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## IRON ORE HERITAGE RECREATION AUTHORITY

### BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 18, 2015

#### DRAFT MINUTES

- I. ROLL CALL – Don Britton, Chocolay; Jeremy Pickens, Marquette; Glenn Johnson, Marquette Township; Al Reynolds, Negaunee Township; Jim Thomas, Negaunee; Dawn Hoffman, Tilden township; Gary Johnson, Republic; Dotty LaJoye, Marquette County  
Excused Absence: Larry Bussone, Ishpeming  
Guests: Mike Lempinen  
Staff: Carol Fulsher
- II. PUBLIC COMMENT ( Agenda Items – Limit to three minutes) – No public comment.
- III. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA - **Pickens motioned to approve consent agenda as provided in packet; Britton seconded motion.** Consent agenda included October board meeting minutes and October financials with balance sheet, profit/loss showing October revenue of \$124,209 and expenses of \$83,320 for October net income of \$40,890. October budget v actual shows year to date income at 100% of budget and expenses at 97% of budget. Also included November bills to be paid totaling \$80,311. **Vote and motion carries unanimously.**
- IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA - **Hoffman motioned to approve agenda as presented; Reynolds seconded motion. Vote and motion carries unanimously.**
- V. OLD BUSINESS
  - A. Phase IV –
    1. Republic project - Fulsher reviewed the work done and the last walk thru. All items have been completed and the project is finalized. Last bill came in today.
    2. Ishpeming/Tilden Project – Walk thru is planned for the following Wednesday with Associated and Bill Sanders. Fencing went up last week. Hope to complete this project as well by end of month.
  - B. ORV Ordinance Ishpeming – Ishpeming Planning commission approved a new ordinance in August; however it never got forwarded to City Council for approval. Fulsher and Thomas following up with City of Ishpeming to get this ordinance approved so that we can add Ishpeming and Negaunee into our ORV sponsored trail system.
  - C. Grant Updates
    1. ArtPlace America 2016 – Fulsher and LaJoye met with Ishpeming City Manager Slown to discuss how to proceed with applying for ArtPlace America grant for Cliffs Shaft/Bancroft Park area. Fulsher also following up with MSU Design Team to see if we can use their services for renderings of options for this area after public input. Fulsher will continue to work on this project and will provide a letter to the City of Ishpeming to see if they are agreeable.
    2. 2015 Recreation Passport -- The scores for the Recreation Passport came out today and our grant application is down the list and doesn't look like we will get funded.
    3. DNR Trust Fund Signage – Enclosed in packet are the ten signs that Kathy Peters, Mike Lempinen, and Fulsher are working on for drafting text, graphic layout and installation for 2016.
  - D. Dark Store/Tax Loophole Forum – November 5 - Thomas noted that Fulsher was one of the speakers who participated in the forum on November 5. For the IOHRA, our trail maintenance was

delayed due to the paybacks this year. The Ramada Inn was packed with people interested in the dark store tax loophole. The board was sent information to follow up on legislation. A group will continue meeting to push the issue forward. The three stores that we had to pay back property taxes include Kohls, Menards, and Lowe's.

E. 2016 Budget – **LaJoye motioned to approve the 2016 budget as presented in packet; Johnson seconded.** Total income of \$373,683 comes from property tax, State grants, Cliffs Foundation payment. Total expenses of \$366,776 which included capital outlay of \$253,715, loan payment of \$25,000 and payroll \$62,760. Fulsher noted that this budget includes the income and expenses associated with the Recreation Passport grant. We can amend budget if we are notified that we did not get this grant. **Vote and motion carries unanimously.**

F. December 4 Ribbon Cutting/Member Celebration – Fulsher noted that invitations went out to all municipal members council/commission members, city managers and some staff, DNR staff, County commission and some others. RSVP are light thus far.

G. Millage Renewal – Fulsher noted that she was contacted by the County Clerk that many municipalities will not be having May elections due to February elections being pushed to March. Therefore, Fulsher noted that she would like to push our renewal request to the August elections. If we were the only ones on ballot in May, we would pay for the elections. She will bring a new resolution to the December meeting which will note the August 2016 elections. She will contact all municipalities to let them know of the change.

H. Cliffs Natural Resources Monument – Our stone is now at U.P. Fabricating thanks to Johnson, Britton, and Thomas. We will get plate made and adhere to stone. Should put down some aggregate down and lay stone in middle.

I. Greenwood Grade Permit – The permit for Barbieri will expire at the end of November. Fulsher did not know if any other options were going forward. Table this agenda item until next month to see if Bussone has any updates.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Map 2016 – Fulsher noted that she is working with Lake Superior Press on updates to the trail map. Pickens and Johnson (Glenn) noted that their companies may be interested in advertising. Also discussed a phone app.

VII. BOARD COMMENT

Britton – Menards new access trail is done. It changes the snowmobile U.S. 41 crossing from Best Buy to new gas station.

LaJoye – Offered her help with the ArtPlace Grant.

Hoffman – Commented on Mike's artwork at pellelt pavilion and said it was spectacular. .

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT – No public comment.

**IX. ADJOURNMENT - Johnson (Glenn) voted to adjourn meeting at 5:10 pm. Reynolds seconded motion. Vote and motion carries unanimously.**

*NEXT MEETING DATE: JANUARY 28, 2015, COUNTRY INN AND SUITES*