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**IRON ORE HERITAGE RECREATION AUTHORITY
BOARD MEETING MINUTES of NOVEMBER 20, 2019**

DRAFT MINUTES

1. 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; Jim Brennan, Republic Township; Lauren Luce, Marquette County
Guest: Kathy Peters, Mike Lempinen, Hayley Blake, mBank
2. PUBLIC COMMENT (Agenda Items – Limit to three minutes) – No public comment

	1. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA - **Hoffman motioned to approve consent agenda as presented; Bussone seconded motion.** Consent agenda includes October minutes, October balance sheet showing total assets of $622,102, total liabilities of $155,006, and total equity of $467,095; October profit/loss showing income at $250, expenses of $79600 for net income of ($79,350). Ytd income of $69,492. Q4 budget v actual showing income at 45%, expense at 131% and net income at 132%. YTD net income at 247%. October general ledger showing checks written 2324 – 2341, and November bills to be paid totaling $26,223. **Vote and motion carried**.
3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – **Leach motioned to approve agenda with addition under new business VE. Carp River Fisheries Camera. Thomas requested that VD. Investment be moved up to on agenda to IV. Investment Presentation; Brennan seconded motion. Vote and motion carried.**
4. Investment Presentation – Chair Britton introduced Hayley Blake from mBank. Provided background on looking for higher return investments for IOHRA deposits. Blake noted that mBank has a Sweep Account that is fully FDIC insured for 1.35% plus money market at 1.25% and checking at 1%. IOHRA decides upon how much they want in bank at any one time and there is an automatic sweep to move money back and forth. This gives all monies over $250K FDIC insurance plus provides a better investment rate of our current .2% in Sweep and .25% in savings. Discussed also that Embers Credit Union is offering a special 19-month CD at 2%. **Thomas motioned to move funds from Range Bank to mBank with option to open a 19-month cd at Embers at 2%. Hoffman seconded motion. Vote and motion carries.**
5. OLD BUSINESS
A. Michigan Grant Updates
	* 1. Trust Fund TF17-0008 Weather Shelters/Fishing Piers - Fulsher updated that our engineer is working on specs for pilings. Goal is to get bid documents to DNR in winter, get okayed and bid out. Contractor could start as soon as April 1. Deadline is June 30, 2020 or we need to get an extension.
		2. Lighting TF19-0026 – Our final score is 370, up from 335 preliminary score. We will find out final rankings in December to see if we made the cut. Discussed DNR Trust Fund’s possible new scoring criteria for 2020.
	1. Carp River Kilns Project
		* 1. Project Overview/Costs/Income/Schedule – Britton noted that Premeau is looking to put a heated tent up to continue with kiln construction. Trying to finalize by December 15. Mortar that freezes will provide a weak point. Our deadline was November 30, but early snow and cold weather delayed the project. Income and expenses also noted with $193,449 in expenses thus far with income of $81,554. Will continue to sell pavers at $100 through the winter since pavers will not be installed until spring.
			2. Kiln Door Signage and Plaque – 36” x 28” stainless steel plaque being made by U.P. Fabricating. Proof of plaque with changes in packet.
	2. Maintenance List
		1. Lake Superior Shoreline Info & Grants – Biggest item is the shoreline erosion control. Bid was awarded to low bidder Smith Paving for $75K. Only had enough monies to take care of two sites. Monies will come through Snowmobile grant, RIP grant, and Iron Belle grant. Work is complete on one site across from DNR office. Superior Watershed Partnership, working with partners, including City of Marquette, as grantee submitted an MDOT Transportation Alternative Program grant request for $670,000 to do long term maintenance on this section of trail.
	3. Republic, Ishpeming, Negaunee Trailhead Updates – Brennan provided updates on Republic trailhead. New outside signage up, Iron Ore Heritage Trailhead #1. Now doing indoor work. Ishpeming trail head almost done, doors need to go in. Fulsher recommended that our kiosk at Cliffs Shaft be moved over to the Bancroft Pavilion. Thomas to request how IOHT will be recognized at Negaunee.
	4. IOHT Property
		1. Forester Review notes from November 4 – Forester Review notes from Matt Wateys included in board packet. **Leach motioned to send out a bid package based on Forester recommendations; Reynolds seconded motion**. Discussion on forest management goals and timber cutters. Longyear, Holli, Carey Logging, and Minerick should all receive bid packet. Luce can provide other companies as well that do chipping. **Vote and motion carried**.
		2. Holli Forest Update – Select cut of aspens and birches done, but chipping needs to be finalized.

1. NEW BUSINESS
	1. 2019 Budget Amendment dated November 20, 2019 – **Johnson motioned to approve Budget Amendment dated November 20, 2019 as provided in packet; Bussone seconded motion.** Fulsher noted that we had some projects come up that need to be recognized in budget, including lake superior shoreline stabilization and Humboldt culvert replacement, but are covered by DNR grants. **Vote and motion carried.**
	2. 2020 budget – **Leach motioned to approve 2020 budget as presented; Hoffman seconded motion.** Income expected of $506,692; total expenses budgeted at $643,893 for budget shortfall of $137,200 which will be covered by fund balance. Big items include weather shelter/fishing piers, kiln project finishing touches, paving of trail between County Road 492 and Northwoods Lane, money for Ishpeming trailhead. **Vote and motion carried.**
	3. Investment Options – **Reynolds motioned to move $150K from IOHT monies into the Embers Credit Union’s special 19-month, 2% CD, Bussone seconded motion. Vote and motion carried.**
	4. Marquette Signage Meeting – Fulsher noted that City of Marquette brought NTN, IOHT, North Country Trail, DNR Iron Belle trail representatives together to discuss signage through the city. Discussed confidence markers and kiosks at notable intersections. Group will decide upon fate of our street identifying signs at December meeting.
	5. Carp River Fisheries Cameras – Leach received a request from Dr. Brandon Gehrig and Dr. Jill Leonard that we allow cameras on the Carp River bridge (which are donor funded)--one under water to see the fish; one at the bridge to see the lake. Camers to be placed under the decking. Invite them to come to meeting. Link to our web site. We will ask them to present at December meeting. Bridge is owned by DNR so will forward their request to DNR.
2. ADMINISTRATOR REPORT –Fulsher noted that we now have lots of merchandise/product to sell. Looking for ways to move it.
3. BOARD COMMENT - Luce requested that the trail counter report be included in December board packet. Asked if we advertise in the Travel Marquette book.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT – No public comment.

X. ADJOURNMENT *–* **Luce motioned to adjourn meeting, Thomas seconded motion. Vote and motion carried and meeting adjourned at 5:45**