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**IRON ORE HERITAGE RECREATION AUTHORITY
DRAFT BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF AUGUST 25, 2021**

1. ROLL CALL – Lauren Luce, Marquette County; Jim Brennan, Republic; Dawn Hoffman, Tilden Township; Larry Bussone, Ishpeming; Bob Hendrickson, Negaunee, Al Reynolds, Negaunee Township; Glen Johnson, Marquette Township; Nick Leach, Marquette
Excused Absence: Don Britton, Chocolay
Guest: Mike Springer, Marquette Township Alternate; Kathy Peters, Mike Lempinen, Rob Katona
Staff: Carol Fulsher
2. PUBLIC COMMENT (Agenda Items – Limit to three minutes) – No public comment.
3. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA – **Hoffman motioned to approve Consent Agenda as presented; Bussone seconded motion.** Consent agenda included July meeting minutes; July balance sheet showing assets of $599,439, total liabilities of $162,410, total equity of $436978; July profit/loss showing July income of $39,014, expenses of $21,137 for net income of $17,877. Total income YTD of $37,691; Q3 budget v actual with month of July only showing income at 140%, expenses at 16%. YTD income at 104%, expenses at 90%; July general ledger showing checks written 1281 through 1296; and August bills to be paid totaling $65,049. **Vote was taken and motion carried.**
4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – **Leach motioned to approve agenda as presented; Reynolds seconded motion. Vote and motion carried.**
5. OLD BUSINESS
6. Michigan Grant Updates
	* 1. Negaunee Township Trailhead – Bid plans were submitted to DNR staff on August 3.
		2. Weather Shelters/Fishing Piers/Ribbon Cutting – Fulsher asked about possible dates. Consensus was to hold prior to September 22 board meeting. We will stage cars at Michigan Iron Industry Museum (MIIM)and carpool to sites. Then have our board meeting afterwards at the MIIM. More info to come.
		3. 2021 Trust Fund Purchase of 176 Acres – No prelim scores yet
		4. 2021 Trust Fund Negaunee Boardwalk – No prelim scores yet
7. 2021 Maintenance List – Fulsher noted items still on list. New kiosk maps in production. Will need help taking down old ones on each kiosk and installing new. Leach and Hoffman volunteered their help.
8. Millage Renewal Update – We had one presentation to the Marquette Township board. They provided resolution to continue with IOHRA. They want to review ballot language closer to voting date. Leach suggested we still get in front of commissions/councils this year to get input/provide information.
9. ORV Parking Lot Options – Fulsher noted that there are two options for ORV trailheads right now. 1) Negaunee is looking to use some of our land for an ORV trailhead and another area for ORV campground. Negaunee wants to do it with their money, but use our lands behind the Ice Arena and north of County Road 480. We will have to review these requests when they come to us. IOHRA also wanted to expand Stoneville parking area, but land was recently sold to new owner who has plans for the land. 2) Another option is working with Dan Perkins on land he owns near Winthrop Junction in Ishpeming (Washington Street). Bussone put together diagram with land description. Fulsher has lease language in packet that we have used with other lands owners. Asking for 250’ x 300’ area just south of Winthrop Junction to add a trailhead parking area. This would provide a larger area for ORV trailers. IOHRA could get ORV improvement funds for construction and maintenance. **Bussone motioned to move ahead with Perkins lease for land near Winthrop; Brennan seconded.** Discussion on winter usage and Moose Country could use and get grant funds for plowing. **Bussone amended his motion to include winter use as well; Brennan seconded amended motion. Vote and motion carried.**
10. Trail Etiquette Signage – Fulsher provided Signs Now with the icons Board approved. When she gets a sample from them with our logo and other info, she will bring back to board for approval. Also needs to review where to put them; mostly in high traffic area of Ishpeming, Negaunee, Harvey, Marquette Township.
11. NEW BUSINESS
	1. Federal Travel and Tourism Grants American rescue plan grants – CUPPAD and LSCP collaborating on an EDA Build Back Better grant for an outdoor recreation innovation zone. Meeting of possible partners scheduled for August 31.
	2. Cameras on trail – Gates in Ely Township keep getting destroyed. Locks are getting torched off. Fulsher wants to find culprit by placing trail cameras and looking for ideas on cameras. Discussion on best options for the money. Brennan noted he has cameras at Republic beach with Range Communications monitoring. Approximately $2200. Board felt we could find a trail camera that would provide photos to cell phone would be a cost effective measure.
	3. Pure Michigan videography – A video production company with Pure Michigan will be coming up on August 31 to film the trail as one of the inaugural Pure Michigan trails. Will need volunteers to come out that evening to bike part of the trail. Leach, Hendrickson, Luce and Johnson interested in helping out.
	4. Republic Welcoming Center Ribbon Cutting, August 28 – Brennan noted that Republic is celebrating its sesquicentennial year in 2021 (one year late due to Covid) and that the ribbon will be cut on new welcoming center during the festivities on August 28 at approximately 11am.
12. ADMINISTRATOR REPORT – Fulsher noted that she is working with Signage committee on three additional interpretive signs: Suicide Bowl Ski Jump, Lower Harbor Transformation and Coal Energy Era. She thanked Luce for her suggestion of naming a trailhead after Jim Thomas and felt the City of Negaunee did an excellent job on the Jim Thomas Pavilion trail naming, signage and ribbon cutting. She is working with Rob Katona, DNR, to provide a go between between us and SORVA to work on extending the trail to Lakenenland. SORVA currently is the ORV sponsor for this portion of the trail and gets money to maintain. Also noted she got a call from an Ely Township commissioner asking about the Authority again after getting feedback from their Recreation Plan update.
13. BOARD COMMENT – Hoffman noted that the new Ishpeming Senior Center is open.
14. PUBLIC COMMENT – Springer suggested contacting Connect Marquette about Pure Michigan video.
15. ADJOURNMENT *-* Bussone motioned to adjourn meeting; Brennan seconded motion. Vote and motion carried and meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm.