

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of The Miami Conservancy District (MCD) sitting as the Board of Directors of The River Corridor Improvement Subdistrict (RCIS) was called to order at 1:44 p.m. by Mark G. Rentschler, President, with Beth G. Whelley, Vice President and William E. Lukens, member, present. The meeting was held at MCD headquarters.

Members of the staff in attendance: MaryLynn Lodor, General Manager; James B. Casper, Manager, Operations and Maintenance; Michael P. Ekberg, Manager, Water Resources Monitoring and Analysis; Daniel K. Foley, Great Miami Riverway Director; Sarah Hippensteel Hall, Manager, Watershed Partnerships; Kenneth P. Moyer, Treasurer; Donald P. O'Connor, Chief Engineer; Shannon E. Phelps, Manager of Administration (serving as acting Secretary at this meeting); and Barry M. Puskas, Chief of Technical and Engineering Services.

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

Guests in attendance: 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 electronic mail dated September 14, 2022.

### **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Board of Directors June 9, 2022, meeting were provided to members of the Board for review and comment.

#### **M 2022-205**

The Board of Directors, on motion by Ms. Whelley and seconded by Mr. Lukens, unanimously approved the Minutes for June 9, 2022.

#### **Webster Station Ramp Connector**

Staff has addressed Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) District 7 comments from the previously submitted Stage 2 plans, and has submitted Stage 3 plans for review. MCD's consultant, Woolpert, Inc., has completed the final right-of-way plans which have been submitted to ODOT. Construction is expected in 2023.

#### **South River Walk Improvements**

MCD staff has completed the Stage 1 plans and submitted them to ODOT and the City of Dayton for review. Construction is currently scheduled to begin in 2024.

#### **Sycamore Bridge Replacement**

MCD's consultant, Woolpert, Inc., is working on a feasibility study to determine the best way to get the trail over Sycamore Creek and an ecological survey to meet environmental requirements. Construction is currently scheduled to begin in 2025.

## **ADA Transition Plan**

MCD staff has completed a comprehensive review of MCD's trail system and public spaces. The result of this effort is an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Transition Plan. The plan includes an inventory of MCD's trail system and public spaces, an evaluation of their compliance with ADA regulations, and a list of projects required to bring them into compliance. This fall the draft ADA Transition Plan will be shared with the public as part of the required public comment period. Staff anticipates presenting the finished ADA Transition Plan to the Board of Directors for adoption at the December 2022 meeting.

## **Project Crew Construction Projects**

Staff designed and constructed two short concrete trail connections. The first was installed in Dayton to connect the Old North Dayton Trail to the City of Dayton right-of-way at Keowee Street along the left bank of the Great Miami River. Staff obtained a permit from the City of Dayton to install this section of the trail on City property. The upcoming Old North Dayton Levee and Trail project will build a new trail that will end at this location. The second connection was built in West Carrollton from Squire Street to the Great Miami River Recreation Trail. The existing connection was too steep and did not meet ADA standards. The old ramp was removed and a new ADA-compliant concrete ramp was installed. This project was a result of staff's work on an ADA Transition Plan, and a partnering effort with the City of West Carrollton who performed sidewalk and curb improvements.

## **Operations and Maintenance Projects**

- Staff repainted the handrail at South River Walk.
- MCD contracted with Kastle Electric to have multiple lamps at South River Walk replaced.
- Staff made small asphalt patches along the Great Miami River Recreation Trail at Carillon Boulevard.
- MCD contracted with Superior Sealcoating to repair a damaged section of the Stillwater River Recreation Trail.

## **Safe Recreation Plan**

As mentioned in MCD's Safe Recreation Plan, MCD provides safety information on MCD low dams, trails, and other river corridor amenities. In June and July, staff installed replacement warning signs at MCD low dams using funds from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Navigational Aids grant paid to MCD in 2022.

Staff also installed safety locator signs on the Great Miami River Recreation Trail. The locator signs were installed to help first responders quickly locate people who call 911 for assistance. The signs are 3" by 12" vinyl stickers that wrap on the bike trail sign posts. To ensure trail users know how to use the locator signs to receive emergency responder assistance, an outreach and education campaign will be conducted. The locator signs were paid for by the Rotary Club of Dayton.

In response to several complaints to MCD from concerned citizens on the use of e-bikes on the recreation trails, MCD increased outreach on social media channels on trail etiquette. Staff also discussed the issue and how to increase the exposure of trail etiquette messages to a wider audience with regional trail partners.

## **Great Miami Riverway**

The Great Miami Riverway Coalition met on August 25 to discuss progress toward the goals and provide input on Riverway activities.

The Summer Challenge, a three-month-long passport program, ended on August 31. Over 100 people participated in the Summer Challenge.

The 2022 Great Miami Riverway Smallmouth Bass Fishing Challenge was held from June 18 – July 10. Forty anglers signed up in conventional and fly-fishing categories. An awards event, attended by 35 people, was hosted by the Riverway on August 16 at Lock 27 Brewery.

The GREAT Float was held on July 14 in partnership with the cities of West Carrollton and Miamisburg. altafiber, formerly Cincinnati Bell, sponsored the event. The City of Miamisburg hosted food and refreshments afterward. More than 140 paddlers floated the river.

Next, Ms. Lodor requested approval for a Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission (MVRPC) grant funding resolution of authorization.

### **RESOLUTION OF AUTHORIZATION—MVRPC GRANT FUNDING APPLICATIONS**

Staff intends to submit applications in October 2022 for federal funds through MVRPC. The projects are for constructing or improving recreation trails. MVRPC has requested that entities that submit applications include a resolution authorizing staff to submit applications and prioritizing projects when more than one is submitted.

The following resolution complies with MVRPC's request and will be used for submitting the grant applications for the projects listed in the resolution.

#### **M 2022-206**

The Board of Directors, on motion by Mr. Lukens and seconded by Ms. Whelley, unanimously adopted the Resolution of Authorization to Apply for Grant Funding through the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission.

#### **R 2022-73**

### **RESOLUTION OF AUTHORIZATION TO APPLY FOR GRANT FUNDING THROUGH THE MIAMI VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

**WHEREAS**, the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission (MVRPC) has solicited local government entities to submit new transportation projects for funding consideration in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP); and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Directors of The Miami Conservancy District and its subdistricts has committed to a timely project development schedule; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Directors of The Miami Conservancy District and its subdistricts will commit the necessary resources to support the local cost portion of the projects and the following list of projects may be submitted to MVRPC, shown in order of The Miami Conservancy District's priority from number 1 to 4.

1. **GMRRT Reconstruction – East River Road to Stewart Street**; estimated local cost share commitment of \$480,000; project priority 1 of 4
2. **Stillwater Trail Resurfacing – Gayle B. Price Bridge to Wegerzyn Road**; estimated local cost share commitment of \$180,000; project priority 2 of 4
3. **GMRRT ADA & Safety Improvements**; estimated local cost share commitment of \$70,000; project priority 3 of 4
4. **Old North Dayton Trail, Segment 3**; estimated local cost share commitment of \$300,000; project priority 4 of 4

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Directors of The Miami Conservancy District and its subdistricts that:

The General Manager is authorized to submit applications to MVRPC as mentioned above.

The General Manager is hereby authorized to sign on behalf of The Miami Conservancy District and its subdistricts the application for funds as referred to above.

The General Manager is hereby directed and authorized to take or cause to be taken all other action necessary and proper to secure the funding sought by the application referred to herein, and provide any information sought by reviewing agencies during the time the application is under review. The General Manager is further directed and authorized to cause compliance with all reporting requirements required by MVRPC as required as part of the funding process.

Upon application approval, The Miami Conservancy District hereby states its commitment to the local contribution for the project as identified in these applications, including local contribution of costs exceeding the current estimates or subsequent revised estimates as accepted by MVRPC.

It is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of this Board concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting, and that any and all deliberations of this Board and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including, but not limited to Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

This resolution shall become effective immediately upon its passage.

### **FUTURE BOARD MEETING**

The Board members set Tuesday, December 13, 2022, for the next regular meeting of the Board of Directors of The Miami Conservancy District sitting as the Board of Directors of The River Corridor Improvement Subdistrict.

**ADJOURN**

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

**ATTEST:**

**APPROVED:**



**Shannon E. Phelps  
Acting Secretary**



**Mark G. Rentschler  
President**