

**Friends of the Little Miami State Park
General Board Meeting
July 8, 2026
Virtual – MS Teams
Meeting Minutes**

Minutes

Motions

Actions

AGENDA / STRATEGIC PLAN

1. Call to Order & Attendance
2. Approval of Previous Minutes
3. Treasurer's Report
4. Administrative Business
5. Trail Maintenance & Safety
6. Trail Amenities & Convenience
7. Trail Improvements & Beauty
8. FLMSP Volunteer News & Events
9. FLMSP Trail Mail
10. FLMSP Outreach
11. FLMSP Future Board Meetings

1. CALL TO ORDER & ATTENDANCE: Dick Feldmann

Board Members:

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

ODNR, Other Members, and Guests:

Tiffany DeChant Hunt	ODNR
Casey Marcum	ODNR
Margee Kirkpatrick	FLMSP Trail Mail
Diane Wright	FLMSP Trail Mail / Buckeye Trail
Ron Gorley	FLMSP Memorial Program

2. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES: John Telintelo

- **June 10, 2026, Board Meeting Minutes were distributed on July 6, 2026, by John Telintelo.**
MOTION: John moved to approve the June Board Meeting minutes.
Dick seconded. MOTION APPROVED.

3. TREASURER'S REPORT: Bill Brown

Taxes and Donations

- **CPA filed 2024 taxes, and the invoice to Fermann Staun CPA has been paid. We got the time extension. Bill will meet with Fermann Staun, CPA, on Thursday, July 9th.**

PROFIT & LOSS YTD May 2026 YTD May 2025		
Revenue	\$36,235	\$67,370
Interest Rev.	\$207	\$2,386
Expenses	-\$21,644	-\$195,481
Total	\$14,798	-\$124,725

CASH ON HAND May 31, 2026 April 30, 2026 Delta

Total Cash	\$188,946	\$174,988	\$13,958
Operating Account	\$77,660	\$63,744	\$13,916
Huntington Savings	\$111,286	\$111,244	\$42
Cert. of Deposit	\$0	\$0	\$0
Restricted	\$32,137	\$30,137	\$2,000
Benches	\$3,404	\$1,404	\$2,000
Pavement Fund	\$7,628	\$7,628	\$0
Spring Valley Wildlife Preserve	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$0
Oregonia Garden	\$1,105	\$1,105	\$0
Grandin Welcome Station	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$0
Unrestricted	\$156,809	\$144,851	\$11,958

4. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS: Dick Feldmann

FLMSP.org Website

- Dick Feldmann had a teleconference with Rod Martin, Navigate Tomorrow, who manages and supports our LittleMiamiStatePark.org website. Rod reported a security incident that occurred and his decision to leave Joomla, the website management tool which supports our website. Rod is removing Joomla from his hosting portfolio after a server hack linked to an out-of-date Joomla extension and will rebuild FLMSP.org because it cannot be updated in Joomla.
- Rod recommends rebuilding the site in DRUPAL based on his five years of experience and believes Drupal is less prone to the type of hack experienced.
- Recommendations:
 - Rod offered to rebuild and maintain the site for a discounted nonprofit rate and keep monthly hosting at roughly \$20/month with backups and updates included. Rod will migrate the site to Drupal and perform the basic content lift-and-shift migration at the discussed baseline price (approximately \$1,000) pending board approval.
 - Rod will write and run a script to migrate the site's PDFs and other content into the new Drupal site.
 - Rod reports that our site needs to be ADA compliant. Rod will send his ADA seminar notes to Dick when they are finished. Note: MS Word will automatically put our board meeting minutes into ADA compliance. We should look into doing this from this point forward.

- John noted that both Word and Adobe PDF have incorporated ADA Accessibility Tools into their products. Either one will be compliant. Archived minutes from years ago that Becky scanned in as images do not, but there is no requirement to make them compliant.
- FLMSF needs to provide Rod with high-resolution photos and contextual notes for use in the new homepage and theme. Dick, Becky and Rick will work with Rod to improve the website.
- Rod Martin will take the site down if no agreement is reached by the timeframe he specified (around the first of September).

MOTION: Dick moved to approve hiring Rod at \$1,200 to convert the website and continue hosting. Rick seconded. There were no objections. MOTION APPROVED.

TriState Trails - Agreements

- Ron Gorley worked with Wade Johnston, the TST executive director, to discuss costs for our trail traffic counters.
- ODOT has provided coverage of the costs for the transmission signal. It's uncertain if they will continue that in 2027.
- FLMSF has two counters: 1 in Loveland and 1 in Morrow.
- For 2025, we will pay 20% of the cost, which is \$792.
- For 2026, we will pay upfront costs for 80%, which is \$3168.

MOTION: Bill moved to approve spending \$792 on the 2025 invoice representing 20% of cost. Dick seconded. There were no objections. MOTION APPROVED.

MOTION: Bill moved to approve spending \$3,168 on the 2026 invoice. Dick seconded. There were no objections. MOTION APPROVED.

5. TRAIL MAINTENANCE & SAFETY

Focuses on preserving the trail's condition, preventing further deterioration, and emphasizing safety. Review of trail closures, pavement slips, bridge repair or replacement, bump grinding, crack filling, root cutting, drainage swales, culverts, intersection sightlines, equipment purchases, and equipment storage facilities.

MM 19.6 – Oregonia

- Dick and Casey agreed not to implement the suggested fence change. The Board will reconsider after we see how the sale of the Little River Café is completed.
- Little River Café is being auctioned by Worley Auctioneers online June 5 through July 8th at 2:00 p.m.

MM 22.3 - Trail slip under I-71 Jeremiah Morrow Bridge at Mathers Mill

- Trail is open as construction is almost finished.
- Retaining wall and backfill are done. Pavement has been replaced. Posts for the fence are installed.
- Casey reported everything is complete, except lag bolts on fence rails.



Retaining wall seen from below.



Trail above the retaining wall.

Major Pavement Replacement

- The project is completed except for the areas being impacted by the sewer line extension work in S. Lebanon.
- Discussed developing plaques naming large donors.
- Discussed Ribbon Cutting. Dick suggested waiting until after the sewer line is completed and the paving is done to hold an event.
- Tiffany asked what ribbon cutting would entail. She recommended not waiting since it would be a year after the paving was completed. Morrow, Foster and S. Lebanon for plaque placement.
- Bill ran a report of past pavement donors and sent it to Becky and Dick to use in an effort to recognize large donors.
- S. Lebanon – trail is closed between Stubbs Mill and Main St. for sewer line construction.
- Warren County water field project immediately west of the Lebanon spur is on hold, waiting for parts. The project will continue at some point in the future.

S. Lebanon Sewer Line Trail Closures

- Barriers are up, and signs are in place.
- Margee will NOT send out suggested detours, as some liability is involved for the FLMSPO organization if recommendations are made. Trail users will be urged to use GPS to determine their own route. • Importance of keeping trail closures updated on our website, Facebook, and with partner organizations. Urge users to contact the park office phone for current info.
- Tiffany said the project people have said trail users are violating trail closure by going around the barriers.

Root cutting along trail blacktop project: Dick Feldmann

- **Completed from Stubbs Mill to first culvert north. We still need roots dug out of trail pavement. • Still need to do 0.1 mile from culvert to new pavement.**
- **Need to cut roots from Stubbs Mill south to end of S. Lebanon sewer line. This section will be repaved by S. Lebanon contractor, but without a sewer line ditch, the roots won't get cut. • Excavator needs oil added every time it is used.**
- **Dick is taking the excavator to the north end of the trail to do root cutting.**
- **Bruce wants the grinder back for far south use. Dick will get it down to the barn.**

Gravel Fill for various slumping areas

- **Casey Marcum will check costs for a large load of gravel for the mid-south area which needs some gravel for various slumping areas, low berms, and sinkholes.**
- **Motion to buy more gravel tabled until we know how much we need and how much it will cost.**

ODNR has engaged an external engineering firm to evaluate and prioritize future major trail projects. Miscellaneous trail issues being assessed may include those listed below:

MM 4.5 - Trail Slip at Glady Run

MM 6.1 - Bridge Repair in Spring Valley at Bellbrook Ave

MM 13 - Trail Undercut at Middletown Road area

MM 18.7 – **Bridge Repair** before Horse Farm

MM 33 – Bridge Repair/Replacement at South Lebanon

MM 44 – Culvert Partially Collapsed

MM 47.7 – Bridge Repair at Miamiville

MM 49.5 – Trail Slip near Glendale-Milford Rd

MM 50.5 – Bridge Repair at Shawnee Run

Foster Large Equipment Storage Facility, Rick Forrester/Dick Feldmann

- Dick has reached out to the Monkey Bar surveyor to create site plan.
- Ohio Department of Commerce will be handling the permitting and inspections. They require a PE stamped set of plans for the building and a stamp site plan. (same requirements when we built the shelter in Corwin)
- Don Hahn is looking into requirements for asking for a variance on the 600 sq ft. limit on buildings in a floodplain. Has not gotten an answer back on variance.
- The surveyor and civil engineer have been contacted.
- Dick reported that the Mid-South maintenance crew requested we keep the excavator storage parking space for excavator work this fall.
- Tiffany had suggested we also look at the facility at Stubbs Mill. It belongs to ODRN Scenic Rivers.
- **Casey suggested that land at Stubbs Mill isn't in the floodplain and may be more valuable.**
- **Rick stated the mid-South team likes the Foster area location and does not think it can use the Scenic Rivers Building. Rick will get inside the Stubbs Mill building and report back. Dick will contact Tiffany.**

Air Tags for all Heavy Equipment, Bill Brown

- **Bill purchased electronic air tags on all the heavy equipment and three trailers as a security measure.**
- **Bill will send track sharing to Dick for 3 installed tags. We will install other tags as we can.**
- **Bill has 5 more tags; he will get some to Dick at the volunteer Picnic.**

6. TRAIL AMENITIES & CONVENIENCE

Focuses on upgrading the trail's directional aids, park signage, places to stop, rest, and recharge, information kiosks, restrooms, memorial benches, tables, bike stands, pumps, and rain shelters.

Information Kiosks, Becky Retzer, Dick Feldmann

- **Dick will replace the one broken plexiglass pane at Spring Valley.**
- **Dick will change the locks at the Milford Park signage.**
- **Dick will work on the new kiosk at Grandin Trailhead.**
- **Group Project – re-staining kiosks the same color for consistency.**

Porta-lets

- Portable restroom in S. Lebanon has been removed after conversations with S. Lebanon and FLMSF. The restroom will be replaced once construction is completed.

Memorial Program, Ron Gorley

- Bird Boxes: Time to install is late February for both the bluebird and songbird options. Ron would like to purchase 2 Duncraft boxes, the Eco-Strong Protected Songbird House for \$79.95 and the Eco-Strong Bluebird House for \$89.95. Ron will then figure out pole, baffle and plaque details. Ron will look for suitable locations. Locations can also be worked out with ODNR input. Goal is to know exactly what to do by early Thanksgiving and make this a holiday gift option, publicized in Trail Mail. This could be an annual program and be renewed.
- Tiffany had asked if benches are guaranteed for a specific number of years. Ron noted a marketing claim of 50-year life.

7. TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS & BEAUTY

Focuses on enhancing the trail, its image, natural beauty, and historical connections. Review of pollinator gardens, raingardens, tree plantings, river vistas, riverbank restorations, railroad memorabilia elements, historical plaques, and developing strong Trail Towns, districts, and landmarks.

MM 19.9 – Oregonia Educational Garden, Becky Retzer

- Weeded and edged.

MM 37.5 – Foster Train Memorabilia with Interpretative Panel, Rick Forester

- Rick and ODNR are working on a future Train Memorabilia Area for Foster. Rick noted that four other people are involved in working on this. Becky suggested it be a future private donation or grant application.
- It was suggested that new tables, like at Miamiville be installed with some new trash cans.
- Tiffany suggested Neil, a historian at ODNR can do the research, write the story, and maintain a trail-wide consistency. Pannier Company makes display panels.

8. FLMSF VOLUNTEER NEWS & EVENTS

Trail Sentinel

- Don Outtersen has volunteered to revamp this program.
- Becky and Don will work on a new program SOP and present to the Board at a future meeting.

Hot-Line, Ron Gorley and Dick Feldmann

- Dick reported that the issue with the larger number of text recipients on Hot-Line calls was resolved with the existing cellphone texting system.

Volgistics – Kris Allenson

- Kris has been processing all new FLMSF volunteer applications and ODNR forms.
- Kris gets a handful of applications a month.
- Following up with a lack of responses, and making sure they know they have to complete & sign ODNR forms.

Volunteer Outreach

- Dick reported that six volunteers have not responded and will send that list to Kris.

Summer Picnic

- Bruce Fales has volunteered to head up the summer cookout.
 - Dick volunteered to help Bruce. Dick sent out a volunteer list for section leads to review.
 - Event will be at the Caesar Creek – Beech Shelter, July 25th, 11:30 – 1:30; 4020 N. Clarksville Road, Waynesville, OH 45068. There was a \$75 fee to reserve the shelter.
 - Bruce has designed the invite with a link that allows the volunteer to select meat, type of dish to share, and a space to list a guest (with name)
 - Invitations will go out no later than this Sunday

Fall Volunteer Recognition

- Most agreed to discontinue giving gifts due to difficulty procuring donations.
- Board feels the picnic is an appropriate “thank you” to the volunteers

9. FLMSF TRAIL MAIL

- No Discussion

10. FLMSF OUTREACH

- Miami Valley Regional Active Transportation Committee met June 12 to discuss e-bikes and e-motos. - Attendees from LMSF: Tiffany, Ron, Erick, Dick
 - Findings:
 - The goal is to keep trail users safe.
 - The general speed limit for the trail system is 20 MPH. Ron noted enforcement is difficult.
 - Attendees agreed that agencies should post speed limits in congested areas.
 - Attendees agreed that education material should be written and distributed.
 - A sub-committee was identified to determine and coordinate the creation of an information package. A second sub-committee was identified to communicate and lobby the legislature.
 - Bill stated there are no speed limit signs. Casey thought that speed limit signs might be beneficial. Rick suggested posters in Kiosks.

11. FLMSF FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS

- The next Board Meeting is AUGUST 12 from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM, virtual on MS Teams.
MOTION: Dick moved to adjourn the meeting. Rick seconded. MOTION APPROVED.