

**Friends of the Little Miami State Park  
General Board Meeting 6/11/2025  
Virtual - 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. Trail Maintenance/Safety
7. Trail Amenities/Convenience
8. Trail Improvements/Beauty
9. FLMSP Volunteer Events
10. FLMSP Trail Mail
11. FLMSP Outreach
12. Future General Board Meetings

**Call to Order:** Becky Retzer

**Introduction of Board:**

|                        |                        |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Becky Retzer</b>    | <b>President</b>       |
| <b>Dick Feldmann</b>   | <b>Vice President</b>  |
| <b>Bill Brown</b>      | <b>Treasurer</b>       |
| <b>John Telintelo</b>  | <b>Secretary</b>       |
| Rick Forrester         | Member at Large        |
| <b>Bruce Cortright</b> | <b>Member at Large</b> |
| <b>Kris Allenson</b>   | <b>Member at Large</b> |

**Introduction of Members and Guests:**

|                           |                         |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Casey Marcum</b>       | <b>ODNR</b>             |
| Tiffany DeChant-Hunt      | ODNR                    |
| <b>Margee Kirkpatrick</b> | <b>FLMSP Trail Mail</b> |
| Diane Wright              | FLMSP Trail Mail        |

**Approval of Minutes:** John Telintelo

- WED APR 9 Board Meeting Minutes distributed April 10, 2025 by Bill Brown.

**MOTION: Dick made a motion to approve the April Board Meeting minutes.**

**Bruce seconded. Motion Approved.**

- SUN MAY 11 Annual Meeting Minutes distributed June 11, 2025 by Bill Brown.

**MOTION: Dick made a motion to approve the May Annual Meeting minutes.**

**Bill seconded. Motion Approved.**

**TREASURER'S REPORT: Bill Brown**

Premier Savings as of 5/31/2025: \$23,699.04

LCNB Checking as of 4/30/2025: \$109,641.27

**Bill hasn't reconciled the bank account yet.**

**Bill will get with Becky and prepare a treasurer report in format for the July meeting.**

- Received an IRS penalty notice for 2,200.00 for filing late. Sent a copy via email to David M. Fermann, CPA. This is due by 4/21/2025.

**Becky says the advice from CPA is to sit tight.**

- **We surpassed our 200 Volgistics volunteers limit. Kris suggested increasing monthly Volgistics payment from \$75 to \$89 dollars per month. This includes inactive as well as applicants. New rate allows up to 500 entries.**

**MOTION: Dick made a motion to approve increase to \$89.**

**Bruce seconded. Motion Approved.**

- **\$5,000 restricted gift being sent for bump grinding equipment or equipment needed to help maintain trail. Donor is also volunteer who helped with Oregonia garden. Will need a motion to receive restricted gift after donor agrees to chipper.**

**Becky will ask if donor is OK with donation can be spent on chipper and then email board a motion or bring it up for vote at the July meeting.**

**ODNR REPORT, Casey Marcum, Tiffany DeChant-Hunt**Staffing

- Casey Marcum, Maintenance Lead
- Russ

**Casey has info on equipment that will remove moss on trail and will send it out.**

Morgan Property

- Morgan Canoe Livery and Morgan Campground properties are being acquired by ODNR. Land is currently in Miami Conservancy hands.

**FLMSP ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS**Funding for pavement replacement

- Repave between South Lebanon and Morrow.
- Ohio capital budget \$200,000.
- FLMSP has delivered \$152,580 to ODNR.
- ODNR will use an existing paving contract through ODOT. If project is 4 days, will be scheduled this summer. If project is longer, will be scheduled after Labor Day.
- 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. S. Lebanon has blue water lines marked (also into rain garden)

FLMSP Policies on Record Retention

**John Telintelo will be working on revising the record retention policy. Current is from 2012 and is very excessive on required record keeping. Goal is to utilize Google Drive, Quickbooks and digital files to store data.**

**Discussed 2012 - 2019 minutes needing to be scanned. Dick and Becky suggested it be done in-house and will scan over the next couple of months.**

**Photo Storage - Kris will report on Photo Storage next month.**

## **TRAIL MAINTENANCE/SAFETY**

*Focuses on preserving the trail's condition, preventing further deterioration, and emphasizing safety. Review of trail slips; bridge repairs or replacement; bump grinding, root cutting, crack filling; drainage swales and culverts; clearing intersection sight lines; equipment purchases and storage caches.*

### Bridge/Culvert Repair 2025 Plan

- MM 6.1 Bridge in Spring Valley at Bellbrook Ave.
- MM 18.7 Culvert before horse farm
- MM 19.6 Culvert at Oregonia
- MM 33 Bridge at S. Lebanon

### Trail slip at Glady Run (MM 4.5)

- No change.

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

- ODNR Engineering is developing a renovation plan.
- Not scheduled. Aiming for the fall.

### 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.

### Trail slip at Glendale-Milford Rd (MM 50)

- No change.

### FLMSP Large Equipment Storage Facility, Rick Forrester

- Facility Committee: Rick Forrester, John Telintelo, Tony Blizniak, Dick Feldmann.
- Proposing prefab 14' x 24' metal structure dropped on site.
- Location: Foster parking lot just north of existing barn and shed.



- Cost (still rough estimates)
  - Barn kit with delivery. \$10,500
  - Site Prep. \$200
    - Gravel foundation. \$200
    - Gravel compactor \$200
  - Roof skylights. \$500
  - Solar lighting system \$500
  - Security (locks) & alarm \$200

- Miscellaneous \$500
- TOTAL ~\$13,500
- Next Steps
  - Finalize structure design and cost
  - Finalize foundation design
  - Finalize cost
  - Provide written presentation for state review and approval
  - Board approval

## **TRAIL AMENITIES/CONVENIENCE**

*Focuses on directional aids and places to stop and recharge, consisting of park signage, rest and information kiosks, memorial benches, picnic tables, bike stands, restrooms, and rain shelters.*

### Information Kiosks, Becky Retzer

- Metal signs came within \$3200 budget
- ODNR requested we stain cork or remove and stain board. Also requested that in future all kiosks be stained same color. Aim is to be consistent with ODNR branding in Park
- Foster's Kiosk restained and signs on wood backing –visually posters stand out.



### Park Entry Signs, Dick Feldmann

- New signage at all entry points. Trail has
  - 45 Intersections
  - 2 Park Boundaries
- Status
  - 67 of 92 sign trees complete.
  - 9 out of 18 new or replacement sign posts installed.

**Two more sign posts to be installed in coming month.**

- Issue: Sign at south end Oregonia hit and taken down.

### MM39 Prairie Shelter Roof, Rick Forrester

- Needs roof repair

## **Memorial Program (including benches)**

- **Currently have policy for Benches only**
- **Working on several other options i.e. Birdhouses, Sculptures, Peace Poles, Tables for new shelter and elsewhere**
- **New policy needs to list life of item and release from liability for FLMSP when life expectancy has been met.**
- **Want to add policy for Birdhouses. Becky suggested we need to know life expectancy of bird houses and inform donors.**



|                    | Song Bird  | Blue Bird  | Screech Owl |
|--------------------|------------|------------|-------------|
| <b>Baffle</b>      | <b>70</b>  | <b>70</b>  |             |
| <b>Nesting Box</b> | <b>70</b>  | <b>70</b>  | <b>140</b>  |
| <b>4x4 Post</b>    | <b>21</b>  | <b>21</b>  |             |
| <b>Shipping</b>    | <b>15</b>  | <b>15</b>  | <b>15</b>   |
| <b>Plaque</b>      | <b>15</b>  | <b>15</b>  | <b>15</b>   |
| <b>Profit</b>      | <b>65</b>  | <b>95</b>  | <b>125</b>  |
| <b>TOTAL</b>       | <b>255</b> | <b>325</b> | <b>295</b>  |

**MOTION: Kris made a motion to approve songbird and blue bird houses for memorials.**  
**John seconded.**  
**Motion Approved.**

#### 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.

#### Corwin Restrooms, Dick Feldmann

- Painting to begin in spring

#### Spring Valley

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

## TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS/BEAUTY

*Enhances the trail beyond its current state with substantial changes, increasing its value, beauty, and overall image over time by creating pollinator gardens, raingardens, tree plantings, river vistas, riverbank restorations, railroad memorabilia elements, and developing strong districts and landmarks.*

### Pollinator Gardens, Becky Retzer, Rick Forrester

- **MM 19.9 Oregonia Educational Garden**
  - Had a great workday on Saturday, May 17 with 5 FLMSP Volunteers and 13 adults and scouts from Troop 194.
  - Christopher Todorov coordinated the work day including raising funds for the wood posts, sign boards and lunch for volunteer.
    - Crushed gravel paths installed
    - Garden plots were cleared and 2/3's planted.
  - Becky has found water bladders to use to be able to transport 80 gallons of water at a time. One also given to new volunteer, Micki Anderson
  - Recruiting garden plot adopters to help maintain the weeds
  - Working on the signage for kiosk and 11 sign posts in garden.
  - Goal is to have "grand opening" by end of June with invites to Mary Gertz, Hope Taft, Applebaums & Eagle Scout
- MM 39.1 under power lines doing well.
- New area at MM 38.5. - Rick Forrester



### AmeriCorps, Becky Retzer

- Abby Rathers – installed tree tubes & wrote article for Trail Mail
- All plans have survived the cicadas and critters
- Featured in Facebook post by

### South Lebanon Rain Garden, Becky Retzer

- Blue water lines painted on gravel in center of garden – need to contact S. Lebanon

### FLMSP Train Museum, Rick Forrester

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

## FLMSP VOLUNTEER EVENTS

### 2025 Volunteer Events

- **Summer Volunteer Cookout, Becky Retzer**
  - **June 21<sup>st</sup> 11:30 – 1:30 Morrow**
  - **\$250 approved via email vote.**
- **Annual Volunteer Recognition Picnic – Kris Allenson**
  - **Testerman Park Shelter to be confirmed for Sunday, October 5<sup>th</sup>.**
  - Becky wrote sponsorship request to Interact for Health to cover meal and extras. We will be informed if awarded by August 15<sup>th</sup>.
  - Kris recruiting volunteers to solicit gift cards

### Chainsaw Team Guide, Rick Forrester

- Updated Chainsaw guide written and reviewed. Suggested changes have been incorporated.
- Does anyone else on the board want to review before we publish to web site.

### **FLMSP TRAIL MAIL**

Margee Kirkpatrick

Diane Wright

- Margee has requested someone to help provide pictures, graphics and proofread

Newsletter – Dick Feldmann

- Janet was given free range. She was careful that FLMSP was not endorsing (i.e. article about trailside bar/restaurant, events)
- What is our goal for Trail Mail?

### **FLMSP OUTREACH**

**Becky suggested we typically put out an email request for additional funds.  
Will make it happen in July.**

**Margee suggested a FLMSP booth at Hamilton Township Boat Regatta in early August.**

### **FUTURE GENERAL BOARD MEETINGS**

WED JULY 9, 2025 from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM on MS Teams

**MOTION: Dick made a motion to adjourn. MS Teams cut out.  
Meeting adjourned at end of MS Teams 50 minute limit.**