OUTDOOR RECREATION COUNCIL OF APPALACHIA

Board Meeting Minutes

August 26, 2026 | Prepared by: Sadie McClinchie info@orcaohio.com
296 S Harper St, Nelsonville, OH 45764

ORCA Board Members Present

- Tim Warren, York Township Trustee President, Board President
- Frank Campbell, Chauncey Mayor
- Jay Kline, Village of Buchtel Council Member, Board Vice President

Others Present

- Jessie Powers, ORCA Executive Director
- Kincaid Rood, ORCA Trail Maintenance Manager
- Sarah Ciciora, ORCA Finance Administrator
- Jason Reed, Wayne National Forest
- Sky Petty, Legal Counsel

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at approximately 6:15 PM by Tim Warren.

AGENDA REVIEW & APPROVAL

The Board reviewed the agenda and omitted the listed executive session. A motion was made by Jay Kline to approve the agenda. Second by Frank Campbell. Tim Warren, Jay Kline, and Frank Campbell voted yes. **Motion passed unanimously.**

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

The Board reviewed the July 28, 2026 meeting minutes. A motion was made by Frank Campbell to approve the July 28, 2026 meeting minutes. Second by Jay Kline. Tim Warren, Jay Kline, and Frank Campbell voted yes. **Motion passed unanimously.**

PARTNER UPDATES

Jason Reed provided an update from the Wayne National Forest. He had recently returned after being away fighting wildfires and was catching up on outstanding business. The Board discussed continued coordination with the Forest, including maintenance needs following recent storms.

BOARD MEMBER UPDATES

Board members discussed:

- Upcoming Eagle Scout cleanup project at the Baileys Trail System, including volunteer participation, equipment, and PPE needs
- Maintenance and cleanup needs around the Buchtel-Snow Fork Trailhead
- Potential availability of fill material for trailhead improvements
- Updates regarding the Chauncey building project and related questions
- Appreciation for continued coordination between ORCA, local communities, and volunteers

FINANCIAL REPORT

Sarah Ciciora provided the August Financial Report. Discussion included:

- Reissuing payments that did not reach their intended recipients and completing remaining ACGP construction expenses
- Finalizing outstanding grant reimbursements, including ARC and AMLER reimbursements
- Continued progress toward completing ACGP reporting and expenditures
- Current financial position and continued use of the line of credit to support ongoing projects

A motion was made by Frank Campbell to approve the financial report as presented. Second by Jay Kline. Tim Warren, Jay Kline, and Frank Campbell voted yes. **Motion passed unanimously.**

MAINTENANCE REPORT

Kincaid Rood provided maintenance updates, including:

- 179 volunteer hours completed in July with 16 volunteers, including six new volunteers
- Successful July monthly maintenance day with nine volunteers participating
- Completion and installation of all 45 mini kiosks throughout the trail system
- Receipt and deployment of all new maintenance equipment, including a new rock hauler
- Continued work by the summer trail crew
- Hiring of a new AmeriCorps member, Colin, to support trail maintenance
- Ongoing maintenance and cleanup needs around the Chauncey area

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Jessie Powers provided updates, including:

- Discussions with the Ohio Chamber of Commerce regarding membership and opportunities for business connections, research, and statewide networking
- Authorization for ORCA to join as a member of the Ohio Chamber of Commerce
- A potential office space opportunity at the Chauncey School Building, including authorization to pursue a tentative lease pending legal review
- Continued development of the Just Transition Fund grant application, including plans for a regional business collaborative, local product purchasing, and Ohio's Rolling Hills website improvements
- Continued work on the AMLER grant letter of interest and potential development of an open-air museum concept
- Strategic planning discussions focused on long-term financial sustainability, governance, regional business development, and a professional trail crew
- Continued coordination with the Ohio Rural Development Alliance and partners regarding the potential development of an Ohio Office of Outdoor Recreation
- Updates on the development Baileys Trail System Visitor Center, including construction bids and the need to revise the project scope rather than negotiate outside the public bidding process
- Discussion of drainage and water issues at the Buchtel-Snow Fork Trailhead following recent heavy rainfall, including potential solutions and remaining site improvements, including: gates, lighting, trash cans, and a flagpole

- Recap of the recent mobile bike rental activation event and community mural project
- Planning for the second annual Ohio Outdoor Recreation Economy Conference, scheduled for June 22–25 at Ohio University Chillicothe
- Continued planning and sponsorship outreach for the 2026 Baileys Dirt Fondo
- Updates on pending multi-year ARC ARISE grant applications and requests for additional clarification during the review process
- Discussion of appropriate next steps following Athens Independent investigative reporting indicating non factual statements of former ORCA Board member caused the legislature approved withdrawal of ORCA's Biannual operation allocation, and need for Ohio Governor's Veto to restore funds.

A motion was made by Frank Campbell to authorize ORCA to join the Ohio Chamber of Commerce for $5,000. Second by Jay Kline. Tim Warren, Jay Kline, and Frank Campbell voted yes. **Motion passed unanimously.**

A motion was made by Jay Kline to authorize ORCA to pursue a tentative lease for office space at the Chauncey School Building, pending legal review. Tim Warren seconded. Tim Warren and Jay Kline voted yes. Frank Campbell abstained. **Motion passed.**

A motion was made by Jay Kline to waive the event fee for the 2026 Paw Paw Festival group ride at the Baileys Trail System. Second by Frank Campbell. Tim Warren, Jay Kline, and Frank Campbell voted yes. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Board and Legal Counsil discussion of appropriate next steps concerning root cause of state funding disruptions in June 2026 resulted in agreement to draft a formal invitation to Athens City Council to rejoin ORCA as a member or partner jurisdiction, and appoint a representative not beholden to the Mayor of Athens.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No additional pubic comments were received.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Jay Kline made a motion to adjourn. Frank Campbell seconded. The meeting adjourned at 8:02 PM.