



President, Jim Keller called the December meeting of The Marion Community Development Organization to order by reciting The Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting was held on December 9, 2014, at 7:00 p.m. at the Marion Township Building. Meeting Minutes which include updates not covered at the meeting were approved as read.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

The treasurer's report was given by Jean Bender. Bob Unrast moved to approve the Treasurer's report. Mark Hardesty seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

### CURRENT TOTAL ASSETS     **\$111,031.50**

*Asset Allocations*

Checking	\$85,605.46
CD's	\$10,435.79
Pass Book	<u>\$14,990.25</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$111,031.50</b>

*Funding Allocations*

Recreation Fund	\$15,611.33
General Fund - MCDO	\$25,026.36
Marion Soccer	\$5,064.55
Girls' Softball	\$4,229.64
ML FFA	\$12,633.21
Boys Baseball	\$7,504.44
AS Promo	\$3,817.87
AG Solutions	\$2,436.28
Ag Ed Boosters	\$23,935.59
Ag Ed Scholarship	\$5,000.00
ML Bowling	\$300.30
Marion Industrial Park Association	\$5,471.93
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$111,031.50</b>

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### RECREATION COMMITTEE / MARION TOWNSHIP PARK

*Committee Chairperson – Kirk Stucke/Ron Hartings*

The weekly winners of the 301 Club are as follows:

- November 16: Matt & Angie Schoenlein
- November 23: Jason & Michelle Winner
- November 30: Pam Seitz
- December 7: Craig & Nancy Heckman

The Park Fund Ticket Winners are as follows:

- November: Mike & Renee Bertke - \$50
- Brownie & Shirley Thobe - \$30
- Keith Pohlman - \$25
- Ruth Vehorn - \$25
- December: Dave Pleiman - \$50
- Andy & Missy Spieth - \$30
- Art & Joyce Moeller - \$25
- Karla Eckstein - \$25

## **MEMBERSHIP AND PROMOTION COMMITTEE**

*Committee Chairperson – Bob Dippold*

**The 2015 Membership Drive is underway!** The new 2015 Forms can be found at <http://marioncommunities.com/mcdo-membership.htm>. Membership for the year is \$15.00 for a family and \$60.00 for a business. 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. We greatly appreciate your support!

## **HEALTH, SAFETY & EDUCATION**

*Committee Chairperson – Elaine Wolters*

The American Red Cross will be having a blood drive at the Burkettsville Shelter house on January 3, 2015 from 8:00AM – 12:00PM and at Briarwood Village on January 9, 2015 from 12:00 PM – 5:00 PM. Please call 1-800-733-2767 to make an appointment.

Here are a few suggestions to decrease stress during the holidays and enjoy the Christmas season.

- Hike your mood with sunlight. Sunlight decreases feeling of depression.
- Walk away from worries. Walking decreases anxiety and improves sleep.
- Prioritize your workouts and don't try to squeeze in more holiday than you can handle.
- Stop obsessing over doing it all.
- Laugh out loud.
- Listen to music you love.
- Be grateful. Being grateful for your blessings cancels out negative thoughts and worries.

Merry Christmas!

## **AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT**

*Committee Chairperson – Mark Hardesty*

Marion Local FFA Advisor, Kara Uhlenhake recently applied for and was awarded an exclusive \$2,500 DuPont Pioneer Grant. DuPont Pioneer was offering grants to high schools to assist with the implementation of Curriculum for Agricultural Science Education (CASE) in the 2014-2015 school year. CASE empowers teachers for student success by providing inquiry based educational experiences, which enhance the rigor and relevance of agriculture, food, and natural resources subject matter. Concepts are taught using activity, project, and problem based instructional strategies and build skills in the areas of science, mathematics, and English. Additionally, this effort ensures quality teaching by providing extensive professional development for teachers that leads to certification. Applicants needed to include a brief description of the agriscience program at the school and how this grant will impact agriscience education, along with a letter of support from the district superintendent. Congratulations Kara on this elite award!

Mark also reported on a combined effort with representatives from the Ag Education Program, Athletic Boosters, Band Boosters, and the Marion Local Board of Education to establish a Facilities Committee for the Marion Local Schools. These entities have shared concerns with the many facility limitations for the District and each of these groups is affected. The Facilities Committee is meeting on a regular basis to determine the most effective approach to investing in and enhancing the quality education and extracurriculars at Marion Local. Many of the area schools already have improved facilities to meet their needs and the Marion Community needs to be aware that there are limitations as the Facilities Committee plots the course for investing in and enhancing the future of our children.

All are welcome at the monthly Ag Boosters meeting which is held at 8pm on the third Monday of the month in the Marion Local Ag Ed classroom. The next meeting will be held on December 15, 2014.

Ag Solutions did not conduct a meeting in December. The next meeting is scheduled for January 5, 2015 and Greenleaf Advisors will be discussing the positive effects of lime/gypsum use. Greenleaf is seeking participants in

trials they want to conduct in our watershed. Please strongly consider helping them with their efforts. To that end we would like to get as many practicing farmers to the meeting as possible.

### OLD BUSINESS:

The MCDO Annual Awards Banquet is scheduled for Sunday, April 12, 2015 at the Maria Stein American Legion. Our keynote speaker this year will be Milt Miller. Milt is the manager of the Grand Lake St. Marys Restoration Commission (LRC). Milt has worked diligently with the MCDO and Ag Solutions to implement solutions that are acceptable to all involved. He always brings a unique perspective and a wry sense of humor to any issue. We will award two local businesses (to be announced shortly) with our annual Distinguished Developer Award and serve a delicious lunch. Please mark your calendars for the event!

### NEW BUSINESS:

The 2015 Membership Drive is underway! Please consider joining the MCDO in 2015.

Bob Unrast, housing committee chairperson continues to explore possibilities for additional housing in the Marion community.

The MCDO congratulates the Marion Local Flyers, the Minster Wildcats and the Coldwater Cavaliers on their outstanding success in the recently completed Ohio high school football playoffs. All were crowned state champs in their respective divisions. All members of the Midwest Athletic Conference (MAC) they are certainly doing their part to make Flyer country and MAC country, for that matter, a great place to live.

### NKTELCO Update

NKTELCO was very pleased with the outcome of the "Launch Party" on Sunday, December 7. Thank you to all of those that attended and signed up!

### INDUSTRIAL PARK EXPANSION

Saintignon Excavating is redistributing and leveling the top soil in the Industrial Park. This last phase will be completed as soon as the weather allows. There are plans for the first landowner to start building in Spring 2015.

### VILLAGE, TOWNSHIP AND SCHOOL REPORTS

**Chickasaw** – No update this month.

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

**Osgood** – No update this month.

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

**Marion Township** – No update this month.

**Marion Township Park Board** – For information or concerns about the park, call Ron Hartings at 925-4804.

**Marion Local School** – The permanent improvement levy on the November 4, 2014 ballot passed.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m., with a motion from Bob Unrast, seconded by Jean Bender. The next scheduled MCDO meeting is Tuesday, January 13, 2015, at 7:00p.m in the Marion Township Building.

Submitted by: Jim Keller, President

#### ***Board of Directors***

Jim Keller, President	419-925-4764
Shannon Everman, Secretary	419-925-5707
Jean Bender, Treasurer	419-925-4254
Elaine Pierron	419-925-5704
<b>Coordinator:</b> Jim Keller	419-925-4764

#### ***Committee Chairpersons***

Agricultural Development:	Mark Hardesty, DVM 419-925-4212
Business Retention & Dev.:	Tony Kaiser
Health, Safety & Education:	Elaine Wolters 419-925-4620
Housing:	Bob Unrast 419-925-4151
Infrastructure:	Open
Land Use:	John Bruns 419-925-4712
Membership:	Bob Dippold 419-305-0128
Recreation:	Kirk Stucke: 419-733-6261



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

### 2015 MCDO Membership Form

Business Membership Dues: \$60.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Family Membership Dues: \$15.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate if you would like a receipt for tax  
deduction \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ e:mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

***Please circle any committees listed if you are interested:***

MEMBERSHIP/PROMOTION    HEALTH/EDUCATION    BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

AG-DEVELOPMENT    LAND PLANNING    HOUSING  
PARK AND RECREATION    INFRASTRUCTURE