

**Friends of the Little Miami State Park
General Board Meeting 2/12/2025
MS Teams
Meeting Agenda & Presentation- **minutes****

Minutes

Motions

Actions

AGENDA / STRATEGIC PLAN.

1. Introductions
2. Approval of Minutes
3. Treasurer's Report
4. ODNR Report
5. FLMSP Administrative Business
6. Volunteer Management
7. Outreach
8. Beauty
9. Amenities/Convenience
10. Trail Condition & Drainage
11. Safety
12. Future General Board Meetings

Call to Order: Dick Feldmann

Introduction of Board:

Dick Feldmann	President
Ron Gorley	Vice President
Becky Retzer	Treasurer
Bill Brown	Secretary
Rick Forrester	Member at Large
John Telintelo	Member at Large -
Bruce Cortright	Member at Large

Introduction of Members and Guests:

Casey Marcum	ODNR
Tiffany DeChant-Hunt	ODNR
Margee Kirkpatrick	
Diane Wright	

Approval of Minutes: Bill Brown

- **January Board Meeting minutes distributed February 7, 2024.**

MOTION: Bill made a motion to approve Jan. meeting minutes

Ron seconded

Motion Approved

Treasurer's Report: Becky Retzer

FLMSP CASH ON HAND	12/31/24	1/31/25	
Unrestricted	127,224	125,055	-1,988
Restricted	129,435	127,836	-1,599
Memorial Benches	1,635	36	-1,599
Pavement Fund*	107,800	107,800	10
Grandin Rest & Info Station	10,000	10,000	0
Oregonia Educational Garden	10,000	10,000	0
Savings Account	42,631	42,636	5
CD(s)	163,028	163,400	372
Receivables	2,628	2,779	151
Total	259,287	255,670	-3,436

P&L Comparison	YTD 12/23	YTD 12/24	YTD 01/24	YTD 01/25
Revenue	118,697	134,734	7,914	3,444
Expenses	70,318	77,832	5,472	6,870
Net Operating Revenue	49,049	56,902	2,442	-3,424

Treasurer Narrative – Becky Retzer

- Financials emailed 02/11/2025
- CD Renewal Dates: LCNB 04/03/25 4.40% Bal. 53,894.47
- Rate for Roxanna Storage raised from \$120 to \$150 (/year??) **Correction: Per month**

Becky asked for approval for 2024 year end financial reports No questions or comments. Board approved.

- Motions
 - o **Pay Fermann Staun & Co \$1,627.50**
 - Tax Prep Fees 875.00
 - Charitable Reg Reimb. 100.00
 - Charitable Reg Prep Fee 50.00
 - Misc. Accounting Assist. 602.50
 - o **Pay UPS Yearly Fee \$300.00 (estimate – requested an invoice) not to exceed \$350**
 - o **Ohio Dept. of Motor Vehicles – Trailer Renewals 3/20 53.59 & 51.59**

MOTION: Becky made a motion to pay Fermann Staun & Co \$1,627.50, pay UPS Yearly Fee not to exceed \$350 and pay Ohio Dept. of Motor Vehicles for Trailer Renewals 3/20 53.59 & 51.59
Ron seconded
Motion approved

- o Closed 2 Huntington CD's, currently in Huntington Premier Plus Savings account with 3.82% interest
 - Current balance 109,825.48
 - Motion to move 42,636 from LCNB savings to Premier Plus Savings
 - Motion to move 15,000 from LCNB checking to Premier Plus Savings

MOTION: Becky made a motion to move \$42,636 from LCNB savings to Premier Plus Savings and to move \$15,000 from LCNB checking to Premier Plus Savings.

Dick seconded

Motion approved

ODNR, Casey Marcum, Tiffany DeChant-Hunt

Morgan Property

- Officially announced: Morgan Canoe Livery and Morgan Campground properties are being acquired by ODNR.

Staffing

- Casey Marcum, Maintenance Lead

Spring Tree Removal

- Casey wants to remove dead trees accumulated on the trail this winter. Asked FLMSP volunteers to assist her.
- Casey asked to have Tiffany get a wood removal permit so the wood does not sit by the trail.
- April 1 - November 1 is bat season and trees need to be taken down outside of this timeframe.

New Mower

- Quote for solid wheels and blower gate.
- Casey sent a quote to Dick for tweels and a blower gate for the new mower.
- Old mowers will remain in service.

MOTION: Dick made a motion to fund upgrades to mower not to exceed \$2,000.

Ron seconded

Motion passed

Becky asked about documentation for tax purposes and Dick mentioned it should be documented. Tiffany said she can provide a hand receipt and Becky will put it on file in Quickbooks.

Bridge Repair

- MM6.1 Spring Valley at Bellbrook Ave.
- Culvert before horse farm
- Culvert at Oregonia
- **Dick asked volunteer team leaders about bridge improvement/repair or culvert projects with mile marker locations to provide to Tiffany and Casey.**
- **Dick said we want to feed the engineers with our opinions of areas for state engineers to consider.**
- **Rick asked Casey to look at the (not sure what area was being discussed. Possible area near the Miamiville Bridge.) Casey looked and said it had not gotten worse, but looks bad since grass doesn't cover it in the winter. Casey suggested filling in with dead trees and brush and then covering it with dirt.**

Grandin Road Land Transfer

First Annual Volunteer Celebration

- February 9th 2025, 1pm-3pm
- Caesar Creek Army Corps Education Room

Trail slip at I-71 Jeremiah Morrow Bridge (MM 22.1)

- ODNR Engineering developing a renovation plan.

Trail slip at Glady Run (MM 4.5)

- No change.

Trail slip at Glendale-Milford Rd (MM 50)

- No change.

FLMSP ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

Funding for pavement replacement, Ron Gorley

- Repave between South Lebanon and Morrow.
- Ohio capital budget \$200,000
- FLMSP has committed \$50,000
- Major campaign 2024 ~\$**56,000**.
- Grant from Cincinnati Cycle Club for \$2,500.
- Major campaign goal for 2025: ~\$**45,000**.
 - o Request went out to TrailMail mailing list February 1st.
 - o **Received \$8,000 February 1 to date.**
 - o We did not receive the Warren County Foundation impact grant.
 - o Request to approximately 30 large organizations/donors went out.
 - o Will research Grant Station for possible donors.
 - o **Dick puts us at \$28,000 for pledges so far.**
- ODNR researching using the pavement project funds as a basis for a matching grant.
 - o The matching grant funds would be used for the park infrastructure, but probably other issues such as pavement slips or bridge replacement rather than repaving.

- ODNR may use an existing paving contract through ODOT.
- ODNR requested a transfer of funds to their accounting in March.
- S. Lebanon expecting to bid out municipal wastewater upgrade, including repaving 0.9 miles of the trail, spring 2025, with work done later in the year.

Repavement Fund		
Balance as of 2/11/2025	114,830	Includes FLMP 50,000
Pledges	2,500	Cincy Cycle Club
	7,500	Cohen
	1,500	Beck/Glancy
	10,000	Ohio to Erie
Checks & PayPal not deposited	875	
	137,205	

- Feb 28th set for meeting with Tiffany, Ron and Dick on the pavement project.
- Dick and Ron can show Casey the .9 M section north of the planned paved section that will also be paved.
- Rick asked what repaving entails. Ron said our contract is 1.5 inches removed and repaved. A past project just had pavement put over top of old pavement. Tiffany said it will meet state engineers specs and just top paving will not be allowed in this project.
- How will tree roots be addressed? Casey said trees close to the trail should be removed.

Board Succession, Dick Feldmann

- By Annual Membership meeting in May.

Blower Teams, Dick Feldmann

- South blower at Century Equipment for repair.
- Needs new starter and a new fly wheel gear assembly.
- Repair quote came in at \$1,213.66.
- \$1,500 approved by board by e-mail vote 1/22/2025.
- Blower picked up yesterday, 2/11. All looks good.

Kabota tractor, Bruce Cortright

- Tractor at Baxla Tractor Sales for annual maintenance.
- Tractor due for the hydro oil to be changed this year. Also needs fuel gauge repair.
- Maintenance quoted out at \$1,000.
- \$1,200 approved by board by e-mail vote 1/27/2025.

MOTION: Dick made a motion to increase the approved amount to \$1,400 to cover the higher cost of tractor maintenance.

Bruce seconded.

motion approved.

FLMSP Large Equipment Storage Facility, Rick Forrester

- Rick asked if we wanted to do a sub committee on the storage building project.
- Door height can be modified on the pre-built barns Rick showed last meeting.

- Tony Blizniak wants to use the garage that's behind the barn at Fosters. Rick doesn't recommend this idea.
- Dick says the property line may not bisect the building. Property line imagery on the internet may or may not be correct per Dick's experience. He recommends hiring a surveyor to set the property line. Tiffany will ask for an ODNR surveyor to do it.

VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT

Volunteer database, Becky Retzer

- Meeting with Amy Forrester to discuss Volgistics and onboarding process for new volunteers as well as reach-outs to current volunteers.

Volunteer Agreement Renewal

- Request e-mail went to all volunteers whose forms will be expiring in 2025.
 - o Attached cover letter to email was not what we wanted to send out. Please ignore the discrepancies.

2025 Volunteer Events, Dick Feldmann

- Ideas? Planning? Leadership?

OUTREACH

Chronolog Timelapse Stations, Bill Brown

- Chronolog Station Activity:
 - o Pollinator Garden: 37 contributors/ 73 photos
 - o O'Bannon Creek Bridge: 30 contributors / 59 photos
 - o S. Lebanon Rain Garden: 3 contributors / 5 photos
 - Post to be moved after swale is finished.
- Motion to fund the three stations for another year for \$510.00

MOTION: Bill made a motion to fund three stations for another year for \$510.

Ron seconded

Motion Approved

Great Parks Branding Meetings, Ron Gorley

- Great Parks is working on an initiative to create a park name for the Little Miami corridor, which contains three of our locations: Little Miami Golf Course, Bass Island, and Avoca.
- Meetings:
 - o 02/13, 8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
 - o 02/15, 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
 - o 02/19, 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
- Bill Brown agreed to support.

Tri State Trails, Ron Gorley

- Regional Trail & Bikeway Committee Webinar: State and federal funding opportunities for 2025.
- Featured Speakers
- Webinar: Feb 21, 9:30-11:00am
- **Anyone interested in representing FLMS?**
- **Dick will sign in and attend on-line.**

Cincinnati Cycling Club Annual Banquet, Dick Feldmann

- February 2, 2024, Barrel Room at MadTree in Oakley. Ron and Dick supported.

BEAUTY

Pollinator Gardens, Becky Retzer, Rick Forrester

- Grant from Appletree Pet Clinic \$10,000.
- **MM 19.9 Oregonia Educational Garden**
 - o Working with Christopher on his Eagle Scout Project. Christopher is continuing with his project plans. Goal is to begin in March/April 2025 with soil remediation.
- MM 39.1 under power lines doing well.
- New area at MM 38.5.

Americorps, Becky Retzer

- Becky met with Abby. Abby is working on plans for 2 test plantings between S. Lebanon and Morrow where Thursday crew removed honeysuckle. One area will have a ground cover planted to observe if helps with invasives growing. Abby will utilize our database to invite volunteers who indicated they are available in the evening and/or weekends. Project budget forthcoming.

South Lebanon Rain Garden, Becky Retzer

- Invoice sent to Warren County Soil & Water Conservation to get the \$6,000 grant funds.
- Need to make small culvert to divert water from the road into garden, something our volunteers can do.
- Need to design poster for the S. Lebanon Kiosk.
- Warren County to provide signage to put at the rain garden:

Natorp's Donation for Garden, Becky Retzer

AMENITIES/CONVENIENCE

Information Kiosks, Becky Retzer

- Develop new maps.
- Mount permanent signs on metal backing.
- John has received the work from the mapographer and is working on adding amenities at each trailhead as well as logos. Each trailhead will have an enlargement of the area to easily read streets. We need to provide link to our website where we want the QR code to land.
- Need final review by park management.

Grandin Rd. Access Point, Dick Feldmann

- \$10,000 from Applebaums in 2022
- Land Transfer currently under review by National Park Service.

Corwin Parking, Dick Feldmann

- Steve Williamson of Red Barn in Corwin has our approval to purchase the material and increase the bike user parking in Corwin.
- Work hasn't started.
- **People who are going to excavate the area had equipment problems and have not yet started.**

Spring Valley

- Bike Pump broke again. Will need to order new hose and valve connection.

Paint Corwin Restrooms, Dick Feldmann

- Awaiting spring
- **Casey wants to make sure paint colors are coordinated at Corwin and MM39 shelters to match current green and brown colors.**

MM39 Prairie Shelter Roof, Rick Forrester

- Needs roof repair.

FLMSP Train Museum, Rick Forrester

- We have the rail, and lots of spikes and plates.

Park Entry Signs, Dick Feldmann

- No Change (due to winter weather)
- Proposing new signage at all entry points. Trail has
 - o 45 Intersections
 - o 2 Park Boundaries
- Status
 - o Someone hit and destroyed sign tree at MM 42.9 Lower River Rd.
 - o 67 of 92 sign trees complete.
 - o 9 out of 17 new or replacement sign posts installed.
 - o Order for additional signs to complete class B intersections received.

TRAIL CONDITION & DRAINAGE

Route 73 Bridge over trail at Corwin (MM 14.5)

- Near completion.
- Trail is open. New pavement in construction area.
- Road: New east and west bound lane open.
- Managed by ODOT District 8.
- <https://www.transportation.ohio.gov/about-us/news/district-8/warren+county+bridge+rehab+project+set+to+begin+on+s.r.+73+02+14+24>

Route 42 Bridge over trail at Spring Valley (MM 7.0)

- Near completion
- Trail is open.
- Road: New north and south bound lane open.
- Managed by ODOT District 8.
- <https://www.transportation.ohio.gov/projects/projects/102746>

Trail slip at I-71 Jeremiah Morrow Bridge (MM 22.1)

- See above.

Trail slip at Glendale-Milford Rd (MM 50)

- See above.
- **Should be “Galbraith Road”, not Glendale-Milford Rd.**

Trail slip at Gladys Run (MM 4.5)

- See above.

Middletown Road area, Rick Forrester

- Part of the trail (north of the intersection about 50 feet) is being undercut by either a collapsed drainage pipe or by groundhogs.
- **Rick asked about a public event in Loveland. Rick will check with his volunteers to see if he can get some help leading this. Helmet giveaway or bike safety are possible events.**
- **Dave Kenndey can be contacted for Nisbet Park events in Loveland. Becky will call Gary Gross (sp) who expressed interest in leading this in the past.**
- **Margee said we got an email requesting pictures of the LMSP Scenic trail. She will look around at our available files and ask if she doesn't find what she is looking for.**
- **Bruce said LMSP got mentioned in Roland and Juliana's new video on the Ohio to Erie Trail including. Check Youtube here :**
<https://youtu.be/gzJdw81AouM?feature=shared>

SAFETY

FUTURE GENERAL BOARD MEETINGS

March General Board Meeting, Wednesday, March 12th, **5:00** in person at Caesar Creek Hopewell Day Lodge.

Annual Membership Meeting, Propose May 4th, details TBD

MOTION: Dick made a motion to adjourn.

Ron Seconded

Motion approved.

