



President, Jim Keller called the August meeting of The Marion Community Development Organization to order by reciting The Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting was held on August 11, 2015, 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 Jim Keller. Bob Unrast moved to approve the Treasurer's report. Don Rosenbeck seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

CURRENT TOTAL ASSETS **\$124,023.75**

Asset Allocations

Checking	\$87,290.59
CD's	\$10,455.43
Pass Book	<u>\$26,277.73</u>
Total Assets	\$124,023.75

Funding Allocations

Recreation Fund	\$28,660.71
General Fund - MCDO	\$30,347.13
Marion Soccer	\$9,174.55
Girls' Softball	\$1,301.18
ML FFA	\$9,925.85
Boys Baseball	\$3,896.07
AS Promo	\$3,817.87
AG Solutions	\$2,336.28
Ag Ed Boosters	\$23,268.59
Ag Ed Scholarship	\$5,000.00
ML Bowling	\$300.30
Marion Industrial Park Association	<u>\$5,995.22</u>
Total Assets	\$124,023.75

COMMITTEE REPORTS

RECREATION COMMITTEE

Committee Chairperson – Kirk Stucke

The weekly winners of the 301 Club are as follows:

July 19:	Kevin & Brenda Nagel	July 26:	Gene & Jeanie Bruns
August 2:	Dale & Diane Wolters	August 9:	Jeremy & Laura Link

MARION TOWNSHIP PARK

Committee Chairperson – Ron Hartings

The monthly winners of the Marion Township Park Raffle are as follows:

\$50 – Elsie Balster	\$30 – Jason & Abby Bruns
\$25 – Roger & Carolyn Thobe	\$25 – Kent & Karen Shaner

The Marion Township Park Board oversees the maintenance and development of the Marion Township Park. Thank you for your continued support!

MEMBERSHIP AND PROMOTION COMMITTEE

Committee Chairperson – Bob Dippold

Thank you to all those who have joined the MCDO for 2015! We greatly appreciate your support! Please contact Bob Dippold (419) 305-0128 or Shannon Everman (419) 925-5707 or email to admin@marioncommunities.com if you have any questions about the status of your membership.

HEALTH, SAFETY, & EDUCATION

Committee Chairperson – Elaine Wolters

The American Red Cross will be having a blood drive at the Mercer County Fairgrounds 1001 West Market Street on August 14, from 2:00PM – 6:00PM and at the Burkettsville Shelter House on August 15, from 8AM – 12:00PM. Please call 1-800-733-2767 to schedule an appointment.

Mercer Health Home Care will be offering Free Dermascan screening and blood pressure readings at the Chickasaw Library on September 3, from 1:00PM – 3:00PM.

Mercer Health Home Care will also be having a Free Prostate Screening for men ages 40-75. This includes a blood draw PSA level, testosterone level and total cholesterol. The dates for the screenings will be Tuesday September 22, from 8:00AM – 11:00AM and Thursday September 24, from 4:30PM – 6:30PM. Please call to schedule an appointment at 419-586-1220.

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Committee Chairperson – Mark Hardesty

The Mercer County Dairy Association would like the FFA and the boosters to manage the operation of the Dairy Stand at the Mercer County Fair. The groups are considering doing this. An issue is the staffing of stands. The ML groups in conjunction with the Pork Producers and the St. Henry FFA manage and staff the Pork Stand. Staffing it is already a challenge. Acquiring pork for the stand has been easier with Tunte Farms donating 1 hog and Maria Stein Grain 3. Matt Elsass, our new teacher, has hit the ground running. He is visiting students and organizing events.

The Quasar demonstration held on July 28 at Lou Brown's Farm in New Bremen, Ohio was a success. The unit is self contained on a low-boy and appeared well designed. Performance results are most impressive. The unit separates Phosphorous (P) from manure into a P laden solids portion and a practically P free liquid portion. The out flowing liquid was quite clear. The solids will hopefully be dry enough and nutrient filled enough to make it cost effective to haul them out of the watershed. The unit looks promising. Time will reveal how durable it is (manure is nasty to equipment) and how cost effective it is. Ag Solutions thanks Quasar for bringing the unit to our area and Lou Brown for hosting the demo. Their efforts are most appreciated.

Jim Keller will be attending the Manure Science Review on Wednesday 08/12. The indoor portion of this training will held at Mississinawa Valley High School and the outdoor portion at a nearby farm.

The next Ag Solutions meeting will be held at a future date to be announced.

HOUSING

Committee Chairperson – Bob Unrast

On July 16th, Bob Unrast and Jim Keller met with representatives of Rockford Construction Services (RCS). RCS owns Marion Acres in Maria Stein. The outcome of that meeting and a subsequent meeting on August 7th meeting is captured in the following news release which has been approved by all involved.

NEWS RELEASE:

At the urging of a community member, the MCDO met with Rockford Construction Services (RCS), the owner of Marion Acres in Maria Stein. RCS's residential construction business model is based on them buying land, developing it and then selling lots with the stipulation that all homes be built by RCS. This model keeps overall consumer costs lower and has worked well for RCS in their many developments. It has not caught on however in the Marion Community so RCS has selected one local builder; Heitkamp Development to build homes on a limited number of lots over the next few years. The MCDO and the Marion Community sincerely appreciates their excellent cooperation and change of approach.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mindy Kremer, Senior Director of Marketing and Development for Mercer Health is scheduled as the Guest Speaker for a business luncheon on Wednesday, September 16, 2015. Ms. Kremer will discuss the history of Mercer Health, the impact it has on this particular area, and the Affordable Care Act (Obama Care). The availability of excellent health care is a topic important to all, so please come and hear what Mindy has to share. Please advise Shannon Everman at (419) 925-5707 or admin@marioncommunities.com by Friday, September 4th, 2015. Lunch is being provided by Everyone Cooks (Angie Homan) and the cost of the lunch will be \$5.00. The gathering will begin at noon on the 16th. Hope to see you all at the Marion Township Building on the 16th to help us reenergize these luncheons!

We have decided to continue the publication of a quarterly newsletter. The MCDO is still sorting out the best approach for distribution and appearance. Black and white publications appear pretty bland in 2015 but color is expensive and may not provide a good return on our investment. If anyone has some preferences please provide them to a MCDO committee chairperson.

NEW BUSINESS:

The MCDO is following up on a request that the MCDO explore the possibility of a sidewalk along the east side of SR 716, south of Marion Local so that children from that area could walk safely to school.

The meeting attendees enjoyed viewing aerial photos taken of Maria Stein in July, 1963 and on August 8, 2015 – 52 years later! Both sets of photos were taken by Don Gagel, a former Maria Stein resident. One of the Schwartz brothers flew him the first time and Coldwater resident Todd Bills flew the plane this past Saturday morning. The MCDO approved the expenditure of \$100.00 to pay for fuel and the cost of a hard copy album Don is putting together. The album will be kept in the Township Building. We will be posting photos on the MCDO Facebook and the marioncommunities.com website in the coming weeks.

The Maria Stein Shrine of the Holy Relics is hosting its 3rd Kreuzweg Cycling Pilgrimage of the Land of the Cross Tipped Churches. The event will be held on Saturday, September 19th, 2015. For more information and registration, please visit <http://www.eventbrite.com/e/kreuzweg-2015-tickets-15508590612>.

VILLAGE, TOWNSHIP AND SCHOOL REPORTS

Chickasaw – The Chickasaw water plant planning committee met with representatives of Access Engineering, Roberta Acosta with RCAP and Mary Carr with the United States Department of Agriculture on Wednesday, July 15, 2015. Significant progress was made by these various entities toward consolidating grant and loan approaches for the project.

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 report..

Marion Township Park Board – For information or concerns about the park, call Keith Pohlmann at 419-925-6805.

Marion Local Schools – No new report.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m., with a motion from Bob Unrast and seconded by Bob Dippold. The next scheduled MCDO meeting is Tuesday, September 8, 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
Coordinator: Jim Keller 419-925-4764

Committee Chairpersons

Agricultural Development: Mark Hardesty, DVM 419-925-4212
Business Retention & Dev.: Tony Kaiser, 419-582-2681
Health, Safety & Education: Elaine Wolters 419-925-4620
Housing: Bob Unrast 419-925-4151
Infrastructure: Open
Land Use: Open
Membership: Bob Dippold 419-305-0128
Recreation: Kirk Stucke: 419-733-6261



Marion Community Development Organization
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