

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 11:13 a.m. by Michael H. van Haaren, President, with Beth G. Whelley, Vice President, and Mark G. Rentschler, member, present. The meeting was held at MCD headquarters located at 38 East Monument Avenue in Dayton.

Members of the staff in attendance at the regular meeting: MaryLynn Lodor, General Manager/Board Secretary; James B. Casper, Manager, Operations and Maintenance; Ginger Clark, Manager of the Great Miami Riverway; Michael P. Ekberg, Manager of Monitoring and Analysis; Sarah Hippensteel Hall, Manager of Communications, Outreach, and Stewardship; Kenneth P. Moyer, Treasurer; Donald P. O'Connor, Chief Engineer; Christina M. Pfeiffer, Executive Assistant; Shannon E. Phelps, Manager of Administration; and Barry M. Puskas, Chief of Technical and Engineering Services.

Legal counsel in attendance at the work session: Lee A. Slone, McMahon DeGulis LLP.

Guests in attendance at the regular meeting: Lori Kershner, LMK Advocacy; and Phillip Hayden, True North Thinking, LLC.

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 meetings by electronic mail dated September 9, 2025.

MINUTES

The Minutes of the Board of Directors meeting of June 25, 2025, were provided to members of the Board for review and comment.

M 2025-165

The Board of Directors, on motion by Ms. Whelley and seconded by Mr. Rentschler, unanimously approved the meeting minutes for June 25, 2025.

Next, Mr. Ekberg presented information related to the exportation of groundwater from the Buried Valley Aquifer.

ASSESSING GROUNDWATER VULNERABILITY TO EXPORT IN THE BURIED VALLEY AQUIFER SYSTEM

The Miami Conservancy District (MCD), in partnership with the Ohio Water Development Authority (OWDA), is embarking on a groundbreaking research initiative to protect one of the region's most vital resources: the Buried Valley Aquifer. This aquifer system supplies drinking water to more than 1 million people and supports local businesses, agriculture, and recreational activities.

The \$200,000 project, funded equally by an OWDA Research and Development Grant and MCD contributions, will assess the aquifer's vulnerability to increasing water withdrawals and the potential for water exports beyond our region. On October 31, 2024, the Ohio Water

Development Board approved MCD's \$100,000 grant request for funding the project. The study will provide data-driven insights and actionable strategies, including:

- Evaluating Current Groundwater Levels: Understanding baseline conditions and trends.
- Assessing Recharge and Usage Rates: Determining how quickly the aquifer replenishes and how much water is currently being used.
- Modeling Potential Impacts: Predicting how increased withdrawals and exports could affect groundwater levels and streamflows.
- Identifying Vulnerabilities: Mapping areas most at risk for over-extraction.
- Developing Sustainable Management Strategies: Proposing best practices to protect the aquifer while supporting regional growth.

This project builds on decades of research conducted by MCD, the U.S. Geological Survey, and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. By leveraging this knowledge and engaging with stakeholders, MCD aims to foster a collaborative approach to water management. Prior to finalizing the Request for Proposal, staff obtained comments and feedback from key APS partners. MCD selected the firm LimnoTech for the study and entered into an agreement (MCD agreement no. 2025-022A).

FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS

During their December 18, 2024, meeting, the Board members set the following dates for the remaining 2025 regular meetings of the Board of Directors of The Miami Conservancy District:

Wednesday, December 17, 2025

ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned on motion by Ms. Whelley and seconded by Mr. Rentschler at 1:38 p.m.

ATTEST:


MaryLynn Lodor
General Manager/Board Secretary

APPROVED:


Michael van Haaren
President