



President, Ted Bertke called the December meeting of The Marion Community Development Organization to order by reciting The Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting was held on December 12, 2023, at 8:00 a.m. at the Marion Township Building. Meeting minutes that include updates not covered at the meeting were approved as discussed.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

The month ended November 30, 2023 Treasurer's report was given by Jean Bender. Bob Dippold moved to approve the Treasurer's report. Bob Unrast seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

### CURRENT TOTAL ASSETS     **\$298,732**

#### *Asset Allocations*

Checking	\$266,974
CD's	\$16,849
Savings	\$14,909
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$298,732</b>

#### *Funding Allocations*

Recreation Fund	\$15,822
General Fund – MCDO	\$37,907
Marion Soccer	\$17,675
Girls' Softball	\$6,397
ML FFA	\$31,373
ML FFA Pork Producers	\$26,153
Boys Baseball	\$19,752
Ag Ed Boosters	\$31,345
Ag Ed Scholarship	\$2,000
ML Bowling	\$922
Marion Industrial Park Association	\$17,671
Woods Chapel Maintenance Fund	\$1,254
Multi-Use Path	\$59,837
Fundamental League	\$8,128
Youth Basketball	\$3,982
Carthage Park	\$18,514
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$298,732</b>

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### RECREATION COMMITTEE

*Committee Chairperson – Luke Bertke*

The weekly winners of the 301 Club are as follows:

November 20:	Bob Leugers
November 27:	PJ & Carla Thobe
December 4:	Jay Albers
December 11:	Josh & Holly Fleck

### MARION TOWNSHIP PARK

*Committee Chairperson – Lee Heitkamp*

Please follow Marion Township Park on **Facebook (Marion Township Park)** and on **Twitter (@MarionTwpPark)**. You can also contact us through email: [mariontwppk@gmail.com](mailto:mariontwppk@gmail.com). The Monthly Park Raffle Winners for December are:

\$50 – Penny Bishel
\$30 – Jim Moeller
\$25 – Dave & Bonnie Tangeman
\$25 – Terry & Lisa Moeller

### MEMBERSHIP AND PROMOTION COMMITTEE

*Committee Chairperson – Bob Dippold*

Thank you to all who have supported the MCDO in 2023! Memberships help facilitate growth in the community with projects like the expansion of the industrial park and facilitate youth sports. 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. The 2024 membership forms will be sent out in a separate message in late December.

## **HEALTH, SAFETY, & EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

*Committee Chairperson – Lisa Buschur*

### **HOUSING**



**NOW OPEN**

**PRIMARY CARE** 419-925-7177

Heather Kleinhenz, MD • Brian Colopy, DO  
Jennifer Luthman, CNP • Jodi Grover, CNP  
*Preventative care including wellness visits, routine screenings and sports physicals, sick visits, management of chronic conditions*

**OB/GYN & WOMEN'S HEALTH** 567-890-6510

Eric Seward, MD • Lori Geesaman, Women's Health NP  
Jessica Bergman, Certified Nurse Midwife  
*OB: Reproductive health, pregnancy, postpartum care*  
*GYN and Women's Health: Screenings, including pap smears, urinary tract issues, menstruation concerns, breast health, hysterectomy and hysteroscopy (done at Mercer County Community Hospital)*

**OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH** 419-586-1220

Heather Kleinhenz, MD  
Jennifer Luthman, CNP • Jodi Grover, CNP  
*Employment physicals, drug and alcohol testing, injury management*  
*Call for an appointment, same day appointments may be available.*

**LABORATORY** 419-925-7176

Walk-in Mon.-Thurs. 7am-7pm, Fri. 7am-6pm, Sat. 8am-12pm  
*Self-Directed: Does not require an order.*  
*Another provider and/or location ordered: If ordered from another provider or location, your labs can be drawn here.*  
*Marion Campus provider ordered: If ordered by a provider at Marion Campus, labs can be conveniently drawn that day (as long as fasting requirements are met).*

8106 Booster Dr. • Maria Stein, Ohio • 419-925-7175

*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.

Heitkamp Developers has Lot number 7 on 8039 Lincoln Ave. in Marion Acres for sale. Please contact Dan Heitkamp at 419-925-4307 for more information.

RCS Construction has 2 lots, 1841 and 1857 Washington Ave., available for sale and new home construction. For information on all lots available for sale in Marion Acres, please contact Randy Bruns at 419-305-1869.

Dan Jutte started land development off Jackson Street. Please contact him at 419-733-0053 for more information on available lots.

### **AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT**

*Committee Chairperson – Mark Hardesty*

Matt Elsass provided an update for the FFA. On December 14th, fourteen FFA members went to 1st grade classrooms to teach a lesson about dairy farms and cattle. All 1st grade classes have adopted calves through an American Dairy Association program and receive updates from the farm they are kept as throughout the year. As those updates happen, FFA members will go back to do more activities with these students! FFA members will be making blankets for Rustic Hope during the winter break. The FFA Greenhand and Chapter degree ceremony will be

on January 11th for 1st and 2nd year FFA members. State Vice President Dulaney Moore will be speaking at the degree ceremony. Students will also be preparing for award applications such as American and State degrees, proficiencies and officer books. The Ag Boosters will have their monthly meeting on Monday, December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 8:00 p.m. in the Ag Ed Room. All are invited to attend!

### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

The MCDO is still working on quotes and designs for the Welcome to Marion Communities signs in the community.

#### ***Village of Chickasaw – 2023 Annual Summary***

- **North Side infrastructure and streets**
  - The \$2.1 million infrastructure and street project on the north side of the village was completed in 2023. Cast iron water lines were replaced as well as the 8" main feeder water line going the length of the village from east to west. All streets north of St. Rte. 274 were resurfaced with a total rebuild of Wayne Street. Storm drains and lines were upgraded in the Wayne Street area as well. Chickasaw Road/State Street from St. Rte. 274 to the bridge crossing Chickasaw creek was widened and resurfaced to accommodate increased truck traffic. ADA compliant crosswalk ramps were installed along St. Rt. 274. State routes 274 and 716 were resurfaced within the village limits. We also added speed limit radar signs at the entrances to the village on the state highways along with Welcome to Chickasaw village signs at all four entrances. We would like to thank all the residents affected by this project for their patience and cooperation. We hope the project serves you and our village for many years to come.

- **Village Hall and offices**
  - An open house was held June 11 at the new village hall and offices. The offices are now at 89 S. Roosevelt St. next to the Fire Station. Renovation of the once stockyard dating back to the late 1800s was paid for with the funds from the sale of the former village hall at 38 Wayne Street. Additionally, the tornado siren was moved to the new location. Much of the labor for the renovation was donated. Thanks to all that helped in this effort. An Eagle project led by Trey Brookhart added a Village sign a flagpole and the 1891 fire bell from the original village hall. Please feel free to stop by to see the new facilities. Village council meetings are the second Wednesday each month.
- **Grant St.**
  - The Village dedicated Grant Street, located off South of West Main St by the Ballpark, and added storm line infrastructure to support existing residents and future growth.
- **Parks**
  - The park board was very active in 2023 hosting a very successful community picnic June 2,3 & 4. The funds earned at the picnic once again have gone back into park improvements. In addition to the new big toy at the VFW park the park board added a new play area for kids where the volleyball courts were formerly. This area added a fence and should provide young families with a safe and fun area. They also added pickleball courts for those active young adults through seniors. The ball diamond park got a facelift when the aging scotch pines were removed. Thanks to the Park Board and all the volunteers that help make all these things happen.
  - The Fire Department once again hosted a successful 5K run on Saturday morning of the picnic. The run brings in a variety of people and provides us a chance to highlight our village as they run through the streets.
- **Businesses**
  - The former village hall on 38 W. Wayne Street was purchased by Don Kemper and now the home of Wrenco Trophy and Sportswear. We want to welcome Wrenco and are excited to have them as part of the village. You can find them on Facebook at Wrenco Trophy and Sportswear.
  - Chickasaw Machine & Tool has been undergoing a major addition.
  - Four Star Veterinary Service has also added office space to its business located on Franklin St.
  - Joe and Jean's Town Tavern celebrated 45 years of business.
  - We would like to welcome Hess Home Renovations to the village, owner TJ Hess. Find them on Facebook at Hess Home Renovations.
  - Mercer Landmark sold its property at the west end of the village. The parcel on the north side of St Rte. 274 was purchased by Ohio Recycling and the parcel on the south side of St Rte. 274 went to Kevin Homan family farming.
  - The Chickasaw Community Mutual Fire Company recently added a new Ladder truck to serve the village and surrounding communities in Marion township. Check them out on Facebook at Chickasaw Volunteer Fire Department.
- **Things to look for in 2024**
  - We are now on Facebook, Find us at Village of Chickasaw, OH.
  - Electronic payment and email billing will be available.
  - More infrastructure activity will be happening. The storm lines along Catholic Street from St Rte. 716 east to Chickasaw creek will be replaced and upgraded to a 15" line. The old lines are broken-down in many places and need an update.
  - A second water line will be added from Booster Dr. in the Industrial Park to Dead End Rd. on the south side of St Francis subdivision. This will provide a looped water system to the village to optimize flows and quality.
  - The final cast iron water lines will be replaced from the corner at Walnut and Maple Streets to the fire hydrant at Center Street by the alley next to Bob Heitbrink's. This activity will also result in storm tile replacement to upgrade broken down tiles.

## VILLAGE, TOWNSHIP AND SCHOOL REPORTS:

**Carthagen Park Report** – For information on renting the shelter house, call Nancy Koesters at 419-925-5192.

**Chickasaw** – Please see annual report summary above.

**Chickasaw Park Board Report** – For information on renting the park shelters (both the VFW and Ball Diamond), contact Jay Schwieterman at 419-733-6811.

**Osgood** – No new information to report.

**Osgood Park Board Report** – For information on renting the park shelters, call Nick Beasley at 937-621-7718.

**Marion Township** – No new information to report.

**Marion Township Park Board** – For information or concerns about the park, call Ryan Stucke 419-852-5088.

**Marion Local Schools** – No additional information to report.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 a.m., with a motion from Bob Unrast and seconded by Jean Bender. The next MCDO meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 9, 2024, at 8:00 a.m. in the Marion Township Building.

Submitted by: Ted Bertke, President

**Board of Directors**

Ted Bertke, President	419-852-1072
Shannon Everman, Secretary	419-925-5707
Jean Bender, Treasurer	419-925-4254
Shannon Everman, Coordinator	419-925-5707

**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:	Bob Dippold 419-305-0128
Recreation:	Luke Bertke 419-953-6114



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