

**Friends of the Little Miami State Park
General Board Meeting 8/13/2025
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:

Becky Retzer	President
Dick Feldmann	Vice President
Bill Brown	Treasurer
John Telintelo	Secretary
Rick Forrester	Member at Large
Bruce Cortright	Member at Large
Kris Allenson	Member at Large

Introduction of Members and Guests:

Casey Marcum	ODNR
Margee Kirkpatrick	FLMSP Trail Mail
Ron Gorley	FLMSP Memorial Program

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: John Telintelo

- July 9, 2025, Board Meeting Minutes distributed July 16, 2025, by John Telintelo.
MOTION: John made a motion to approve the July Board Meeting minutes.
Dick seconded. Motion Approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Bill Brown

- **Bruce had made an email motion to remove some downed trees near Miamiville.**
EMAIL MOTION: Made and approved previously for up to \$1,800 for Shawnee Tree Service.
- **An Email Motion will be needed from Bruce next week for the complete repair of the Kubota Tractor PTO mechanism after receiving a quote from Baxla Tractor Sales.**
- **Becky will request Huntington Bank to give Treasurer Bill Brown access to debit card. She will also get him access to constant contact.**
- **Bill presented the following financial report:**

PROFIT & LOSS		Jan-Jul 2025	Jan-Jul 2024
Revenue		\$88,028	\$45,833
Interest Rev.		\$2,891	\$2,911
Expenses		-\$200,037	-\$34,219
Total		-\$109,118	\$14,525
June 30, CASH ON HAND		July 31, 2025	2025
		Delta	
Total Cash		\$148,579	\$138,278
Operating Account		\$38,260	\$27,959
Huntington Savings		\$110,319	\$110,319
Cert. of Deposit		\$0	\$0
Restricted		\$22,357	\$13,672
Benchies		\$10,118	\$0
Pavement Fund		\$520	\$520
Grandin Rest & Info. Station		\$10,063	\$10,063
Oregonia Garden		\$1,656	\$3,089
Unrestricted		\$23,642	\$22,026

ODNR REPORT: Tiffany DeChant-Hunt, Casey Marcum

Morgan Property Status

- ODNR will acquire the Morgan Canoe Livery and Morgan Campground properties. The land is currently in the Miami Conservancy hands. **Casey mentioned that a Port-o-let is needed on the property. Dick Feldman to arrange getting a port-o-let there.**

South Lebanon Construction Area

- **Casey has temporarily taken down the post at the S. Lebanon construction area.**

FLMSP ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS: Becky Retzer

Record Retention Policy

- John had revised the record retention policy and emailed a copy to Becky, Dick, and Bill for their initial review. **Becky still needs to discuss with John – will get done within the next week and submit policy to the Board for review and approval in September.**

Photo Retention

- **Kris was not present but will report on photo storage in September. Please put any photos in the Photos folder for her use.**

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 equipment storage caches.

Major Pavement Replacement between South Lebanon and Morrow

- ODNR will use an existing paving contract through ODOT. The project will be scheduled after Labor

Day. S. Lebanon expects to bid out municipal wastewater upgrade, including repaving 0.9 miles of the trail, with other work done later. **No Contract yet.**

MM 4.5 - Trail Slip at Glady Run

- **No Change.**

MM 6.1 - Bridge in Spring Valley at Bellbrook Ave

- **The project is in Engineering.**

MM 13 - Trail Undercut at Middletown Road area

- **A portion of the trail (north of the intersection, about 50 feet) is being undercut by either a collapsed drainage pipe or groundhogs. There is a large hole in the asphalt nearby. No Change.**

MM 18.7 – Culvert before Horse Farm

- **No Change.**

MM 19.6 – Culvert at Oregonia

- **No Change.**

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

- **ODNR Engineering has completed a plan. Project not currently scheduled. It will be planned for the fall/winter as the trail in that area will be closed.**

MM 33 – Bridge Repair/Replacement at South Lebanon

- **No Change.**

MM 40 – Salt Run Bridge

- **Rick suggested that a wider bridge is needed as there are safety issues and potential accidents.**

MM 44 – Culvert Partially Collapsed

- **No Change.**

MM 50 - Trail Slip at Glendale-Milford Rd

- **No Change.**

FLMSP - Large Equipment Storage Facility, Rick Forrester

- Facility Committee: Rick Forrester, John Telintelo, Tony Blizniak, Dick Feldmann. The next step is to finalize prefab 14' x 24' metal structure, design and cost. Then Dick will put together a formal proposal with engineer-stamped building drawings and a site plan for Tiffany to take for State review.
- **Rick noted that he is concerned with the low interior height of Crickett buildings. He will research other manufacturers and present alternatives at the September meeting.**

FLMSP – Non-Profit Grants, Becky Retzer

- Phil Obermiller's friend, David Osborne, is involved with the Greater Cincinnati Foundation. He gave Becky a contact to find out how to apply for a grant for \$20,000.
- **Becky did not apply for that grant as there was a time restraint for submitting in August. Becky will follow up with Sarah on possible other funding for future projects.**

FLMSP – Equipment Purchase, Bruce Cortright

- A \$5,000 donation was received from Thomas Osterhus designated for trail maintenance equipment. A PTO-type wood chipper for honeysuckle and smaller 2" -3" tree limbs and brush was considered. The PTO-type chipper requires the Kubota tractor. Some felt that needing the tractor to operate this

equipment hinders its use along entire trail. **Bruce and Bill will reconsider other chippers or equipment and report back at the September meeting.**

TRAIL AMENITIES/CONVENIENCE

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

Information Kiosks, Becky Retzer

- **Becky noted that stain color for Kiosks and other structures should be Chocolate Chips Solid.**
- **Jim Schneider is installing new posters and staining the kiosk backing with the new stain at Loveland and Milford.**
- **Dick will change out the locks.**

Park Entry Signs, Dick Feldmann

- **New signage at all entry points. The trail has 45 Intersections and 2 Park Boundaries.**
- **91 Total Signs. 63 fully populated, 9 partially populated but complete, 19 in process.**
- **17 new sign trees / 12 complete / will finish up over the next two weeks.**

Prairie Shelter Roof MM39, Rick Forrester

- **Needs Roof Repair – Green Metal Roof, not asphalt, is desired by the State to be consistent.**

Memorial Program/Benches, Ron Gorley

- Currently have a policy for Benches only. Working on several other options, i.e., Birdhouses, Sculptures, Peace Poles, and Picnic Tables for new shelter and elsewhere. The new policy needs to list the item's life and release from liability for FLMSF when the life expectancy has been met.
- **New Benches remain as is supplied by RJ Thomas. New Metal Picnic Tables will be same as those at Loveland's Nesbit Park.**

Miamiville Trailhead Improvements – Bruce Cortright and Ron Gorley

- **A \$10,000 donation was received from Dr. Robert Reed and is designated for the Miamiville bench and tables. Donor wishes the Miamiville memorial bench to honor Bill Schwin. Bruce will meet with Ron and John to review the Miamiville site. Ron to process this memorial.**
- **Tiffany previously suggested the following:**
 - **Rip out the Murphy Bench and provide 2 new benches.**
 - **2 picnic tables on the kiosk side of trail & 2 picnic tables on other side of trail.**
 - **Add new bike rack.**
 - **ODNR will provide mulch and a welcome sign to install on the back of the existing kiosk.**



Corwin Restrooms, Dick Feldmann

- **Painting to begin as soon as the temperatures and humidity drops.**
- **Will have new volunteers to do painting.**
- **Casey has picked out paint chips.**
- **MOTION: Dick made a motion to buy 6-8 gallons of paint and supplies at \$300. Rick seconded. Motion Approved.**

Spring Valley

- **The Bike Pump had broken. Dick ordered a new 'exterior' hose and valve connection, which was not the actual problem. So Dick has now ordered new 'interior' hose and the parts for the**

repairs.

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.

Oregonia Educational Garden MM 19.9 Becky Retzer, Rick Forrester

- **Garden is doing well and so are weeds.**
- **Looking at possibility of adding 2 gravity-fed water tanks on platforms at each end.**
- **Opening was canceled due to rain.**

AmeriCorps, Becky Retzer, Rick Forrester

- **Plants are doing great. Thursday crew weeded.**

South Lebanon Rain Garden, Becky Retzer

- Blue water lines painted on gravel in center of garden.

Train Memorabilia Elements, Rick Forrester

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

FLMSP VOLUNTEER NEWS/EVENTS

New North Crew, Dick Feldmann

- **Crew wants to get chainsaw training.**

Volunteer Events, Kris Allenson

- Annual Volunteer Recognition Picnic – Testerman Park Shelter confirmed for Sunday, October 5. Becky wrote sponsorship request to Interact for Health to cover meal and extras. Kris recruiting volunteers to solicit gift cards and getting good results.

FLMSP TRAIL MAIL

Trail Mail Suggestions, Margee Kirkpatrick / Diane Wright

- **Article suggestions are welcomed. As we expand the memorial program to include more than benches, we need description on process for trail lovers who may want to donate and participate in a memorial. Ron Gorley to write up.**

Write Up on Dirk Morgan, Margee Kirkpatrick

- **Becky asked that Dirk's article he wrote be sent out to Board for review and approval.**

Readers who have unsubscribed to Trail Mail, Margee Kirkpatrick

- **Suggestion was made to delete those email addresses in Quickbooks**

Motorized Scooters, Margee Kirkpatrick

- **Suggestion was made for article that motorized scooters are not allowed on the trail. Only E-Bikes Class I and II allowed. Notify ODNR if riders see this in specific location.**

FLMSP OUTREACH

TriState Trails Webinar, FRI JUL 25

- **Dick gave a power point presentation about trail maintenance and volunteers. Dick will put in order for a book on trail maintenance that was discussed.**

ODNR Blue Ribbons and Green Spaces, TUE JUL 29

- **Invite from Glen Cobb. Dick Feldmann and Kris Allenson attended. Held at the Ohio State Fairgrounds, featuring a social hour, networking, and appreciation for collaboration in preserving Ohio's natural resources**

FUTURE GENERAL BOARD MEETINGS

WED, SEPTEMBER 10TH, 2025 from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM in person (location TBD)

MOTION: Becky made a motion to adjourn. John seconded. Motion Approved.