

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of The Miami Conservancy District (MCD) sitting as the Board of Directors of The Aquifer Preservation Subdistrict (APS) was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by Beth G. Whelley, President, with Mark G. Rentschler, Vice President present. William E. Lukens, member, attended via teleconference.

Members of the staff in attendance were: Janet M. Bly, General Manager; and Rhonda K. Snyder, Secretary.

Members of the staff in attendance via teleconference: Michael P. Ekberg, Manager, Water Resources Monitoring and Analysis; Daniel K. Foley, Great Miami Riverway Director; Brenda Z. Gibson, Manager, Public Relations and Education; Sarah Hippensteel Hall, Manager, Watershed Partnerships; Kenneth P. Moyer, Treasurer; Donald P. O'Connor, Chief of Construction and Planning; Shannon E. Phelps, Manager of Administration; Barry M. Puskas, Chief of Technical and Engineering Services; and Kurt A. Rinehart, Chief of Operations/Chief Engineer.

Legal counsel in attendance via teleconference: W. Chip Herin III, Coolidge Wall Co., LPA.

Guests in attendance via teleconference: None

COMPLIANCE WITH SUNSHINE LAW AND BYLAWS

The meeting was held in compliance with the Sunshine Law and MCD and Subdistrict Bylaws. The meeting information was posted on MCD's website. Miami Valley news media and individuals requesting such notification were notified of the meeting by first-class and/or electronic mail dated May 12, 2020.

MINUTES

The Minutes of the Board of Directors March 26, 2020, meeting were provided to members of the Board for review and comment.

M 2020-131

The Board of Directors, on motion by Mr. Rentschler and seconded by Mr. Lukens, unanimously approved the Minutes for March 26, 2020.

Next, Mr. Moyer requested approval of the assessment rate for the 2021 assessments collection.

ASSESSMENT RATE FOR 2021 COLLECTION

Section 6101.53 of the Ohio Revised Code provides that the Board of Directors of a conservancy district, on or before the thirtieth of September of each year, may levy an assessment upon each tract or parcel of land and upon each political corporation for the purpose of maintaining, operating, and preserving the works of the district. Such assessment is

to be known as a conservancy maintenance assessment. Said assessment shall not exceed one percent of the benefits without prior authorization of the Conservancy Court.

The following rate was recommended for the 2021 assessments collection.

Levy No.	Purpose	Rate*
25	The Aquifer Preservation Subdistrict	.00371

*The rate is the same as 2020 assessments collection.

M 2020-132

The Board of Directors, on motion by Mr. Rentschler and seconded by Mr. Lukens, unanimously adopted the following resolution.

R 2020-36

Resolved that in accordance with Section 6101.53 of the Ohio Revised Code, the Board of Directors approve the recommended rate for the 2021 collection of assessments for The Aquifer Preservation Subdistrict and direct the Secretary to prepare the necessary assessment duplicates.

Next, Ms. Bly requested that the Board of Directors accept the following staff reports for APS activities. The staff reports were provided to the Board of Directors prior to the meeting.

M 2020-133

The Board of Directors, on motion by Mr. Lukens and seconded by Mr. Rentschler, unanimously accepted the following staff reports.

University of Dayton's Rivers Institute Senior Project

In 2019, MCD committed \$2,500 of APS funds for the 2020 senior project of the University of Dayton River Stewards program. The Class of 2020 senior students created a new book written for third-graders designed to inspire children's literacy and educate local youth about the importance of the river and the value of water in the greater Dayton area. The book was written and illustrated by the University of Dayton students and takes readers on a colorful journey down the Great Miami River and includes local landmarks, including an MCD dam.

In addition to funding support, MCD staff provided input about the story and design. The printed copies will be distributed to Dayton area schoolchildren, and the free ebook can be downloaded: https://ecommons.udayton.edu/rivers_institute/4/

Habitat Restoration Projects

Staff hired a contractor for additional seeding and weed eradication at the 10.25-acre prairie below Lockington Dam. Weather conditions hindered the growth of the plantings that were installed in 2019.

MCD staff is currently preparing an area in Hamilton for a habitat restoration project funded by APS. MCD owns a triangular site along the left (east) bank of the Great Miami River in Hamilton bounded on the west by the HAML6 levee system, on the east by Neilan Boulevard, and on the south by Fairview Avenue. The site includes two ponds within the approximately 26-acre site. The location and type of plantings are consistent with a land-use concept plan created

by Human Nature for MCD in 2018. The goals are to improve habitat, enhance the natural setting, and provide an amenity for the neighborhood while reducing maintenance costs.

Water Stewardship Videos

Increasing public awareness is a focus of the water stewardship program. MCD uses different types of media, including video, to reach various audiences. MCD staff has worked with Champion City Media to develop a series of four two-minute educational videos for use on MCD's website and social media.

The videos focus on four separate topics—the aquifer, rivers and streams, the importance of water to the region, and changing weather patterns.

Equipment

MCD purchased an extended cab four-wheel-drive pickup truck for the Water Monitoring team using APS funds. This truck replaces a 2009 pickup truck.

The next item of business was a request for continuation of the program carried out by APS. Mr. Ekberg and Dr. Hall presented the request.

SUMMARY REPORT AND PROGRAM CONTINUATION

The APS Official Plan states that a comprehensive summary of all work performed will be presented to the elected body of each participating county every eight years. Staff published a summary report that covers programs and activities funded through the APS from 2012-2019. To present the summary and request input, MCD staff met in person with the county commissioners of Clark, Greene, Hamilton, Miami, Preble, Shelby, and Warren in January and February. The commissioners of Butler and Montgomery counties requested the reports be presented in paper form and printed copies were mailed in January. Each county was provided the Water Stewardship Summary Report 2012-2019 and a fact sheet for their county.

According to the APS Official Plan, MCD presents any proposed changes including a revised budget and assessment schedule with the eight-year summary. The counties were each advised that no changes to the annual assessment will occur in 2020 and that funding needs will be re-evaluated in 2021. MCD will notify the counties if there are proposed changes at that time. Each county was given the opportunity to provide input on the program. During the meetings, the commissioners expressed support of the APS and showed interest in a variety of issues related to management of all water resources.

The APS Official Plan states that the Board of Directors and Conservancy Court will be asked to consider input received from each participating County. The Board and Court will use the input received and make a determination regarding the continuation of the program.

M 2020-134

The Board of Directors, on motion by Mr. Rentschler and seconded by Mr. Lukens, unanimously determined that the program carried out by The Aquifer Preservation Subdistrict of The Miami Conservancy District should continue, and the Board of Directors directed legal counsel to apply to the Conservancy Court for approval of continuation of The Aquifer Preservation Subdistrict of The Miami Conservancy District.

FUTURE BOARD MEETING


The Board members set Thursday, October 1, 2020, for the next regular meeting of the Board of Directors of The Miami Conservancy District sitting as the Board of Directors of The Aquifer Preservation Subdistrict.

ADJOURN

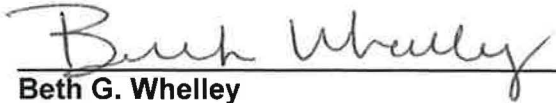
There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:



Rhonda K. Snyder
Secretary



Beth G. Whelley
President