

WAYNE SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT MEETING

MINUTES – June 9, 2026

The Wayne Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors held their regular monthly board meeting in the Wayne SWCD office located in the lower level of the County Administration Building, 428 W. Liberty St., Wooster, Ohio on June 9, 2026. The following Supervisors attended the meeting: Jeff Gochnauer, Matt Peart, Randy Tegtmeier, Marissa Dillon, and Tate Emerson. Also in attendance were John Lorson, DPA; Ruthanne Bandy, Administrative Assistant; Rob Kastner, Water Management Engineer; Ricky Papay, Water Resources Specialist; Becca Schuch, Ag Conservation Specialist; Kathy Burley, Secretary; Kelly Riley, Education Specialist; Tom Holmes ODA DSWC Area 2 Program Specialist; John Yost, OSU Extension; and Jordan Miller, NRCS District Conservationist (acting).

The meeting was called to order by Jeff Gochnauer, Chairman, at 8:30a.m.

MINUTES

After reviewing the minutes from the May 12, 2026, Board Meeting, **Matt Peart made a motion to accept the minutes. Motion passed 5-0.**

TREASURER’S REPORT (May 1-31, 2026)

The board reviewed the Treasurer’s Report. **A motion was made by Randy Tegtmeier to accept the Treasurer’s Report and to pay invoices for: Mark Haynes Construction \$109,282.04 and Verdantas \$8,716.70. Motion passed 5-0.**

(5/1/25-5/31/26)

	<u>Special Fund</u>		<u>District Fund</u>
Disbursements:		Disbursements:	
Purchase Orders	\$3,660.31	Vouchers	\$1,085.75
Salaries	\$41,469.81	KCWRP – Verdantas	\$19,002.45
Medicare	\$579.77	KCWRP - Haynes Const.	\$210,603.51
PERS	\$5,805.77	Kidron Tree Removal (MWCD)	\$12,600.00
Insurance	<u>\$8,941.93</u>	Online Banking Fee/ACH Service Charges	<u>\$65.00</u>
Total Disbursements:	\$60,457.59	Total Disbursements:	\$243,356.71
Income:		Income:	
Total Income:	\$0	MS4 Stream Sign Design – Chippewa	\$380.00
		MS4 Stream Sign Design – Milton	\$380.00
		Transfer KCWRP – Verdantas	\$19,002.45
		Transfer KCWRP – Haynes	\$109,282.04
		MWCD (Kidron Tree Removal)	<u>\$12,600.00</u>
		Total Income:	\$141,644.49

CORRESPONDENCE:

John shared that we received a thank you note for our contributions to Area 2’s Envirothon.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

-Nomination Committee: Matt Peart shared that Clint Carmony and Tom White will be running.

AGENCIES REPORTS

-**NRCS:** Jordan Miller is working on fulfilling contract obligations. 3 EQIP and 1 CSP application were pre-approved in first round of funding.

-**ODA:** Tom Holmes shared information about upcoming training courses available for SWCD employees. He thanked John and Ruthanne for completing the state match verification worksheet, previously called form 11. This year there is 23 million dollars eligible for state matching for soil and water districts. The Ohio Soil & Water Conservation Commission will meet July 27 to make the award decisions. The H2Ohio program was expanded and extended for 2 years. Tom also shared about the winners for the conservation farm awards.

-**OSU Extension:** John Yost shared that there is administrative restructuring taking place throughout OSU Extension, going from 22 to 12 areas of administration. Brent Macolley will be the new administrator District 6, which includes Wayne County Extension. John is currently working on a nitrogen survey project with 8 local cooperators. He is also doing outreach on biosecurity for various locations.

OLD BUSINESS

-Killbuck Phase 2: John Lorson shared that the Killbuck Creek Wetland Reconnection Project is nearly complete. Haynes construction has demobilized from the site. An Affidavit of Completion has been signed. The project remains on budget, with nearly all the contingency funds being utilized. Tate Emerson asked if there is signage at the site recognizing Wayne SWCD. John confirmed that signage is on site. Matt Peart suggested taking the commissioners to visit the location. A field trip to the site is being planned for August.

-Barnard Rd Cascading Waterway: John Lorson spoke about an updated schedule for the Barnard Rd Cascading Waterway project. Construction will begin in summer 2027. This project is being administered by Rural Action. With all the different components involved in this project it has taken longer to plan than originally anticipated.

NEW BUSINESS

-Progress Report: **Matt Peart made a motion to accept the progress report. Motion passed 5-0.**

-Ron Maxwell, Whitaker-Myers Insurance: Ron Maxwell joined the board meeting to discuss the insurance plan for Wayne SWCD through Ohio Plan. It will be renewed on June 27, 2026, pending board approval, with a few changes including a 3% inflation index and a new cyber product with a lower deductible. **Tate Emerson made a motion to approve the Ohio Plan for June 27, 2026, through June 27, 2027. Motion passed 5-0.**

-Riggenbach APA case discussion: John Lorson received and investigated a report of pollution from manure storage on Riggenbach farm. The manure pit was overflowing and contaminating a nearby stream. Manure applications on fields had been delayed due to rain and fields being planted with cover crops. A contract manure hauler was brought in to pump out the pit, but a long-term solution was discussed with the farm owner. Riggenbach has inquired about funding through NRCS for adding storage. ODA has offered to take over this case, so that additional technical expertise can be provided because this project will require structural, systemic engineering work. John Lorson, the board members, and Tom Holmes were all in agreement that it was in everyone's best interest to allow ODA to take over this case.

-Creekside Native Nursery: John Lorson shared information about an opportunity to offer native potted trees from a local nursery for our annual tree sale, in addition to the bare root trees purchased from Alpha Nursery in Michigan. This would be a premium product offering specific varieties with limited quantities. Discussion took place about logistics, and ultimately the board agreed that it would be worthwhile to further investigate this option.

Staff Updates

-**Rob Kastner** has been reviewing stormwater plans and approving construction permits. Rob visited the Lincoln Way storage site and found improvements had been made, including sealed inlets. The stormwater basin has vegetation, and the skimmer has been fixed. Phase 1 was completed with plans for more buildings, but it is unlikely that will happen soon, so there is more that needs done. Rob plans to write an email/letter to document his inspection and provide suggestions for improvement.

-**Becca Schuch** is working on the cover crop program. She has been in touch with 9 people and already has 3 signed up. She has also been working on social media posts and website updates.

-**Ricky Papay** has been working on stormwater permits and pre-con site visits now that CAPs have slowed down. He is also working on discharge and septic mapping.

-**Kathy Burley** is also working on CAP forms.

-**Kelly Riley** shared that we are excited for the Wild Things Workshop on June 10 & 11. She is done with in-school programs for this school year. Kelly is beginning to work on preparations for fair recycling and will be scheduling a meeting soon. She plans to attend the Area 2 education meeting on July 9.

-**Ruthanne Bandy** reported that she is all trained and everything is good.

-**John Lorson** stated that the Besancon issue has been wrapped up.

Matt Peart made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:29 a.m. Motion passed 5-0.

Meeting adjourned.

The next board meeting will be Tuesday, July 14, 2026, at 8:30 a.m.

Leave Records 5/3/2026 – 5/30/2026

5/3/2026 - 5/30/2026	Annual Leave		Sick Leave		Comp Time	
Employee	Available	Used	Available	Used	Available	Used
Ruthanne B.	21.65	3	28.57	2	4.38	3
Kathy B.	215.16	40	291.93	4.5	15.5	0
Robert K.	119.53	7.75	979.56	7.25	29.38	1
John L.	332.77	0	2249.08	4	28.5	18
Ricky P.	129.24	4.25	384.84	0	2.5	8
Kelly R.	256	14	563.21	12	0.4	0
Becca S.	2.69	0	4	0	0	0

Jeff Gochnauer, Chairman

Marissa Dillon, Secretary

Ruthanne Bandy, Administrative Assistant, Submitted the June 9, 2026, minutes. _____