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## IRON ORE HERITAGE RECREATION AUTHORITY BOARD MEETING

### APPROVED MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 22, 2017

- I. ROLL CALL - Don Britton, Chocolay; Nick Leach, Marquette; Glenn Johnson, Marquette Township; Al Reynolds, Negaunee Township; Jim Thomas, Negaunee; Larry Bussone, Ishpeming; Dawn Hoffman, Tilden Township; Dean DuMoulin, Republic  
Absent: Lauren Luce  
Guests: Jason McCarthy, Kathy Peters, Joan Duncan
- II. PUBLIC COMMENT ( Agenda Items – Limit to three minutes) -  
Joan Duncan notified of a Chocolay Township Recreation Passport Grant application for an equestrian trailhead on eight acres of land near Lakenenland. Equestrian trails being built in that area. The request is for \$40,000 and they are looking for a match of 25%.
- III. PRESENTATION – Marquette Township U.S. 41 Underpass Project, Jason McCarthy, Planner for Marquette Township provided presentation on plans for an U.S. 41 underpass just west of Menards. This underpass would allow for a safe connection underneath U.S. 41 to connect IOHT to Little Presque Isle Park tract trails. The township is looking at applying for a \$75,000 Recreation Passport Grant and \$300K MNRTF Grant during the April 1 grant cycle. The \$375,000 would be used to match monies for a \$1.5 Million MDOT TAP grant that they are looking at for summer 2017 submittal. This will allow them to have monies in place for the MDOT U.S. 41 major upgrades scheduled in 2019. MDOT is redoing U.S. 41 from Target west. Adding a grass median similar to east of Target. McCarthy acknowledged that they are looking for match monies for the two DNR grants. CVB will provide \$10K. Meijer may provide \$25K.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA - **Britton moved to approve consent agenda; Hoffman seconded.** Consent agenda included January board meeting minutes; January balance sheet noting total assets of \$369,266; total liabilities of \$12,215 and total equity of \$357,051. January profit/loss statement noting net income of \$281,655; January budget v actual noting net income at 103% and January general ledger showing checks written of 1864 through 1876. Also included February bills to be paid of \$11,275. **Vote and motion carried unanimously.**

- IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA - Britton motioned to approve agenda as provided; Johnson seconded. Vote and motion carried unanimously.
- V. OLD BUSINESS
  - A. Grant Updates
    - a. Recreation Passport Trailhead Amenities – Will be working on this grant after April 1 preparing bid documents, etc.
    - b. 2017 DNR Trust Fund – Shelters – We are looking at putting up three weather shelters along the trail: one in Marquette near Carp River; one in Negaunee Township near the Pine Hill pond and the third in Negaunee near the Carp River Bridge. These areas are most vulnerable for users and would provide places to get out of dangerous weather elements. Fulsher noted that prior to meeting that we may not have the land control for Marquette shelter and may have to revise to two shelters.
  - B. Web Site reconstruction – Fulsher working with Elegant Seagulls on Design #1, but with changes and additional photo. She will send the photo she would like to use to board members.

D. Republic Trailhead – Fulsher provided background on the Republic trailhead and recent meeting with Republic Township representatives. **Britton motioned to approve the \$19K match with the caveat of Republic voters renewing the millage as the other members have this year; Leach seconded motion. Vote and motion carried unanimously.**

E. ORV Updates -

1. Gate Bids – Three bids went out to JCS, Marquette Fence, U.P. Fabricating and Wuebben. Bids are due on March 3 at 4 pm.

2. Trailhead signage bids – We need three quotes for these 6x 6 cedar posted trailhead signs. Recommended to send to Wilcox and Perkins.

3. ORV improvements 2017 – Britton noted that the east side of hill in Negaunee is usable but we should shelf a trail along the west side of hill. Britton will help with getting plans together. Will review the area when the snow melts.

F. Father Marquette Park – We have provided \$25K for improvements at Father Marquette Park with stipulation that our monies be used on the bike trail side of the Park. We are considering an entrance way/gate/arch off of Lakeshore Drive with Park name on it. Fulsher will be meeting with City of Marquette representatives soon.

## VI. NEW BUSINESS

### A. Trail Signage

1. Interpretive Signage – Fulsher noted that first priority for signage committee is three stories for the Lions Field kiosk. We will then look at an additional five or six stories along the trail. We should add one to Tilden Township since they are without an interpretive sign. Cleveland Mine engine house was also proposed.

2. Road Crossing Signs – Fulsher is working with U.P. Fab on the signs needed. There are 49 street crossing so 98 total signs needed. They will be adhered on stop sign posts underneath the stop sign (per DNR motorized handbook rules).

3. Gateway/Business Signs – Committee to address whether to provide business signs along trail or at trailheads. Committee will include Britton, DuMoulin and Thomas.

B. Negaunee ORV Trailhead - 65” gate to be installed at Negaunee Ice Arena. Maintenance crew will be needed this summer to install.

C. Benches – Fulsher noted that a list was provided in packet where benches exist and possible sites for more benches. She would like to apply for a CUPPAD regional prosperity grant to allow artists to design and install benches at five different locations. Asked board to recommend areas if they had a preference. **Thomas motioned to apply for the regional prosperity grant for 5 benches; Britton seconded motion. Vote and motion carries unanimously.**

VII. BOARD COMMENT - Britton offered an explanation for the underpass map for anyone who was confused by the map.

Hoffman noted that our May meeting is on the 24<sup>th</sup> same night as Aspen Ridge Family night. Inquired if we wanted to hold meeting at Aspen Ridge School prior to family night.

DuMoulin inquired about Ely and Humboldt millage elections.

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VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT - Ms. Duncan asked if we could write a letter in support of Lake Superior equestrian parking and campground.

IX. ADJOURNMENT - Hoffman motioned to adjourn meeting at 5:50 pm; Leach seconded. Vote and motion carried.

*NEXT MEETING DATE: MARCH 22, 2017, 4:30 pm COUNTRY INN AND SUITES*