



**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 December meeting of The Marion Community Development Organization to order by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting was held on December 12, 2024, at 8:00 a.m. at the Marion Township Building.

**TREASURER’S REPORT:**

Deb Otte presented the financial report. The report for month ended November 30, 2024, is as follows:

**Total Cash Balance: \$330,769**

<i>Cash Summaries</i>	
Checking	\$293,565
CD's	\$17,190
Savings	\$20,015
<b>Total Cash</b>	<b>\$330,769</b>

<i>Organization Fund Summaries</i>	
Recreation Fund	\$25,094
General Fund – MCDO	\$34,143
Marion Soccer	\$9,806
Girls' Softball	\$8,331
ML FFA	\$28,996
ML FFA Pork Producers	\$26,719
Boys Baseball	\$41,318
Ag Ed Boosters	\$32,218
Ag Ed Scholarship	\$2,000
ML Bowling	\$279
Marion Industrial Park Association	\$22,819
Woods Chapel Maintenance Fund	\$1,124
Multi-Use Path	\$57,484
Fundamental League	\$6,966
Girls Youth Basketball	\$1,725
Boys Youth Basketball	\$4,852
Carthagea Park	\$26,896
<b>Total Organization Funds</b>	<b>\$330,769</b>

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**1. RECREATION COMMITTEE:** *Committee Chairperson – Luke Bertke*

The weekly winners of the 301 Club are as follows:

November 18: Mark & Lisa Seitz

November 25: Bob & Katie Dippold

December 2: Jason & Michelle Winner

December 9: Gary & Lisa Bertke

## **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.

MCDO is the umbrella group that helps the facilitation of our community through fund management of various organizations. These include Marion Local FFA, Marion Township Greenway Bike Path, Chapel Hill Preschool, and many youth sports activities in conjunction with the 301 Club. This generates growth for infrastructure and business development, agricultural education for our students, agricultural solutions for farmers, and housing development.

Every membership is invested locally, for the benefit of all current and future residents and generations! As we gear up for our 2025 Membership Drive in January, please remember how beneficial your membership is for the Marion Community.

## **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](mailto:villageofosgood@hotmail.com)

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

Cardiologist Todd Brophy, MD, is a non-invasive cardiologist specializing in the prevention, evaluation & management of cardiovascular disease. Located in Mercer Health's Marion Campus, Dr. Brophy will begin seeing patients in January 2025. Scheduling is now available by calling Mercer Health Cardiology at (419) 925-7170.

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

Mark Hardesty provided an update on the FFA and Ag Solutions. December 30th FFA members are getting together for a community service event. They are making tie blankets to be donated to families in need. Afterward, there will be open hours available for FFA members to enter records for their SAE projects into AET and to work on award applications.

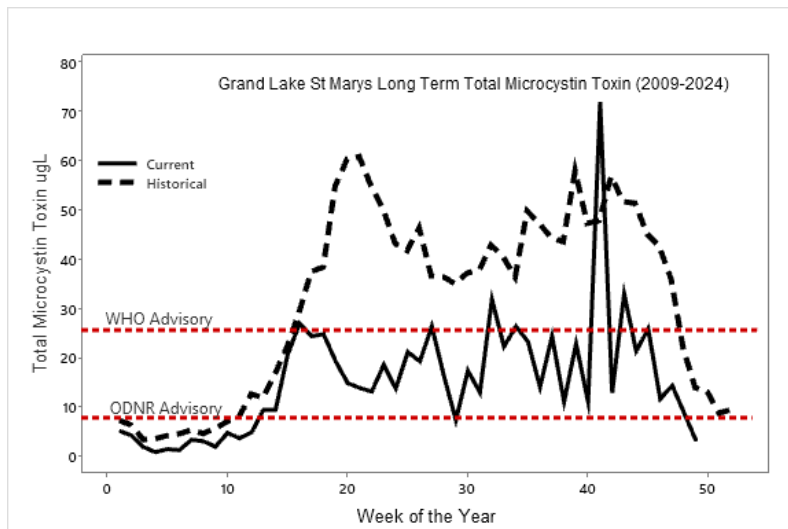
January 13th will be our Greenhand and Chapter Degree Ceremony. 1st and 2nd year members of the chapter will be recognized!

The Marion Local FFA wishes everyone a Merry Christmas!

Next Ag Booster meeting is Monday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at Maria Stein Grain.

Ag Solutions projects are wrapping up for the year, working on some wetland projects that we hope to construct next year and another two-stage ditch for construction next year. One two-stage ditch is currently under construction and is about 2/3 completed. A grant application was recently submitted for another two-stage ditch. We are hoping to close out two more grants soon.

The lake level is low, about 12.5 inches below normal pool. Attached is the most recent microcystin toxin update from 12/4/24.



**OTHER BUSINESS:**

There was a discussion about the possible grants that are available to organizations. If your organization has a special project, such as the picnic tables at Carthagen Park, please reach out. We can help with the application process.

**VILLAGES, TOWNSHIP, PARKS, & SCHOOL REPORTS:**

1. **Carthagen Park Report** – In November, Carthagen Park was awarded a grant from the Mercer County Civic Foundation for new picnic tables. To reserve the park please call Nancy Koesters at 419-925-5192.
2. **Chickasaw** – See the attached yearly update on the Village of Chickasaw.
3. **Chickasaw Park Board Report** – For information on renting the park shelters (both the VFW and Ball Diamond), contact Jay Schwieterman at 419-733-6811.
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](mailto:mariontwppk@gmail.com).  
The Monthly Park Raffle Winners for December are as follows:  

\$50 – Carl & Eileen Schroeder	\$30 – Nick & Tonya Pavelka
\$25 – Dan & Kelly Koenig	\$25 – Joe & Shirley Frey
8. **Marion Local Schools** – The school started moving dirt and equipment onsite at the beginning of December. The external renderings are on the school website for viewing. Here is a link: [Construction Project](#)  
Randy Bruns was voted in as Board President for another year. The annual organizational meeting is January 13, 2025, at 7:00 pm, with the regular board meeting to follow.

Bob Unrast made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 a.m. Mark Hardesty seconded the motion which was approved unanimously. The next MCDO meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 9, 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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