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**IRON ORE HERITAGE RECREATION AUTHORITY
DRAFT BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 23, 2021**

**Country Inn/Zoom**

1. ROLL CALL - Don Britton, Chair, Chocolay; Lauren Luce, Treasure, Marquette County; Nick Leach, Marquette; Mike Spring, Marquette Township; Al Reynolds, Negaunee Township; Bob Hendrickson, Negaunee; Dawn Hoffman, Tilden Township; Jim Brennan, Republic Township

Absent: Larry Bussone, Ishpeming; Glenn Johnson, Marquette Township
Guests: Mike Lempinen, Kathy Peters
Staff: Carol Fulsher

1. PUBLIC COMMENT (Agenda Items – Limit to three minutes) – Springer recapped the 2021 Iron Range Roll. 222 people signed up to race. 179 racers finished. Raised $6-7K for the YMCA. He also presented to the Marquette Township Board on potential Marquette Township property sale and the IOHRA presentation to the Trust Fund board.
2. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA – **Hoffman motioned to approve the consent agenda items as presented in packet. Reynolds seconded motion.** Packet included May meeting minutes and May balance sheet showing assets of $680,775; liabilities of $12,873 and equity of $667,902; May profit/loss showing monthly income of $1700, monthly expenses of $12,341 for net income of ($10,641). Total to date income of $320,801, expenses of $$80,132 for net income of $240,669; Q2 budget v actual showing income at 8%, expenses at 45% and net income at 45% of actual. YTD shows income at 101%, expenses at 55% with net income at 139% of budget; May general ledger shows checks written 1240 through 1262, and May bills to be paid totaling $221,854. **Vote taken and motion carried.**
3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA - **Brennan motioned to approve agenda as presented; Hoffman seconded motion. Vote and motion carried.**
4. OLD BUSINESS
5. Michigan Grant Updates
	* 1. Negaunee Township Trailhead – Sanders should have trailhead bid documents ready by end of next week. Fulsher passed around drawing of signage at road with reuse of metal men and timbers.
		2. Weather Shelters/Fishing Piers – Project is close to finish. Fulsher suggested a ribbon cutting and board agreed to start with ribbon cuttings again. Fulsher will find a date and finalize logistics.
		3. 2021 Trust Fund Purchase of 176 Acres – Fulsher noted that she presented to Trust Fund board virtually at their June meeting. Also, we will have a guest coming up to review our grant applications in person.
		4. 2021 Trust Fund Negaunee Boardwalk – waiting for our preliminary scores. Will be reviewing this project as well.
6. 2021 Maintenance
	1. Project Updates-Republic, Negaunee Culvert – Both projects finished and reviewed. While reviewing trail, we did encounter a pick up on the truck in Republic by School Lake; therefore, we closed gates. Brennan will get gates painted or put bright markers on them.
	2. 2021 Maintenance update – Maintenance list in packet. Reynolds inquired about the fence at wetlands since it’s been on list awhile. Fulsher will follow up with mine inspector about the need for a fence there before taking it down.
7. Map 2021 – 2500 maps have been delivered for distribution. Include type of trail surfacing, sites to see, how far between trailheads, elevation, close ups of city trail.
8. Millage Renewal Discussion – Fulsher noted that when we go to municipalities for their approval/resolution to put millage renewal on August 2022 ballot, we should have a wish list for how to spend the next six years of millage money. A starting list included in packet. Discussion ensued. Other ideas included fishing pier at Chocolay, pump track, shared use aggregate on 5 miles out to Lakenenland, extended parking at Schwemwood and restroom facility. Leach notified that there is a Supervisor Zoom meeting on Thursday and he will invite Fulsher to attend so that we can prepare municipal leaders that we will be asking for agenda space in the upcoming months. This list will be important to review with each municipality. Springer suggested all board members get to their respective municipal meetings. Fulsher also notified that due to Headlee Amendment, we are collecting less than the original .2 mills. We are at .1971. She reviewed what we receive in tax revenue from each municipality and recommended we stay at .1971 as a renewal rather than ask for the .2 because it would be considered “new”. More discussion to be had at next meeting as we finalize our ballot language and resolution. Lastly, Board advised Fulsher to look into North Country Disposal for a porta john at Schwemwood area.
9. Grants/Projects per Municipality- The board reviewed the Grants each municipality has received through our grants or their grants that pertain to trail and trail connections and amenities plus the amount we have spent on projects in their boundaries. We can use this as well in presentations.
10. NEW BUSINESS
A. Trailheads – Fulsher has fielded questions about why Ishpeming Miners pavilion at Bancroft and Negaunee Miner Park restrooms aren’t open. They received DNR Trust Fund money and money from us to serve as trailhead facilities. Ishpeming has a problem with locking system between the restroom and inside facilities to resolve. Negaunee has not gotten their public use permit yet. They will open when these items have been rectified.

B. Mile Markers – The previous mile marker numbering system caused confusion with different numbers on each side of marker. One side notifying how far from Republic end you are and the other how far from Kawbawgam Road you are. Confusing to trail users. Fulsher had U.P. Fab take one side number off and now numbering is 1-47 starting at one in Republic and 47 at Chocolay. That way, if we go further to Lakenenland, we can just keep on numbering to 52. However, there’s only one number on one side and it’s not always the side people come up on. Discussion on ways to remedy. Decided to add same number to other side. $2500 quote. Do not paint.

C. Future Board Meeting Format Discussion – Question on how we want to handle future meetings. Will keep at Country Inn and through Zoom for one more month.

1. ADMINISTRATOR REPORT – Fulsher thanked DNR for paying for grading on Greenwood grade through Ely and Humboldt and LS&I grade in Humboldt.
Sold two benches and one has been placed at Welcome Center. Second one will be in Negaunee Miner Park.
Asked if we want to keep selling pavers. There’s been some interest. Suggestion to sell 10 at a time instead of one here and there.
Lastly, Fulsher received complaint about E-Bikes, rudeness on trail in Harvey. She is researching some shared trail etiquette signs to bring to board in July as an option.
2. BOARD COMMENT – Hoffman likes the idea of larger Tilden parking lot.
Hendrickson – Would like maps for GINCC.
Springer – likes the Zoom option for meetings.
Leach – will not be able to attend July 28th meeting.
3. PUBLIC COMMENT – No public comment.
4. ADJOURNMENT- **Brennan motioned to adjourn meeting; Reynolds seconded motion. Vote and motion carried and meeting adjourned at 5:50 pm.**