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**IRON ORE HERITAGE RECREATION AUTHORITY**

**MINUTES OF MARCH 23 2016**

DRAFT MINUTES

1. ROLL CALL – Don Britton, Chocolay; Jeremy Pickens, Marquette; Glenn Johnson, Marquette Township, Al Reynolds, Negaunee Township; Jim Thomas, Negaunee; Dawn Hoffman, Tilden Township; Dotty Lajoye, Marquette County

Absent: Larry Bussone, Ishpeming; Gary Johnson, Republic Township

Guests: Jackie Koski, Mike Lempinen, Lisa Bowers, Mike Springer, Rob Katona

1. PUBLIC COMMENT ( Agenda Items – Limit to three minutes) - No public comment
2. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA **– Hoffman motioned to approve consent agenda as presented; Reynolds Seconded motion.** Consent agenda included February board meeting minutes; balance sheet shows total assets of $360,730, total liabilities of $59,316 and total equity of $301,414. Profit and loss shows February net income of ($8168) and to-date income of $279,562, February budget v actual net income at 124% for February and $129% for year to date plus general ledger showing checks 1729-1741, plus March bills to be paid totaling $53,454. **Vote and motion carries unanimously.**
3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA - **Britton motioned to approve agenda with amendment of moving Agenda item 6F to 5A1. Lajoye seconded motion. Vote and motion carried**
4. OLD BUSINESS
	1. Marquette Township Trailhead Update – Mike Springer, Chair of Recreation Committee for Marquette Township, updated on the Schwemwood Park project. Thanked us for the $25K for the trailhead and wanted to provide accountability. Encourage us to go for millage. Handed out 2014 Schwemwood Park Master Plan. Level and grade the connecting trail from parking lot to our trailhead will be done in 2016 with $13,000 of our monies. IN 2017 they will further develop the parking lots with the remaining $12,000. They will still need to add restrooms.

A1. Mile Marker Safety – MUPSA (Michigan’s Upper Peninsula Snowmobile Association) provided a resolution to cooperate with us to identify and mark the mile markers, guard rail, and gates. Rob Katona, DNR Marquette, spoke on the issue. Would like us to stick with the uniform traffic design. Showed the hazard marker that is used. Said they did not want to decrease the aesthetics of the trail. Possibility is to put the hazard markers on carsonite posts 10 feet on either side of mile markers. Discussion on how to provide safety while keeping aesthetics and who pays for what. Katona noted that the ORV and snowmobile programs can pay for the signs, but volunteers are needed to install. Thomas called for a subcommittee to meet and report back. Reynolds, Hoffman, Britton, and Thomas to serve on subcommittee and request DNR personnel to be present.

* 1. Humboldt Washout Update - Fulsher noted that the washout has been repaired and trail was reopened late February. Smith Paving has sent the bill; we will pay tonight and get reimbursed through RTP and ORV programs. .
	2. ORV Ordinance Ishpeming/ORV 2016 Plans -The second reading of the Ishpeming ordinance will be on April 13. It is expected to go through and will can then get our proposal in to get trail from Winthrop Junction to Negaunee Ice Arena. There may be a small piece owned by Cliffs that we may have to have a permit. Otherwise, we have permits and/or easement with all other landowners. Discussion on DNR negotiations with Cliffs on long term agreement of all their lands.

D. Grant Updates
 1. ArtPlace America 2016/MSU Sustainable Built Environment – Cliffs Shaft Area – Fulsher requested that we pay $2500 to help with costs of MSU Sustainable Built Environment should that project be chosen for the Bancroft Lake/City property recently donated, and Cliffs Shaft Mine Museum. City and City’s DDA will also each put in $2500. This partially pays for the technical assistance from that program to look at all properties as one and provide scenarios. She has put this into the trailhead budget line item for a budget amendment later in agenda. ArtPlace America proposal has been submitted and we will find out in May if we will be asked to submit a full proposal. Again this grant would help with redevelopment of our cliffs Shaft trailhead.

 2. 2015 Recreation Passport Grant Agreement - Our agreement was signed by us and submitted. Waiting for DNR to allow us to move forward.

 3. 2014 DNR Trust Fund Signage - We are working with DNR grant management to move forward on bidding for panels and landscaping.

E. Millage Renewal/Resolution Update – Fulsher noted that she and Thomas attended meetings in Tilden and Marquette last week. We now have gotten all the resolutions we need to put on the ballots of the original seven municipalities. All paperwork was walked over to the County Clerk’s office.

F. 2016 Map - Fulsher noted that the CVB will pay $5000 for the back cover and will help with distribution of 25,000 copies of maps. She is now working on advertising.

1. NEW BUSINESS
	1. Executive Committee Action – Three items discussed: Fulsher employment contract for 2017, 2016 millage campaign; and 2016 maintenance schedule. **Hoffman motioned to approve the employment contract as presented; Lajoye seconded the motion. Pickens asked about workman’s comp. Vote and motion carried unanimously.**
	2. Sponsorship of Bike Fixit at Commons – Dr. Dehlin wanted to sponsor a bike fix it station at the Commons w/o the pump. DDA wanted to pay for it for the pump, but Fulsher thought since it was a trailhead amenity that we should pick up the tab. She has put in a budget amendment for this item.
	3. 2016 Budget Amendment – Fulsher noted that she added the $2500 into trailhead budget for Cliffs Shaft and added dollars for the pump into trail supplies. She also amended our tax income by $10,000 (since we are above budget in that area) to cover the costs. **Pickens motioned that we amend the budget as presented; Johhnon seconded. Vote and motion carried unanimously.**
	4. Reappointment of Board Members – Fulsher noted that she was informed by the City of Marquette that Pickens is not eligible to service. Their City charter only allows for 6 years and he has already served the 6 years and is not eligible for reappointment. Fulsher will follow up to see if he continues to serve until someone else is reappointed. Hoffman has been reappointed; Reynolds should be reappointed tomorrow.
	5. Officer election candidates – Lajoye requested that we remain with the officers we have now. They all agreed to serve another year. Fulsher will put that slate in front of board at our Annual Meeting in April.
	6. 2016 maintenance/signage schedule – A list of trail work was in meeting packet. Several major upgrades of trail surfacing will be contracted out; mowing and brushing will be contracted out; signage installation by volunteers, ORV signage as well; pulling gates from Marquette area and move to Negaunee and pull the pipes in that area.
	7. City of Marquette Public Art Task Force – Fulsher was asked to serve on a new ad hoc public art task force in Marquette. She has submitted her application.
2. BOARD COMMENT
Hoffman – May meeting will be at the Aspen Ridge school in the same room we will be in.
Reynolds - Volunteer recognition at Buffalo Wild Wings directly after meeting next month.
3. PUBLIC COMMENT -
4. ADJOURNMENT - **Hoffman motioned to adjourn meeting at 5:40 pm; Lajoye seconded motion. Vote and motion carried.**

*NEXT MEETING DATE: MAY 25, 2016, ASPEN RIDGE SCHOOL*