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IRON ORE HERITAGE RECREATION AUTHORITY BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF DECEMBER 16

DRAFT MINUTES

- I. ROLL CALL - Don Britton, Chocolay; Kathy Peters, Marquette Township; Al Reynolds, Negaunee Township; Jim Thomas, Negaunee; Larry Bussone, Ishpeming, Dawn Hoffman, Tilden Township, Gary Johnson, Republic Township Dotty LaJoye, Marquette County
Excused Absence: Glenn Johnson, Marquette Township; Jeremy Pickens, Marquette
Guest: Rob Katona, Mike Lempinen, Bill Sanders
Staff: Carol Fulsher
- II. PUBLIC COMMENT (Agenda Items – Limit to three minutes) – No public comment.
- III. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA - **Hoffman motioned to approve; Reynolds seconded. Vote and motion carries.** Consent agenda included November Board meeting minutes, November balance sheet showing TOTAL ASSETS AND TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY of \$236,348; profit and loss for November of net loss (12,010) with ytd net income of \$22,911; November actual v budget with total income at 100.01%; total expenses at 97.76% and net income at 320% of budget, due to trail expenses under. November general ledger showed checks written 1693 through 1701; and December bills to be paid totaling \$54,189. **Vote and motion carried unanimously.**
- IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA - **Britton motioned to approve agenda as presented; Bussone seconded. Vote and motion carried unanimously.**
- V. OLD BUSINESS
 - A. Phase IV –
 1. Republic project – project is completed and last check being written tonight to Weubben.
 2. Ishpeming/Tilden Project- project is completed and last check being written tonight to Associated.
 3. Humboldt Washout – Mandenburg of DNR Lansing/Trails has reviews and okay a split among funds to pay for bridge and engineering. Our RTP grant will be amended to move up to \$25,000; our ORV grant agreement will be amended to provide for \$25,000 for bridge repair. Moose Country will also get \$25,000 through snowmobile fund. These funds will be used to pay for the Humboldt washout bridge replacement.
 - B. ORV Ordinance Ishpeming – New ordinance verbiage approved by Planning department last summer is currently held up. Fulsher and Thomas are tracking where it is and how to move forward.
 - C. Grant Updates
 1. ArtPlace America 2016/MSU Sustainable Built Environment –Fulsher and Lajoie participated in a conference call about possible MSU SBE grant with Brad Neumman and Wayne Berea. WE will try to push ahead with City of Ishpeming to use this grant for visual planning at Cliffs Shaft/Bancroft Park Trailhead. This grant will help us to go forward with ArtPlace grant for same site. ArtPlace grant call for proposals expected to come out in January.
 2. 2015 Recreation Passport/Iron Belle 2016 Grants - We were awarded our 2015 Recreation Passport grant and thus will not go after the Iron Bell grant. Recreation passport grant will provide benches, bike racks, bike fixing stations, landscape at four trailheads.
 3. DNR Trust Fund Signage – Moving forward with this grant to write, design, and install 10 signs along Heritage Trail from Negaunee to Marquette. A list of sign topics was provided.

4. Rails to Trails Doppelt Family Trail Development Fund – Fulsher noted that this new grant was announced recently and is for trail construction/repairs of critical connections. She would like to apply for funding to help us with the paving of the Negaunee section. We lose a lot of bikers at this point because of the gravel surface.

F. December 4 Ribbon Cutting/Member Celebration - Fulsher noted that we held a ribbon cutting and had a member celebration afterward. Attendance was low. A newsletter highlighting our accomplishments over past five years was printed and board members encouraged to provide to municipal members.

G. Millage Renewal Resolution and Ballot Language– Fulsher noted that since May elections are not happening, we need to move our renewal to the August 2016 elections. She provided two options for ballot language: **Reynolds motioned to approve resolution and ballot language option I will slight edit. Last sentence to read “municipal member share estimated to be \$..... in first year of levy.” LaJoye seconded motion.** Discussion on pros and cons of each option. **Roll call vote taken, passed 8 – 0 with one absent.** Fulsher will follow up with all municipal members to approve their own resolutions to put us on their ballot in August.

H. Cliffs Natural Resources Monument – Stone will go up in Negaunee park in spring of 2016 for appreciation of the \$200,000 Cliffs Foundation grant.

I. Greenwood Grade Permit – Fulsher was notified by Stacey Haughy of DNR Marquette that Barbieri asked for extension to Greenwood Grade permit. He brought in a representative of Casperson’s office and Dan Adamini. DNR approved a new permit. Fulsher to follow up to see how permit reads.

J. New Map – Lake Superior Press working on new map layout. Fulsher will bring a sample once they provide her with one.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. 2016 Meeting Schedule - A 2016 meeting schedule was presented for board meetings. **Britton motioned to approve schedule as presented; Hoffman seconded motion. Vote and motion carries.**

B. Event Permits – **Britton motioned to approve the Polar Roll Fat Tire Event on February 20. Uses trail from Ishpeming to Marquette. Reynolds Seconded motion.** Discussion on second year of this event. Event organizers will start long race earlier to less impact with snowmobilers. **Vote and motion carried unanimously.**

Run for the Red, White and blue – **Peters motioned to approve event scheduled for June 18 on Ishpeming to Negaunee trail portion, Hoffman seconded motion. Vote and motion carried unanimously.**

VII. BOARD COMMENT – Johnson noted that Mike Lempinen will take over the design and painting of the Welcome Sign on the Old Bank Building.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT – Lempinen noticed lots of publicity lately on the trail.. Also suggested a drone video tape of the trail.

IX. ADJOURNMENT – Meeting adjourned at 5:40 pm.

NEXT MEETING DATE: FEBRUARY 24, 2016, COUNTRY INN AND SUITES