

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of The Miami Conservancy District (MCD) sitting as the Board of Directors of The Aquifer Preservation Subdistrict (APS) was called to order at 12:40 p.m. by Mark G. Rentschler, President, with Beth G. Whelley, Vice President and Michael H. van Haaren, member, present. The meeting was held at MCD headquarters.

Members of the staff in attendance: MaryLynn Lodor, General Manager/Interim Board Secretary; James B. Casper, Manager, Operations and Maintenance; Michael P. Ekberg, Manager, Water Resources Monitoring and Analysis; Sarah Hippensteel Hall, Manager of Communications, Outreach, and Stewardship; Kenneth P. Moyer, Treasurer; Donald P. O'Connor, Chief Engineer; Christina M. Pfeiffer, Executive Assistant; Shannon E. Phelps, Manager of Administration; and Barry M. Puskas, Chief of Technical and Engineering Services.

Legal counsel in attendance at the regular meeting: John M. Hoopingarner, McMahon DeGulis LLP, and Lee A. Slone, McMahon DeGulis LLP.

Guests in attendance at the regular meeting: None

COMPLIANCE WITH SUNSHINE LAW AND BYLAWS

The meeting was held in compliance with the Sunshine Law and MCD and Subdistrict Bylaws. The meeting information was posted on MCD's website. Miami Valley news media and individuals requesting such notification were notified of the meeting by electronic mail dated March 14, 2024.

MINUTES

The Minutes of the Board of Directors meeting of December 13, 2023, were provided to members of the Board for review and comment.

M 2024-156

The Board of Directors, on motion by Ms. Whelley and seconded by Mr. van Haaren, unanimously approved the meeting minutes for December 13, 2023.

Next, the Board and staff discussed items related to the first quarter report, including:

Water Monitoring Activity - Runoff

Runoff for the first two months of 2024 totaled 2.64 inches — 1.02 inches below normal for this point in the calendar year. Flows on the Great Miami River and its larger tributaries were trending below normal throughout November and December of 2023 as mild to moderate drought conditions set in. Runoff remained below normal in January despite the above normal precipitation. Mr. Ekberg discussed the differences between runoff levels in the northern area of the watershed versus the central and southern areas. Overall, precipitation is high and runoff is low.

Aquifer Preservation Subdistrict – Groundwater Levels

Groundwater levels in the buried valley aquifer system trended below normal throughout the fall season of 2023 at most MCD observation wells. This is to be expected given the below normal precipitation conditions that prevailed throughout much of 2023. November, December, and January tend to be prime aquifer recharge months in the watershed when evapotranspiration rates are low, and precipitation can infiltrate through soils and reach the water table. The chart

below shows recent groundwater levels measured in MCD observation well BU-179 near Ross in Butler County. From the chart, one can see that significant recharge to the well after the summer of 2023 did not occur until January 2024. This is a later than usual start to the annual groundwater recharge cycle. Ms. Whelley inquired as to whether the lower groundwater levels were causing concern. Mr. Ekberg stated that at this time, the levels were not a cause for concern.

FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS

At the December 13, 2023 meeting, the Board members set the following dates for their 2024 regular meetings of the Board of Directors of The Miami Conservancy District: February 29, June 5, September 18, and December 18, 2024.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned on motion by Mr. van Haaren and seconded by Mr. Rentschler at 2:20 p.m.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:



MaryLynn Lodor
General Manager/Interim Board Secretary



Mark G. Rentschler
President