

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 10:50 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 of Operations and Maintenance; Michael P. Ekberg, Manager of Monitoring and Analysis; Sarah Hippensteel Hall, Manager of Communications, Outreach, and Stewardship; Donald P. O'Connor, Chief Engineer; Kenneth P. Moyer, Treasurer; 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 regular meeting: John M. Hoopingarner, McMahon DeGulis LLP.

Guests in attendance at the work session: Lori Kershner, LMK Advocacy; Scott Milburn, Scott Milburn, LLC; and Constance Leach, a resident of West Milton, Ohio.

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 June 17, 2026.

MINUTES

The Minutes of the Board of Directors regular meeting of March 25, 2026, were provided to members of the Board for review and comment.

M 2026-168

The Board of Directors, on motion by Ms. Whelley and seconded by Mr. Rentschler, unanimously approved the meeting minutes for March 25, 2026.

Next, Mr. Ekberg presented the results of a groundwater study that was recently concluded by LimnoTech.

GROUNDWATER STUDY, LEGAL AND POLICY GAP ANALYSIS

The Miami Conservancy District (MCD), in partnership with the Ohio Water Development Authority (OWDA), is conducting 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 one 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, is assessing 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. MCD selected the firm LimnoTech for the study and entered into an agreement (MCD agreement no. 2025-022A).

While the aquifer is a highly productive and valuable regional resource, policy and governance gaps could allow unsustainable withdrawals, interbasin transfers, or conflicts to occur, particularly as water demand increases and development accelerates.

Mr. Ekberg discussed deliverables from LimnoTech including a memo that evaluates the current legal, regulatory, and policy framework governing groundwater in southwest Ohio. The memo identifies gaps that could affect the long-term sustainability of the region's aquifer system. The memo includes recommendations that include groundwater management, permitting thresholds, groundwater stress areas, interstate coordination, public transparency, and how "reasonable use" should be evaluated. While still draft recommendations, they do represent policy choices that could have implications for utilities, local governments, agriculture, industry, economic development, and property owners.

The memo also emphasizes the importance of public participation, collaboration, and the need to balance diverse values in groundwater management. The next phase is intended to include stakeholder engagement to help shape the recommendations before the study is finalized. In preparation for the next step, staff will continue to work closely with LimnoTech.

FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS

At their December 17, 2025 meeting, the Board members set the following dates for future 2026 meetings of the Board of Directors of The Miami Conservancy District:

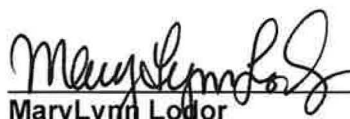
Wednesday, August 26, 2026

Thursday, December 17, 2026

ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned on motion by Ms. Whelley and seconded by Mr. Rentschler at 12:57 p.m.

ATTEST:


Mary Lynn Lodor
General Manager/Board Secretary

APPROVED:


Michael H. van Haaren
President