



MCDO MISSION STATEMENT

The Marion Community Development Organization (MCDO) is an organization under the laws of the State of Ohio, not-for-profit. The mission of the organization shall be to act as a coordinating body to assist local organizations meet the changing needs of the Marion Community through planned development while maintaining its agricultural profile. The activities will be directed toward, but not limited to, development of infrastructure, housing, family care, education, small business, recreation, and agriculture.

President, Ted Bertke called the April meeting of The Marion Community Development Organization to order by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting was held on April 16th, 2025, at 7:00 a.m. at the Marion Township Building.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Deb Otte presented the financial report. The report for the month ending March 31, 2025, is as follows:

Total Cash Balance: \$338,736

Cash Summaries		Organization Fund Summaries	
Checking	\$294,301	Recreation Fund	\$30,518
CD's	\$17,465	General Fund – MCDO	\$36,844
Savings	\$26,970	Marion Soccer	\$9,725
Total Cash	\$338,736	Girls' Softball	\$13,010
		ML FFA	\$23,807
		ML FFA Pork Producers	\$26,107
		Boys Baseball	\$39,247
		Ag Ed Boosters	\$32,059
		Ag Ed Scholarship	\$839
		ML Bowling	\$431
		Marion Industrial Park Association	\$22,714
		Woods Chapel Maintenance Fund	\$1,118
		Multi-Use Path	\$64,101
		Fundamental League	\$6,928
		Girls Youth Basketball	\$1,373
		Boys Youth Basketball	\$2,702
		Carthagen Park	\$27,216
		Total Organization Funds	\$338,736

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. RECREATION COMMITTEE: Committee Chairperson – Luke Bertke

The weekly winners of the 301 Club are as follows:

March 24: Don Bernard Masonry

April 7: Bart & Beth Griesdorn

March 31: Dan & Tori Liette

April 14: Jeff & Nancy Luebke

2. MEMBERSHIP AND PROMOTION COMMITTEE: *Committee Chairperson –Allison Moeller*

To all of the families and businesses who supported the Marion Community Development Organization in 2024 through your annual membership, thank you! We appreciate your commitment to our community. Every membership is invested locally, for the benefit of all current and future residents and generations! There is still time to renew your membership or become a new member for 2025. Please see a link to the membership form on this email. We would appreciate your support in 2025!

3. HOUSING: *Committee Chairperson – Bob Unrast*

The St. Francis housing development south of Chickasaw has four building lots available. The lots are between .381 and .711 acres starting at \$28,500 and include village water and sewage. Contact Tess Mescher for more information at 419-305-0106.

The Woodview Estates subdivision still has lots available for sale. For more information, please contact Jay Ruhenkamp at 937-295-4244.

Dan Jutte has a development underway off Jackson Street. Please contact him at 419-733-0053 for more information on the available lots.

Osgood is moving forward with development of land on the west end of town off State Route 705. This development is to the north of the current OPPAC building and the Osgood Community Veterans Center being built currently. It also borders and has lots off Mendenhall Road. Lot prices have not been set yet, but the village expects sales of land to be ready to take place first quarter of 2025. Please contact any of the Osgood Town Council representatives listed below for more information. Steve Kramer 937-621-1096, Ron Lange 937-670-2302, Rob Kemper 937-417-6632, Jim Arling 937-467-1632, Dan Brown 419-953-6416, Beth Winner 419-305-3444, Kate Langenkamp 419-305-5748, Lisa Beasley 937-638-4673, villageofosgood@hotmail.com

4. HEALTH, EDUCATION, & SAFETY: *Committee Chairperson – Lisa Buschur*

The next Preventative Healthcare 101 Community Education event, presented by Mercer Health, will focus on sleep disorders and the heart diseases associated with sleep disorders. This free community education series was developed to empower the community to live a healthier life. Dr. Jayanth Gutta, Pulmonologist, and Dr. Jerry Boley, cardiologist, will present on Tuesday, April 22, 2025, at 6:00pm at Mercer Health's Galleria Campus, 909 E. Wayne St., Celina. The presentation will be held in the Opulence Meeting Room. RSVP is not required. For additional information, contact Mercer Health at 419-678-5247 or myhealth@mercerv-health.com

Parents, it's time to schedule your child's 2025 sport physicals. Call your primary care provider soon as openings fill up fast. Schedule now at Mercer Health Medical Group in Maria Stein and receive a free tee shirt, while supplies last. That number to schedule is (419)925-7177

5. AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT: *Committee Chairperson – Mark Hardesty*

The FFA Chapter will be attending the State FFA Convention on May 1st and 2nd. As part of the tour, students will be touring the Dole Processing Plant in Springfield and Young's Jersey Dairy. The FFA Chapter had 23 students help with its trash pick-up event on April 17th, picking up 10 miles of roadway in Marion Township. On May 17th, the FFA chapter will be providing a free craft at the Celina Farmers Market. We would like to congratulate our senior FFA members graduating in May!

The next Ag Boosters meeting is Monday, April 21st. Bethany Heitkamp from Cooper Farms will be talking about the Avian Influenza.

OTHER BUSINESS:

No new business to report

VILLAGES, TOWNSHIP, PARKS, & SCHOOL REPORTS:

- 1. Carthage Park Report** – To reserve the park please call Nancy Koesters at 419-925-5192.
- 2. Chickasaw** – No new information to report.

3. **Chickasaw Park Board Report** – For information on renting the park shelters (both the VFW and Ball Diamond), contact AJ Homan at 419-733-1171.
4. **Osgood** – No new information to report.
5. **Osgood Park Board Report** – For information on renting the park shelters, call Nick Beasley at 937-621-7718.
6. **Marion Township** – No new information to report.
7. **Marion Township Park Board Report** – Please follow Marion Township Park on **Facebook (Marion Township Park)** and on **Twitter (@MarionTwpPark)**. You can also contact us through email: mariontwppk@gmail.com.

The Monthly Park Raffle Winners for February are as follows:

\$50 – Kyle Unrast	\$30 – Nick & Amy Pierron
\$25 – Gene & Sharon Evers	\$25 – Allen & Teri Spoltman

8. **Marion Local Schools** –The Marion Local School Board of Education is deeply concerned about the implications of Ohio House Bill 96 on the future of public education in our state. HB 96 proposes sweeping changes to the way Ohio funds education, including freezing the public-school funding formula and expanding state support for private and charter schools. While we support educational choice for families, we must ensure that such choices do not come at the expense of the public schools that serve the vast majority of Ohio’s children. Public schools are the only educational institutions required to serve all students—regardless of ability, background, or income. We are accountable to the communities we serve, governed by locally elected boards, and transparent in how we spend every taxpayer dollar. Unfortunately, HB 96 threatens to undermine that foundation.

By diverting funding to private institutions that are not held to the same academic, financial, and governance standards, this legislation creates an uneven playing field and risks leaving our most vulnerable students behind. Furthermore, freezing the public-school funding formula at outdated levels will reduce our ability to meet today’s educational challenges—from rising student needs to teacher shortages and expanding mental health services.

We should be investing in proven strategies that support all students: strong teachers, smaller class sizes and mental health services. Instead, HB 96 weakens the public education system that anchors every Ohio community. We are asking our community to join us in speaking out against this legislation. Please contact our local representatives, State Representative Angie King and State Representative Susan Manchester—and urge them to oppose HB 96. Your voice matters, and your advocacy can help protect the future of public education in Ohio.

An update on the building project: Currently, footers are being poured and masonry block is beginning to be laid. The construction crew is starting with the gym area and then will work on the outside foundation. Pretty soon there will be an actual structure to view as long as the weather cooperates! The community can follow along on the Marion Local Schools website www.marionlocal.org/constructionproject.

Lisa Buschur made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 a.m. Allison Moeller seconded the motion which was approved unanimously. The next MCDO meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 8th, 2025, at 8:00 a.m. in the Marion Township Building.

Submitted by: Ted Bertke, President

Board of Directors

Ted Bertke, President	419-852-1072
Deb Otte, Secretary	419-305-4014
Jean Bender, Treasurer	419-925-4254
Deb Otte, Coordinator	419-305-4014

Committee Chairpersons

Agricultural Development:	Mark Hardesty, DVM 419-925-4212
Business Retention & Dev.:	Jill Nagel 419-925-9101
Health, Safety & Education:	Lisa Buschur 419-305-0858
Housing:	Bob Unrast 419-925-4151
Infrastructure:	Nick Moeller 619-884-9958
Membership:	Allison Moeller 567-644-5207
Recreation:	Luke Bertke 419-953-6114



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