



President, Jim Keller called the February meeting of The Marion Community Development Organization to order by reciting The Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting was held on February 10, 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 Shannon Everman. Bob Dippold moved to approve the Treasurer's report. Bob Unrast seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

### CURRENT TOTAL ASSETS     **\$124,256.06**

*Asset Allocations*

|                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| Checking            | \$89,202.45         |
| CD's                | \$10,438.36         |
| Savings             | \$24,615.25         |
| <b>Total Assets</b> | <b>\$124,256.06</b> |

*Funding Allocations*

|                                    |                     |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Recreation Fund                    | \$26,336.33         |
| General Fund - MCDO                | \$30,581.35         |
| Marion Soccer                      | \$5,064.55          |
| Girls' Softball                    | \$4,229.64          |
| ML FFA                             | \$9,187.07          |
| Boys Baseball                      | \$7,504.44          |
| AS Promo                           | \$3,817.87          |
| AG Solutions                       | \$2,436.28          |
| Ag Ed Boosters                     | \$23,662.53         |
| Ag Ed Scholarship                  | \$5,000.00          |
| ML Bowling                         | \$300.30            |
| Marion Industrial Park Association | \$6,135.70          |
| <b>Total Assets</b>                | <b>\$124,256.06</b> |

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### RECREATION COMMITTEE / MARION TOWNSHIP PARK

*Committee Chairperson – Kirk Stucke/Ron Hartings*

The weekly winners of the 301 Club are as follows:

The Park Fund Ticket Winners are as follows:

|             |                      |
|-------------|----------------------|
| January 18: | Art & Joyce Moeller  |
| January 25: | Dave & Mandy Koenig  |
| February 1: | John & Juli Berning  |
| February 8: | Matt & Kristy Eifert |

|           |                             |
|-----------|-----------------------------|
| February: | \$50 – Vernon Bruns         |
|           | \$30 – Don Eyink            |
|           | \$25 – Scott & Elaine Bruns |
|           | \$25 – Steve Knapke         |

### 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. Bob has contacted several families to join the MCDO and has received positive response. 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. Thank you to all renewed and new members!

## **HEALTH, SAFETY & EDUCATION**

*Committee Chairperson – Elaine Wolters*

The American Red Cross will be having a blood drive at the Maria Stein American Legion Hall on March 9, from 12:00PM – 6:00PM. Please call 1-800-733-2767 to schedule an appointment.

### ***February is American Heart Month***

Heart Disease kills an estimated 600,000 Americans each year and remains the leading cause of death for both men and women.

- What is Heart Disease? A disorder of the blood vessels of the heart in which a waxy substance (plaque) builds up in the coronary arteries.
- Risk Factors for Heart Disease: Smoking, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, overweight, physically inactive, unhealthy diet, diabetes or pre-diabetes, and metabolic syndrome.
- Lifestyle changes that can help prevent heart disease: Kick the smoking habit, eat for health (lean meats, fruits and vegetables, low fat dairy, whole grains), move more, aim for a healthy weight.
- The good news: Heart disease can be prevented when people make healthy choices and manage their health conditions.

Communities, health professionals, and families can work together to create opportunities for people to make healthier choices. Spread the word about strategies for preventing heart disease and encourage people to live heart healthy lives.

## **AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT**

*Committee Chairperson – Mark Hardesty*

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 February 16, 2015.

Ag Solutions held a meeting on February 2, 2015. Jim Hoorman, Assistant Professor of Agriculture and Natural Resources at The Ohio State University spoke and answered questions at the meeting for over an hour. Jim focused on how phosphorous leaches out of our fields and what steps can be taken to reduce the loss.

- Phosphorous loss can best be minimized by increasing Soil Organic Matter (SOM).
- SOM can best be increased by using a combination of cover crops and no-till practices which closely imitate the way Mother Nature works.
- The best cover crops are the grasses since they significantly increase SOM. Jim especially recommended Sorghum Sudangrass. He mentioned a GLSM dairy farmer who has used it for a number of years now to great benefit. It really loosens the soil and increases organic matter. He was not enthusiastic about radishes unless used in concert with grasses. Grasses that survive the winter are important for this watershed.

Dr. Larry Brown, Professor of Food, Agriculture, and Environmental Sciences at the Ohio State University has also encouraged area Ag Members to attend the Overholt Drainage School to be held March 16-20, 2015 in Defiance, Ohio. For more information on the school, please visit <http://agcrops.osu.edu/specialists/soil-and-water-management> or contact Professor Brown at [brown.59@osu.edu](mailto:brown.59@osu.edu) or 614-292-3826.

The next meeting will be scheduled at a future date.

## **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 will update us on lake restoration efforts both past and future. He always brings a unique perspective and a wry sense of humor to any issue. The annual Distinguished Developer Awards will be presented to Huelsman Automotive and Maria Stein Family Practice. A delicious lunch will be served – please mark your calendars for the event! Tickets will be available beginning in early March for the event!

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

Don Rosenbeck provided an update for the Shrine of the Holy Relics. The Heritage Museum project is moving along and the anticipated Grand Opening is still on track for Country Fest 2015!

### NEW BUSINESS:

NK Telco Update - Renee Lauth Sales and Marketing Manager for NKTelco provided the following update:  
Maria Stein and Neighboring Communities,

Currently NKTelco is at the mercy of Mother Nature. She tends to slow us down this time of year when the ground is frozen and we can't bury the fiber drops. Don't dismay, the linemen have been staying very busy pulling the fiber through existing tiles and exposures. This has also given them an opportunity to splice the fiber at the poles and run the wires to our hut and fortify the infrastructure of the network. Currently they are testing the Internet, Cable TV, and Telephone to insure the quality of the Video, Internet, and Voice are exactly what we had promised. For the customers who have already signed up for services, NKTelco will shortly be accessing your locations to determine activation. We do appreciate your patience during this transition.

If you have called in to the office or visited us at the open house, we have your name at the top of the list. If you would like to include your name for activation or have questions, feel free to call us 1-888-NKTELCO or drop us an email and we will try to assist you with your concerns. [nktelco@nktelco.net](mailto:nktelco@nktelco.net)

Thank you again. We look forward to providing services to your community!

The Marion Local Athletic Booster donation request for the new baseball scoreboard was discussed. It was determined that the MCDO's mission is to focus efforts and funding toward matters like the local parks. Township funding has been significantly decreased and the costs to maintain the parks continue to rise. The MCDO would like to be able to see these parks continue to provide beautiful recreation amenities for our communities!

### VILLAGE, TOWNSHIP AND SCHOOL REPORTS

**Chickasaw** – The village continues to seek funding for their Water Project. They are seeking to break the project into two phases. Phase one would be an extension of their current system from the south end of Chickasaw to the Marion Industrial Park.

**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** – The Township anticipates road paving to continue when the weather breaks this Spring.

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

**Marion Local School** – The School Board meeting was held on February 9, 2015 and the majority of the discussion revolved around the Common Core Standards. Many parents were in attendance voicing their concerns.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m., with a motion from Don Rosenbeck, seconded by Tony Kaiser. The next scheduled MCDO meeting is Tuesday, March 10, 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, 419-582-2681       |
| 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 \$60.00 _____                              |  | Family Membership \$15.00 _____ |      |
| Please indicate if you would like a receipt for tax deduction: |  | _____                           |      |
| Name:  |  | Date:                           |      |
| Address:   |  |                                 |      |
| City:  |  | State:                          | Zip: |
| Phone:   |  | Email:                          |      |

***Please make checks payable to: Marion Community Development Organization***

***Please send remittance to: MCDO - PO Box 65 - Maria Stein, OH 45860-0065***

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

MEMBERSHIP/PROMOTION

HEALTH/EDUCATION

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

AG-DEVELOPMENT

LAND PLANNING

HOUSING

PARK AND RECREATION

INFRASTRUCTURE