues to be performed in all areas of the Watershed.

Adoption of Resolution: After discussion, a motion was made by Dave to approve the following resolution:

Resolution No. 2305
Salary Adjustments
For Maintenance Employees

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Directors of the Maumee Watershed Conservancy District move to increase Connor Mosier salary to \$20/hr starting the next pay period. The Directors also move to promote Gregory Todd Krugh to Interim Maintenance Manager and a salary increase to \$27/hr starting next pay period.

Motion was seconded by Mark, Yeas 3.

Meeting dates 2022: October 11, November 8, December 13

Adjournment: Mark moved for adjournment at 10:25 a.m. George seconded. Yeas 3.

George Ropp, President

Wendy J. Yunker, Sec/Treas.

**Maumee Watershed Conservancy District
Audit Committee Meeting
September 13, 2022**

The Maumee Watershed Conservancy District Audit Committee met in regular session at the District Office at 1464 Pinehurst Dr., Defiance, Ohio, on September 13, 2022. In attendance were George Ropp, Mark Moats and David Kuhn, Directors; Wendy J. Yunker, General Manager, Secretary/Treasurer; Emilee Rankin, Administrative Clerk; and Jim Weaner, Legal Counsel.

George called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

Wendy 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.

George moved to adjourn the Audit Committee meeting at 10:45 p.m.

George Ropp, President

Wendy J. Yunker, Sec/Treas.