

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 10:35 a.m. by Mark G. Rentschler, President, with Beth G. Whelley, Vice President, and Michael H. van Haaren, member, present.

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; and Rhonda K. Snyder, Secretary.

Legal counsel in attendance: John M. Hoopingarner, McMahon DeGulis LLP, and Lee A. Slone, McMahon DeGulis LLP.

Guests in attendance at the regular meeting: 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 June 13, 2023.

### **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held on March 22, 2023, were provided to members of the Board for review and comment.

#### **M 2023-215**

The Board of Directors, on motion by Ms. Whelley and seconded by Mr. van Haaren, unanimously approved the Minutes for March 22, 2022.

The RCIS is responsible for 35 miles of recreational trail maintenance and improvements to segments in need of repair and enhancement. MCD is actively assisting its community partners to close the trail gaps and market the Great Miami Riverway.

- Earlier this quarter, Shelby County was awarded \$4M from Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) to assist in closing the gap between Piqua and Lockington.
- MCD is assisting with the planning of a 50-year celebration of the first mile of the Great Miami River Recreation Trail (GMRRT), constructed in Troy. MCD plans to install a commemorative marker and bench honoring Mr. Lukens.

Trail maintenance by MCD included brush and tree clearing projects, monitoring and/or addressing cracks or hazards in the trail or along bridges, and installing or repairing safety features such as fencing, signage, or gates. MCD staff refreshed safety painting on the bikeway in Miamisburg. MCD staff cleared honeysuckle along the bikeway in Miamisburg and Franklin in

an effort to make visibility better on curves and keep the brush from overhanging the trail and interfering with trail users. Cleaning from high water and sign evaluations were conducted throughout the four trail segments/features in Dayton, West Carrollton, Miamisburg, and Franklin.

RCIS currently has nine grant-funded trail projects in Dayton – all in different phases of planning, design, or construction. The project costs total approximately \$8.5M with grant amounts totaling \$5.5M.

Below is the status of trail capital improvement projects.

**Webster Station Ramp Connector**

*Construction expected this July*

- The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) District 7 has awarded the construction contract to Outdoor Enterprise from Troy, Ohio. The low bid was slightly over the final engineer's estimate, but well under MCD's budget for the local share. MCD staff will regularly check in on the project and communicate with ODOT.

**South River Walk Improvements**

*Survey required, may impact schedule*

- Staff has chosen CEC Engineering out of Cincinnati to perform boundary survey and right-of-way plan services to determine if MCD needs to acquire additional property rights to complete the project. The scheduled construction start of 2024 is unlikely to be met. Construction is now likely to start in the spring of 2025. Supplemental appropriations are being requested at this board meeting to cover the surveying costs.

**Old North Dayton Trail, Segment 2**

*Design underway*

- Choice One Engineering continues work on the detailed design plans. The project is on schedule with construction scheduled to begin in 2025.

**GMRRT Sycamore Bridge Replacement**

*Design expected to start this July*

- Woolpert completed the bridge structure type study which has been reviewed by MCD and ODOT District 7. Detailed design of the new bridge is scheduled to start this summer, and construction is scheduled to begin in 2025.

**Safe Recreation Plan**

Staff inventoried and installed low dam warning signs in advance of the spring paddling season.

**Great Miami Riverway**

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

**CONTRIBUTIONS FOR GREAT MIAMI RIVERWAY EVENTS**

The following donors have contributed sponsorship dollars since the March 2023 Board meeting to the Great Miami Riverway for the 2023 Great Miami Riverway Summit held on April 14; the Great Float event in Troy, Ohio on June 29; and the Great Miami Riverway Smallmouth Bass Fishing Challenge from June 17 to September 13. The commitments have been received by MCD prior to the June 21, 2023, Board of Directors meeting. Should additional contributions be received, they will be reported at the next Board meeting.

<u>2023 Summit</u>	<u>Amount</u>
City of Sidney	\$10,000
Altafiber	2,500
Centerpoint Energy	2,500
ASI Roads Biorestor	1,000
Dayton Montgomery County Convention & Visitors Bureau	1,000
Great Parks Hamilton County	1,000
MetroParks of Butler County	1,000
University of Dayton Fitz Center	1,000
Choice One Engineering	500
Ferguson Construction	500
Fishbeck	500
Great Lakes Publishing	500
Montgomery County Commissioners	500
PCS & build	500
Stantec	500
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$23,500</b>
<u>Smallmouth Bass Fishing Challenge</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Molson Coors	\$ 1,000
<u>Great Float</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Kettering Network Services (Kettering Health Troy)	\$ 1,000
Troy Foundation	300

**M 2023-216**

The Board of Directors, on motion by Ms. Whelley and seconded by Mr. van Haaren, unanimously accepted receipt of \$25,800.00 collected through June 14, 2023, from the above sponsors for the 2023 Great Miami Riverway Summit, Smallmouth Bass Fishing Challenge and The Great Float.

**CONTRACT UPDATE**

**Contract:** *Gayle B. Price Bridge Painting*

**Background:** The Gayle B. Price Bridge is a 288-foot-long cable-stay bridge carrying bicycle and pedestrian traffic over the Great Miami River between Triangle Park and Island Park in Dayton. The bridge is a critical part of the Great Miami River Recreation Trail. Original construction of the bridge was completed in 1982.

The bridge is inspected regularly, and in recent years those inspections determined that the bridge would need to be repainted to prevent the structural steel from deteriorating.

**Description:**

The project will include:

- Installing trail detour signage
- Site preparation
- Removing the existing paint from the bridge steel
- Placing three coats of new paint on the bridge steel

**Engineer's Estimate:** \$259,094.26

**Source:** River Corridor Improvement Subdistrict (Fund 200) 100%

**Status:** Construction bids for this project were received on April 28, 2023. Only one bid was received from APBN, Inc. in Pulaski, Pennsylvania. Unfortunately, their bid was \$622,160, which is 140% over the engineer's estimate. Prior to completing the final estimate and bid documents, MCD staff spoke with multiple people with extensive experience in bidding and awarding bridge painting projects including from the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT), and paint supply companies. Staff expected the estimate to be close to bid prices.

After the bid opening, staff again spoke to many people experienced in these projects. Some of the factors that likely led to the high bid and low number of bids were:

- Bidding in the spring when most painting contractors were booked for the year
- Not offering online bidding (most bridge painting contractors are over two hours away)
- Requiring bidders to be ODOT certified for bridge painting

Staff has also been exploring cost savings measures in preparation for re-bidding, such as considering only partial removal of the existing paint. In addition, staff is actively seeking grant opportunities in light of the high bid price and likelihood of a re-bid also coming in higher than the previous engineer's estimate. Considering these additional efforts, staff is unsure of when the re-bid will take place. It is possible staff could request supplemental appropriations at the September 2023 Board of Directors meeting.

### FUTURE BOARD MEETING

At the December 2022 meeting, the Board members set the following dates for the 2023 regular meetings of the Board of Directors of The Miami Conservancy District sitting as the Board of Directors of The River Corridor Improvement Subdistrict: March 8 (rescheduled to March 22), June 21, September 20, and December 13.

### ADJOURN

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

**ATTEST:**

**APPROVED:**

  
Rhonda K. Snyder  
Secretary

  
Mark G. Rentschler  
President