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**IRON ORE HERITAGE RECREATION AUTHORITY**

**BOARD MEETING**

**DRAFT MINUTES OF MAY 24, 2017**

1. ROLL CALL - Kathy Peters, Marquette Township; Jim Thomas, Negaunee; Larry Bussone, Ishpeming; Dawn Hoffman, Tilden Township; Lauren Luce, Marquette County,

Excused Absences: Don Britton, Chocolay; Nick Leach, Marquette; Glenn Johnson, Marquette Township; Al Reynolds, Negaunee Township  
Staff: Carol Fulsher, Danielle Ano   
Guests: Rob Katona, DNR; Mike Lempinen, Signage Committee

1. PUBLIC COMMENT ( Agenda Items – Limit to three minutes) - No public comment
2. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA **- Peters motioned to approve consent agenda as provided; Hoffman seconded motion**. Consent agenda included April board meeting minutes; April balance sheet showing total assets of $352,041, total liabilities of $34,152 and total equity of $317,889; April profit/loss showing april income of $39, expenses of $8189 for net income of (8,150); ytd net income of $251,021. April budget v actual showing net income for April at 37%; ytd of 114%;April general ledger showing checks written 18998 to 1908, and May bills to be paid totaling $22,633**. Vote and motion carried.**
3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Bussone motioned to approve agenda as presented; Hoffman seconded. Vote and motion carried.
4. OLD BUSINESS  
   A. Grant Updates
   1. Recreation Passport Trailhead Amenities - Bill Sanders has most of drawings done for trailhead amenities..Working on bike racks and benches and we will get out to bid.
   2. Trust Fund TF-0157 Weather Shelters – Fulsher will be meeting with Merrie Carlock, our grant reviewer, on Thursday June 1 at 11 am to review our plans for the weather shelters.
   3. MCACA 2017/Regional Prosperity 2017 – Fulsher noted that the RPI grant has been submitted. Concentrating on the Negaunee Mine Site Area with art, lighting, signage, benches, Can’t put in the MCACA grant this year for the Carp River kilns because we don’t have budget numbers for restoration. Sanders and Czapski working with stone masons from Traverse City to get an estimate. Talked of benches along the trail or pellet pavilion work.

B. Web Site reconstruction – New web site has been launched. Fulsher has an NMU intern who has been helping with cleaning up the site.

C. Trail Signage/Road Crossing – Signs are being fabricated right now at U.P. Fabricating. Will need a volunteer effort to put on the posts once we get them in.  
D. ORV Updates   
 1. Trailhead kiosk - Thomas finalized all the kiosks and two are installed: at Negaunee Ice Arena and Winthrop Junction (Ishpeming’s Washington Street intersection). Rob Katona working on map template for us so we can get maps up. Will also include Neganee and Ishpeming ordinance languages and maps of other ORV trails. Two more kiosks need to be installed yet..   
 2. Negaunee Re route – Fencing on reroute around Negaunee bluff will go up next week. JCS doing the project. Discussion on equipment for removal of trees and clearing. Will put into the 2018 grant request to do this work along Michigan Street in Negaunee.   
 3. Signing Winthrop Junction to Negaunee – Once fence has been installed in Negaunee to block off caving ground area, we will get an ORV group to put up confidence markers and arrows etc. from Winthrop to Negaunee . Thomas and Katona will coordinate. Ktona has a seasonal worker who can help.

VI. NEW BUSINESS   
 A. 2016 Audit – Draft in packet. Our net position continues to go in positive direction.

B. Republic August Election – Ballot language and resolutions delivered to County Clerk. We will be on the August 8 ballot in Republic Township. Fulsher is having intern work on mailer to send to Republic residents.   
 C. 2018 Recreation Plan – Needs to be updated by March 31, 2018. Fulsher is asking our intern to develop a user survey and wants to get trail counts this summer. Recreation Plans need to be updated every five years and registered at DNR in order to be eligible for State grant funds.

D. Intern/Trail Drive Thru Notes – Fulsher introduced Dani Ano, an NMU intern who will be working with her for 100 hours. Fulsher and Ano drove the entire trail on May 15 and noted various trail issues. Moose Country noted that ORV’s were almost hitting the gates near School Lake so Fulsher opened gates for now. The hill in that area is in bad shape with ORV’s cutting the corner and throwing large rocks onto aggregate. Will need to be graded or bulldozed. 4x4’s will be installed to stop cheating the corner and make ORV’s stay on trail and we will need to add aggregate. May need a gate at east side of Co. Rd. 478 (Wawonowin). Trucks getting on trail there and then riding until gate at Stoneville. Will put up “gate ahead and no thru way” this year and apply for gate funding in 2018 ORV grant. Section 15 pit area was under water. We are going to need to add fill in this area after new culvert put in.

VII ADMINISTRATOR REPORT – Fulsher introduced intern, Danielle Ano, who graduated from NMU with a communications major and outdoor recreation minor. She will be working with Fulsher on web site, Facebook, Republic flyer, Recreation Plan survey and ORV kiosk information.

1. BOARD COMMENT – No board comments.
2. PUBLIC COMMENT – Lempinen noted that he had guests from Minnesota and they walked the eastern Negaunee portion of trail. Really liked the pavement and signage.   
   Katona noted he is working on map templates for the ORV kiosks.
3. ADJOURNMENT *– Larry motioned to adjourn meeting at 4:42 pm, Dawn Hoffman seconded motion. Vote and motion carried unanimously.*

*NEXT MEETING DATE:/ANNUAL MEETING: June 28, 4:30 pm, Country Inn and Suites*