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**IRON ORE HERITAGE RECREATION AUTHORITY
BOARD MEETING OF JANUARY 27, 2021**

**ZOOM**

DRFT MINUTES

1. ROLL CALL – Don Britton, Chair, Chocolay; Lauren Luce, Treasurer, Marquette County; Nick Leach, Marquette; Mike Springer, Marquette Township alternate; Al Reynolds, Negaunee Township; Bob Hendrickson, Negaunee; Larry Bussone, Ishpeming; Jim Brennan, Republic
Absent: Dawn Hoffman, Tilden Township; Glenn Johnson, Marquette Township
Guests: Rob Katona, Kathy Peters, Michelle Schwemin
Staff: Carol Fulsher
2. PUBLIC COMMENT (Agenda Items – Limit to three minutes) - No public comment
3. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA - **Brennan motioned to approve the consent agenda; Hendrickson seconded motion.** Consent agenda included December meeting minutes; December balance sheet showing assets of $914,877; liabilities of $582,868 and total equity of $331,434; December profit/loss showing revenue of $191,622 and expenses of $243,570 for net loss of $51,947; Year’s revenue shows $813,424, year’s expenses of $943,661 for net loss of $130,236; Q4 budget v revenue shows income at 46%, expenses at136%; Year’s revenues at 102%; year’s expenses at 97%; December General Ledger showing checks written 1183 to 1194, and January bills to be paid totaling $21,233.56. **Vote and motion carried.**
4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA - **Brennan motioned to approve agenda as presented; Reynolds seconded motion. Vote and motion carried.**
5. OLD BUSINESS
6. Michigan Grant Updates
	* 1. Negaunee Township Trailhead – Grant was signed, survey completed and Sanders working on bid documents.
		2. Weather Shelters/Fishing Piers – Meet with Wuebben Construction tomorrow to review timeline. DNR grant expires 6/30/21.
		3. 2021 Rural Development Fund Grants – Will hear in February if our $100K grant will be awarded for shoreline erosion fix.
7. 2021 Maintenance – Starting list of maintenance projects. Big items include grant work inc. trailhead and weather shelters. Also working on bid documents to add aggregate and fix culverts in Republic. Discussion on boardwalks and if Superior Watershed Partnership could build.
8. NEW BUSINESS
	1. 2021 Grant Ideas
		1. Purchase of 173 Acres in Marquette and Negaunee Townships – Fulsher provided background on possible purchase of property in Negaunee and Marquette Townships using the Michigan Trust Fund grant. 40 acres in Negaunee Township that abuts IOHT, and 133 acres in Marquette Township. Walked the property in December with Leach, Britton, NTN staff and current owner’s daughter, Michelle Schwemin. Current owners are ready to sell the property but want it to stay natural and be used for recreation as was the intention of Michelle’s grandfather. A power point was provided that gave background of Mr. Koski, who bought the property in the 1930’s. **Brennan motioned to move forward with grant application; Reynolds seconded motion. Discussion about possible uses of land, how townships will perceive the sale, how it fits in IOHRA’s goals, long term goals and plans. Roll call was taken and vote was approved 8-0 with 1 absence.**
		2. Boardwalk in Negaunee Wetlands Area – Fulsher noted that a boardwalk in east Negaunee into the wetlands (at bottom of big hill) was in the original plans when Negaunee to Marquette portion of trail was built. It was backed out due to cost. Would like to pursue a Trust Fund to add it for separation of non-motorized and motorized along this section plus allow entrance into the marshlands. **Hendrickson motioned to approve grant application; Leach seconded motion. Vote and motion carried.**
	2. Mining Inspector Section 16 Pit – Fulsher noted that she received a call from new mine inspector about fencing around the Section 16 pit. She provided information that land is owned by State and we’re managers. Our thought was this was a lake with fish planted. For information purposes. Has not heard anything more.
	3. Board Member Terms – Four members’ terms are up in April 2021: Glenn Johnson, Lauren Luce, Jim Brennan and Don Britton. Please let Fulsher know if you want to continue serving so she can write letters to members to reappoint.
	4. 2021 Priorities List – 2021 Priorities List included in packet. Major items include weather shelters/fishing piers, Negaunee Township development, Republic fixes, map redo, grant work for 2021.
	5. Iron Range Roll Permit - A trail permit for 2021 Iron Range Roll is included in packet. Event is scheduled for June 5 and put on by Connect Marquette. **Leach motioned to approve signing of permit; Springer seconded motion. Vote and motion carried.**
9. ADMINISTRATOR REPORT – Fulsher noted she is working on a PSA with RAMBA/NTN/ISC on winter trail etiquette. She attended DNR grant workshop and has handouts if anyone interested. Jim Thomas Pavilion should be ready to go in May. An NMU graduate student wants to work with us on her Team Project: Improving an organization through Managerial Accounting, RAMBA wants to take over lease of Howard Oil building, and she’s working on a trail story for Michigan Blue Magazine.
10. BOARD COMMENT – Springer wanted to share information on Marquette Township possibilities to work with IOHRA including overlook behind Menards.
Leach requested the DNR Handouts.
11. PUBLIC COMMENT – No public comment.
12. ADJOURNMENT***-* Leach motioned to adjourn meeting at 5:45 pm; Hendrickson seconded motion. Vote and motion carried.**