

**MUSKINGUM VALLEY PARK DISTRICT
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
July 14, 2026**

The regular meeting of the Board of Muskingum Valley Park District Commissioners was held at park district headquarters at Mission Oaks Gardens. The meeting was called to order at 12:04pm., by Board President Ty Kendrick.

Mr. Kendrick called roll and Commissioners Ty Kendrick, Marianne Graham, Ed Shaffer and Ben Appleby were present. Also present was Executive Director Russ Edgington.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

No guests were in attendance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

APPROVAL OR AMENDMENT OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

Mr. Kendrick called for discussion on, or revisions to the minutes from the June 9, 2026 regular meeting. On a motion by Mr. Shaffer and second by Mrs. Graham, the minutes were approved as presented.

PRESENTATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND EXPENDITURES:

Mr. Edgington presented board members with a copy of the June 2026 financial statement. After a brief discussion, President Kendrick asked for a motion to approve the statement. On a motion by Mr. Appleby and second by Mr. Shaffer. The motion carried by acclamation.

Mr. Edgington reported that the second half property settlement will be posted in late August to mid-September. Mr. Edgington further reported a correction to an appropriation approved during the June board meeting. The \$17,646.48 appropriation for 802 Joes Run was adjusted to \$11,396.48.

On a motion by Mr. Appleby and second by Mr. Shaffer, the board voted to increase revenues and appropriate funds in the following accounts:

802	Joes Run	Local Grants	\$6,250.00
808	Riverfest	Donations	\$4,100.00
808	Riverfest	Transfer In	\$20,000.00

The motion carried by acclamation.

On a motion by Mr. Appleby and second by Mr. Shaffer, the board voted to appropriate funds from the unappropriated balance into the following accounts:

801	Contract Services	\$10,000.00
801	Utilities	\$10,000.00

The motion carried by acclamation.

Mr. Edgington reported and the board discussed the outcome of the 2023-2024 State Audit.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT:

Glass Rock Trail – Mr. Edgington reported that he had reached out to the Ohio Rail Development Commission for an update on the corridor status. To date there has been no reply.

Straker Landing – Mr. Edgington reported that demolition of the buildings has been completed. It was further reported that with board president Kendricks approval, the district contracted with Archer Excavating to demolish and remove remaining debris on the property for the sum of \$5,800.00.

Environmental Design Group has been tasked with revising construction phasing to exclude replacement of the existing boat ramp on the north end of the property. Mr. Shaffer suggested the district obtain septic and campground permit details from the Zanesville Muskingum County Health Department.

Mr. Edgington informed the board that based on the Ohio Revised code, it will not be necessary to convert the private railroad crossing to a public crossing. The Genesee and Wyoming Railroad is working on the transfer of the crossing and gas line leases into the park district's name.

Joe's Run Recreational Trail – Mr. Edgington shared public concerns regarding the use of bicycles and E-bikes on the trail. It was noted that the trail, as designed and built, does not meet shared use standards recommended by state and federal governments. Mr. Edgington requested the board consider banning the use of such wheeled devices from the trail. After considerable discussion, the board tabled the request until further research could be completed.

Mr. Edgington further reported that he had contacted the Zanesville Metropolitan Housing Authority to discuss implementing proposed elements from the district's trail wayfinding study.

Canal Park Trail – Mr. Edgington reported that staff was exploring the possibility of conducting paid history tours on the soon to be dedicated Canal Park Trail.

Westview Community Park – The board discussed recent vandalism at the park. Staff will research the practicality of installing surveillance cameras at the park.

CONSIDERATION OF UNFINISHED BUSINESS AND NEW BUSINESS

Appalachian Community Grant Program – Mr. Edgington provided a construction update on the Canal Park Trail project. It was noted that the project is estimated to be completed in mid-September.

Programs and Events – Mr. Edgington provided an update on sponsorship and scheduling for Riverfest 2026.

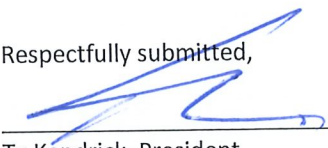
Western Reserve Land Conservancy – Mr. Edgington reported that the Western Reserve Land Conservancy signed a contract with the Big Run Wetland property owners in the amount of \$960,000.00. The Conservancy will begin to seek grant funding to cover acquisition and development costs. It was the sense of the board to partner with the Conservancy to preserve the parcel.

Program Coordinator Position - Mr. Edgington reported that he had found a qualified candidate for the program coordinator position. The current district budget does not have sufficient funds to cover the requested salary. Mr. Edgington will explore potential funding alternatives.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Mr. Kendrick called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. On a motion by Mrs. Graham and second by Mr. Shaffer, the meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 1:36pm. The next meeting date is August 11, 2026, at noon.

Respectfully submitted,



Ty Kendrick, President



Russell Edgington, Executive Director