The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of The Miami Conservancy District (MCD) sitting as the Board of Directors of The River Corridor Improvement Subdistrict (RCIS) was called to order at 10:34 a.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 located at 38 East Monument Avenue in Dayton.

Members of the staff in attendance at the regular meeting: MaryLynn Lodor, General Manager/Board Secretary; James B. Casper, Manager, Operations and Maintenance; Michael P. Ekberg, Manager of 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; and Shannon E. Phelps, Manager of Administration.

Legal counsel in attendance at the work session: Lee A. Slone, McMahon DeGulis LLP. Legal assistant, Margaret E. Saldivar, McMahon DeGulis LLP, was also in attendance.

Guests in attendance at the regular meeting: Keith Berger and Mike Flora of United Missionary Church. Seyed Allameh of East Third Properties, LLC, arrived at the meeting at 11:20 a.m.

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 meetings by electronic mail dated March 4, 2025, and amended March 5, 2025.

MINUTES

The Minutes of the Board of Directors meeting of December 18, 2024, and January 23, 2025, were provided to members of the Board for review and comment.

M 2025-235

The Board of Directors, on motion by Ms. Whelley and seconded by Mr. van Haaren, unanimously approved the meeting minutes for December 18, 2024.

Next, Ms. Lodor provided information regarding a future assessment for the River Corridor Improvement Subdistrict.

RIVER CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENT SUBDISTRICT READJUSTMENT PLANNING

The purpose of RCIS is to enhance public use and enjoyment of river corridors utilizing improvements, amenities and activities within and along the river corridors. RCIS provides MCD a structure to construct, operate, and maintain improvements and amenities and implement activities for recreational use and aesthetic enjoyment of the river corridors, while keeping the income, assets, costs, and obligations legally separate from those of the flood protection system and other subdistricts. RCIS activities include maintaining and promoting recreation trails and river activity areas as well as the Great Miami Riverway program. The RCIS includes lands

within nine counties: Butler, Clark, Greene, Hamilton, Miami, Montgomery, Preble, Shelby, and Warren.

River corridor enhancements by MCD date back to the 1920s. Early on, MCD developed extensive parks above each of the five flood protection dams – Germantown, Lockington, Englewood, Taylorsville and Huffman – as well as the Carillon Historical Park in Dayton. Between 1976 and 1990, MCD built recreation trails, three low dams and acquired ownership of an existing low dam. These amenities were created under successive General Plans for Recreation, which were amendments to The Miami Conservancy District's Official Plan. An Official Plan for the River Corridor Improvement Subdistrict was created in June 2000 to facilitate river corridor improvement, bike trails, and low head dams that create pools for recreational use. A readjustment of the subdistrict was last completed in 2016.

In 2017, at the request of the river corridor communities, Miami Conservancy District launched the Great Miami Riverway under its River Corridor Improvement Subdistrict with 19 riverfront communities and organizations.

Funds are generated by assessments levied against townships, cities and counties where the amenities are located. New projects are also funded through state and federal grants or other agreements when possible. In recent years, MCD has secured almost \$6M for trail improvements from federal or state sources.

Current Annual Funding: The RCIS revenue comes from four different sources.

- Annual assessments total about \$290,000 to maintain recreation trails, two low dams, walkways, bridges, boat ramps and other amenities. This funding comes from the communities where MCD maintains recreational assets, including approximately 30 miles of bike trails from Dayton to Butler County.
- <u>Five Rivers Metroparks</u> provides \$154,000/year through an agreement for rehabilitation of assets within Five Rivers jurisdiction.
- Great Miami Riverway generates approximately \$150,000 per year with twenty-four public entities via agreement who participate on an advisory board, the Riverway Coalition. The Riverway agreements expire in May 2027 (previous timelines reflected negotiation and signing of agreements one year prior to expiration – that would be mid-2026).
- <u>Periodic Grants for Capital Improvements</u> are secured for rehabilitation and repair of MCD maintained assets.

MCD staff are currently conducting an inventory of MCD-owned and MCD-managed recreational assets which can be used to develop a proposed level of service. It is anticipated that a consultant will be asked to assist in the development of an appraisal of benefits. MCD will coordinate with communities to develop a comprehensive strategy to include:

- Update of River Corridor Recreational Benefits
- Identify alternatives for RCIS Assessments for programming, maintenance, and capital improvements

- Identify areas to improve safety
- Identify gaps (missing trail segments) and complete trail connectivity
- Provide programming along the river corridors

FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS

During their December 18, 2024, meeting, the Board members set the following dates for the 2025 regular meetings of the Board of Directors of The Miami Conservancy District:

Wednesday, March 12, 2025

Wednesday, June 25, 2025

Wednesday, September 10, 2025

Wednesday, December 17, 2025

In addition, the Board members set the following date for a special meeting of the Board of Directors of The Miami Conservancy District:

Thursday, May 22, 2025

ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned on motion by Mr. Rentschler and seconded by Mr. van Haaren at 1:41 p.m.

ATTEST:

General Manager/Board Secretary

APPROVED:

Mark G. Rentschler

President