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IRON ORE HERITAGE RECREATION AUTHORITY
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20 4:30 PM
COUNTRY INN AND SUITES

MINUTES

- I. ROLL CALL – Don Britton, Chocolay; Jeremy Pickens, Marquette; Lyn Durant, Marquette Township; Al Reynolds, Negaunee Township; Jim Thomas, Negaunee; Larry Bussone, Ishpeming; Dawn Hoffman, Tilden Township; Gary Johnson, Republic Township; Dotty Lajoie, Marquette County
- II. **PUBLIC COMMENT** (Agenda Items – Limit to three minutes) - George will speak on Agenda Item VI B.
Joni Gleason, a spokesperson for equestrian trails, spoke about equestrian trails. She has been busy with her business and hasn't been at our meetings the past few months. She said that Thomas helped with mapping trails in Ishpeming and Negaunee. She is trying to be patient with getting equestrian trails, but feels we are not working on that. She was appointed as U.P. rep for State wide equestrian committee. They awarded her money for 22 miles south of Ishpeming for signage. We're not ready. Now we're moving on with ATV trails and wonders what happened with us working on equestrian trails.
- III. **CONSENT AGENDA – Durant motioned to pull financials out and put into agenda as item VI D. Reynolds seconded motion. Vote and motion carried unanimously. Johnson motioned to approve consent agenda as amended, Bussone seconded motion. Vote and motion carried unanimously.**
- IV. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA - Reynolds motioned to add VI E. Damaged signage to agenda, Pickens seconded motion. Vote and motion carried unanimously.**
- V. **OLD BUSINESS**
 - A. **2013 Budget Revisions** – Fulsher reviewed the change from cash basis accounting to accrual based accounting and how the 2013 budget revisions reflect that. We will now count the \$200K Cliffs grant as Grant Receivable for the full amount. We will also recognize the December billing for taxes as Accounts Receivable for 2013 even though the money doesn't come in until 2014. It more accurately reflects the year's financials. The \$156K grant from Cliffs Eagle Mine Community Fund is money received, but is restricted due to the money being used for projects for 2014.
Total general revenue of \$458608 includes taxes, donations, budgeted use of fund balance; Unrestricted program revenue of \$57470 includes governmental income and promo sales (map ads). Restricted program revenue of \$675043 includes grants received through State, Cliffs, and Cliffs/Eagle Mine and mile markers. \$156000 needs to be available for 2014 for projects. Total income of \$1,139,391. Expenses of 977,539 including 829401 for capital outlay for net income of \$161,852.
Britton motioned to approve budget revision as presented; Bussone seconded motion. Vote and motion carried unanimously.
 - B. **2014 Draft Budget** – Fulsher reviewed the 2014 budget as provided by the Executive Committee. Budgeted taxes of \$281,400; budget use of fund balance of \$156,000 for total general revenue of \$444,050.
Unrestricted program income of \$3500 (map sales).
Restricted of \$368,600 includes State DNR grants for Negaunee/Marquette project and Tilden/Republic project. Total income of \$816,150.

Expenses of \$775,000 which includes \$531,000 of capital outlay, \$150,000 in loan payments; \$58,740 in payroll and taxes, \$15,000 in audit. Net income projected of \$41,150.

Britton moved to approve the draft 2014 budget; Reynolds seconded. Vote and motion carried unanimously..

- C. **Lease on Greenwood and LS&I Grade/Humboldt Reroute** – Fulsher reviewed where we are on the Director's order and lease. Roger Storm still working on getting legal description done for Humboldt reroute. Once that is done, the State can include in our amended lease which will include the Greenwood and LS&I corridors. Also getting resolutions and letters of support. Yesney noted we should get a letter from hunting groups. Durant offered to ask Reggie Durant who is with the Ruffed Grouse.
- D. **ATV Trail Plans** – Fulsher, Reynolds, Thomas, and Britton met with City of Negaunee Parks and Recreation committee to review plans through City of Negaunee. We would only be using city and IOHRA property in Negaunee. Also reviewed proposed trail through Ishpeming with Ray Roberts, Planning commission, in Ishpeming. Thomas working on mapping and finding the property owners. Subcommittee meets with Negaunee City manager and Parks and Recreation Department in Negaunee again to get their approval of proposed route and possibly alternate route.
- E. **Northwoods Lane** – Northwoods Lane Association did accept our offer of the \$500 for the project. Britton noted that no work had been done yet.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- A. **Directional Signage** – Signage committee working on directional signage on trail. Lempinen had some designs for us. We will need to work on material specs and bids. Highway signage was also discussed. Fulsher noted that the brown signs are free through MDOT but that we need to work with townships and Michigan Iron Industry Museum as MDOT won't work directly with us on those brown signs. Other option is to use the TODS signs (tourist oriented directional which are the blue signs), but these cost \$35 per month per sign.
- B. **Negaunee Old Towne park plans** – Sedlacek with Old Towne Committee provided some drawings of pavilion and restrooms proposed by this committee. Community Foundation has already pledged \$10K. City of Negaunee would provide in kind services such as plumbing and electrical. The building is proposed to be approximately 40' x 80'. Committee would like to partner with us as well since it is a trailhead. Half way point on the trail between Chocolay and Republic. Not looking for any specific commitments at this time. Finance campaign beginning in January. Trying to identify costs. Thomas attended their meeting. Should it be something for us to consider? We have 8 municipalities—do we have to provide the same for all of them? Bussone suggested that we do have plans to put in bathrooms so it would be something for us. **Johnson motioned that we support the concept and look further into it; Hoffman seconded motion. Ideas battered around on raising money and design features. Vote and motion carried.**
- C. **Marquette American League of Bicyclists Silver/Gold Level Initiative** – Fulsher working with this committee in Marquette to get a designation as bike friendly city. Iron Ore Heritage trail work is major part of application.
- D. **October Financials** – Durant noted that on the map sales, the income should go against the expense account. So any ad sales should be noted against the expense account rather than a separate income account.
Fulsher noted the bill to be paid for Superior Watershed Council. She had met with them to ask that they plant grass on lake side of trail to keep sand from coming up on trail. We approved \$1200 if they put something on the lake side. They are now asking for \$1600 and planted shrubs, grass, etc. on the Welcome Center side of trail. Yesney noted that they did not get a permit to plant on State land. IF they had, we would have noted that they weren't doing what we asked. Pickens suggested we write a letter explaining that they didn't do what we asked so we will not pay, but if they do as we ask, we can supply \$1200.
Durant motioned to send a letter to Superior Watershed as Pickens recommended. Johnson seconded motion. Vote and motion carried unanimously.
Britton motioned to approve October financials; Hoffman seconded. Vote and motion carried unanimously.

E. **Signage Destruction** – Reynolds saw letter to editor on November 2. The “gerko” defamer of signs offered to restore all property that was defaced with his graffiti. We figured 8-10 signs of ours were damaged. We will drive through and find them and call the number.

VII. **REPORTS (Meetings/Seminars attended)/CORRESPONDENCE**

Bollards are out on Greenwood Grade. Were knocked over by pick-up truck. Might want to put gates in.

Cameras may be needed with signs that say “under surveillance”.

VIII. **BOARD COMMENT**

Britton took bollards out for snowmobile traffic. Vandeenboom bollard caps are missing. Might need something better at that intersection as well. Trucks are getting around bollards.

IX. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

X. **ADJOURNMENT - Durant motioned to adjourn meeting at 5:55 pm, Hoffman seconded motion. Vote and motion carried unanimously.**

NEXT MEETING DATE: WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 4:30 PM, COUNTRY INN AND SUITES