



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 September meeting of The Marion Community Development Organization to order by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting was held on Tuesday, October 21st, 2025, at 7:30 a.m. at the Marion Township Building.

TREASURER REPORT:

Jean Bender presented the financial report. Bob Unrast made a motion to accept the financial report, and Lisa Buschur seconded it. The motion passed. The report for the month ending September 30th, 2025, is as follows:

Total Cash Balance: \$350,157

<i>Cash Summaries</i>	
Checking	\$306,500
CD's	\$22,165
Savings	\$21,492
Total Cash	\$350,157

<i>Organization Fund Summaries</i>	
Recreation Fund	\$23,450
General Fund – MCDO	\$36,398
Marion Soccer	\$14,646
Girls' Softball	\$9,600
ML FFA	\$21,250
ML FFA Pork Producers	\$28,464
Boys Baseball	\$39,479
Ag Ed Boosters	\$31,285
Ag Ed Scholarship	\$1,000
ML Bowling	\$646
Marion Industrial Park Association	\$22,714
Woods Chapel Maintenance Fund	\$798
Multi-Use Path	\$84,626
Fundamental League	\$8,238
Girls Youth Basketball	\$2,373
Boys Youth Basketball	\$4,202
Carthagen Park	\$20,988
Total Organization Funds	\$350,157

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. RECREATION COMMITTEE: Committee Chairperson – Doug Bender

The weekly winners of the 301 Club are as follows:

September 22: Jim & Rose Ann Keller

September 29: Kyle & Janessa Moeder

October 6: Kirk & Stacy Stucke

October 13: Kevin & Angie Otte

October 20: Travis & Ellen Winner

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

We are in the process of trying something new for the business memberships in 2026. We would like to use monthly minutes as an opportunity to spotlight our business members. We are getting close to emailing the businesses a questionnaire. If you would like to be spotlighted in the monthly minutes, please fill out and return. Businesses will be drawn at random to start being spotlighted in January.

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*

Did you know...Saturday hours are offered for your convenience at the Mercer Health Marion Campus from 8am-12 noon for acute or sick visits. Call 419-925-7177 to schedule. Other services available at the Marion Campus Monday -Friday include Cardiology, Laboratory, OB/GYN & Women's Health, Occupational Health, Primary Care, & Urology.

In recognition of Veterans Day, Mercer Health is proud to honor the brave individuals who have served our country by inviting all local veterans to enjoy a complimentary lunch at The Cedar Table, located within Mercer County Community Hospital, 800 W. Main St., Coldwater, Ohio. The event will take place on **Tuesday, November 11, 2025**, from **11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** Veterans are kindly asked to bring military ID.

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

The FFA members just had their October meeting where they carved pumpkins as a fun activity. FFA members Alayna Birt, Chloe Mikels and Alex Grieshop competed in the District 5 Job interview contest held at Versailles High School. 29 members will be heading to the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana. Graduates Joe Kunk and Owen Siefring will be receiving their American FFA Degrees during the convention as well. The next FFA meeting will be November 24th.

OTHER BUSINESS:

If anyone is interested in joining the MCDO Board in any capacity, please contact Deb Otte at admin@marioncommunities.com.

Please mark your calendars, the MCDO will be holding a Community Address Luncheon on Sunday, March 8th. More information to come!

VILLAGES, TOWNSHIP, PARKS, & SCHOOL REPORTS:

1. **Carthagen 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 October are as follows:

\$50 – Howie & Sue Heitkamp
\$25 – Will Winner

\$30 – Dennis & Sharon Kremer
\$25 – Charlie & Kathy Otte

8. **Marion Local Schools** – Ryan Goldschmidt presented the financial forecast to the Board of Education showing the fiscal outlook over the next 5 years. While the outlook is very promising and stable, there is a lot of concern over the ongoing state budget and property tax reform that is taking place in Ohio. Currently, there are numerous bills and legislation in process that would totally reform the way taxes are collected locally, and it would have significant impact on the Marion Local School District. Some of the main topics at hand include the elimination of certain types of levies including emergency levies and adding fixed sum levies to the 20-mill floor. This would have a large impact on the Marion Local School District as it would essentially eliminate a current levy that we have which provides \$1,200,000 to the school district annually. This would put the school district in the position to have deficit spending as early as 2029. These two main changes along with many others being talked about not only would cause concern for the school district but would actually push even more of the school financing burden from the state to the local taxpayers. While touting it as tax relief, it could actually cause more levies to be brought to the table much more often. It is important that the local community stay aware of these changes and continue to push for the full funding of our public schools, which are the heartbeat of our communities!!

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 am with a motion from Allison Moeller and a 2nd from Jean Bender. The next MCDO meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 18th, 2025, at 7:30 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 419-305-4485
Infrastructure:	Nick Moeller 619-884-9958
Membership:	Allison Moeller 567-644-5207
Recreation:	Luke Bertke 419-953-6114



Marion Community Development Organization
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