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**102 W. Washington Suite 232
Marquette, MI 49855
906-235-2923****ironoreheritage@gmail.com**

**IRON ORE HERITAGE RECREATION AUTHORITY
BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 24, 2021**APPROVED MINUTES

1. ROLL CALL – Chair Don Britton, Chocolay; Vice Chair/Secretary Glenn Johnson, Marquette Township; Treasurer Lauren Luce, Marquette County; Nick Leach, Marquette; Al Reynolds, Negaunee Township; Bob Hendrickson, Negaunee; Dawn Hoffman, Tilden Township; Jim Brennan, Republic Township
Excused Absence: Larry Bussone, Ishpeming
Guests: Mike Springer, Lyn Durant, Michele Schwemin, Mary Rule
2. PUBLIC COMMENT (Agenda Items – Limit to three minutes) – No public Comment
3. PUBLIC HEARINGS
	1. TRUST FUND ACQUISITION GRANT OF 176 ACRES – Chair Britton opened public comment. Fulsher provided background on grant application. Michele Schwemin spoke of her family’s wishes to keep land open to the public for recreational use. They are thrilled to see the support. Lyn and Reggie Durant provided support for the project acquisition. Springer voiced support for the 176-acre acquisition to expand trail offerings and is very much in favor of the grant application. No other public comment and public hearing was closed.
	2. TRUST FUND DEVELOPMENT GRANT OF NEGAUNEE BOARDWALK -Chair Britton opened the Public Hearing on the Development Grant application for boardwalk development in Negaunee. Fulsher reviewed grant application site plan and budget. Springer voiced his support of the grant application for a boardwalk and the importance of watersheds. No other public comment. Britton closed the public hearing.
4. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA **– Hoffman motioned to approve consent agenda as presented; Brennan seconded motion**. Consent agenda included February balance sheet showing assets of $895,177; liabilities of $259,693 and equity of $635,484; February profit and loss showing income of $(13.58), expenses of $9505 for net income of ($9518). Total YTD net income of $301,609. Q1 budget v actual as of February 28 shows income at 101%; expenses at 114% and net income at 100.9%; February general ledger showing checks written 1204 to 1217; and March bills to be paid totaling $9689.78. **Vote and motion carried.**
5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Brennan motioned to approve moving VII C. Marquette Lions Club Request VIA. Reynolds seconded motion. Vote and motion carried.
6. OLD BUSINESS
7. Marquette Lions Park Request – Mary Rule, from the Marquette Lions presented on their project plans for Marquette Lions Lakeshore Park on the south side of the LSCP building. They are working with City of Marquette on a Recreation Passport grant and looking for match funding and/or letters of support for 2022. **Johnson motioned to write a letter of support for their grant application; Hoffman seconded motion. Vote and motion carried.**
8. Michigan Grant Updates
	* 1. Negaunee Township Trailhead – Bid documents need to be to grant reviewer by June 30, 2021. Fulsher expects that project will be completed in 2021.
		2. Weather Shelters/Fishing Piers – Contractor to begin work on the ground first week of April. Still working with Canadian National on dam removal to get flooding under control.
		3. 2021 Trust Fund Purchase of 173 Acres Resolution – **Brennan motioned to sign the Resolution for submittal of Trust Fund grant for acquisition of 176 acres of property; Johnson seconded motion. Roll call vote was taken and motion passed 8 ayes, 0 nays, and 1 absent.**
		4. 2021 Trust Fund Negaunee Boardwalk Resolution – **Brennan motioned to sign the resolution for submittal of a Trust Fund grant for development of a boardwalk in Negaunee marsh with the IOHRA provided 31% of match of $100,000. Hoffman seconded motion. Roll call vote was taken and motion passed 8 ayes, 0 nays, and 1 absent.**
9. 2021 Maintenance
	1. Republic Township RFQ – RFQ for Republic upgrades included in packet. **Hoffman motioned to approve the RFQ as presented; Reynolds seconded motion**. Discussion on widening trail in low area by 4th Street with culvert extensions. **Vote and motion carried**.
10. Board Membership Renewals – Fulsher noted that Luce and Brennan have been renewed for board membership. Waiting to hear from Marquette Township and Chocolay Township.
11. Map Meeting Follow up – Fulsher met virtually with CVB staff to review map project. They are providing the base map and graphic artist. One side will include Negaunee to Republic ORV trail and other side will include Chocolay to Ishpeming with insets of city maps. Once we have a base map to look at, the committee will group to add elements to map including places of interest, trailheads, etc.
12. NEW BUSINESS
	1. Negaunee Jim Thomas Signage Request for $2500 – The City of Negaunee is adding two signs to the Jackson Miners Park. They have requested $2500 from IOHRA to pay for the Jim Thomas interpretive sign. Monies are available in interpretive sign budget. **Hoffman motioned to provide Negaunee with $2500 for the Jim Thomas sign; Johnson seconded. Vote and motion carried**.
	2. Negaunee City Future Projects, ie ORV Campground, Lighting, Trail Connections, Playground, Substation – Fulsher reviewed several of the proposed projects of Negaunee that will impact the IOHT. Negaunee plans to add lighting from Union Station Depot to Jackson Pit #1 in 2021. We can review their project and budget and see if we want to use their lighting to continue down the trail. Negaunee is also considering adding an ORV/snowmobile campground on IOHRA owned land north of CR 480 near the Negaunee Mine building. An FYI for future consideration.
	3. Audit Letter Signature – We are undergoing our 2020 audit and need to sign the audit letter provided by Anderson, Tackman. If any board members would like to add information to the letter or call Anderson, Tackman directly, they are invited to do so. **Brennan motioned to sign letter as is; Hoffman seconded motion. Vote and motion carried.**
	4. City of Ishpeming Request for Campground Board Member – The City of Ishpeming is looking to add an IOHT rep to a steering committee for their new campground on Malton Road near the IOHT. Britton volunteered to represent the IOHT.
13. ADMINISTRATOR REPORT – No report.
14. BOARD COMMENT – Leach is happy to see the Negaunee Township trailhead and weather shelters coming to fruition this year.
Brennan noted that Republic Welcome Center should be ready to open soon. A grand opening scheduled for first week of June.
Britton noted that he will talk to Pete O’Dovero about a pie shaped piece of property between the IOHT and the Schwemin/Britton property. O’Dovero may be interested in donating this piece.
Hoffman noted there will be no Aspen Ridge Family night this year.
15. PUBLIC COMMENT – No public comment
16. ADJOURNMENT *-* **Brennan motioned to adjourn meeting; Reynolds seconded motion. Vote and motion carried and meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm***.

NEXT MEETING DATE: April 28, 2021, 4:30 pm, Zoom/Country Inn*