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

 **AGENDA**

1. ROLL CALL – Don Britton, Chair, Chocolay; Nick Leach, Marquette, Mike Springer, Marquette Township, Al Reynolds, Negaunee Township, Bob Hendrickson, Negaunee, Larry Bussone, Ishpeming, Dawn Hoffman, Tilden Township, Jim Brennan, Republic Township, Lauren Luce, Treasurer, Marquette County
Excused Absence: Glenn Johnson, Vice President/Secretary, Marquette Township
Guests: Kathy Peters, Nate Heffron, City Manager, Negaunee; David Nelson, City Planner Negaunee, Kevin Trevillian, Coleman Engineering
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 September meeting minutes, September balance sheet total assets of $631,524, total liabilities of $159,404 and equity of $399,160;

September profit and loss showing profit of $269, expenses of $116,430 for net income of -$16,161 YTD net income of $72,959;
Q3 budget v actual as of September 22 of income at 95%; expenses at 43%; YTD income at 101% and expenses at 80%.
September General Ledger showing checks written 1324 through 1339 and
October bills to be paid totaling $14,845.
**Vote and motion carried.**

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA **– Leach motioned to approve agenda with addition of VIIC. Negaunee Township Trail Connection Plan; Reynolds seconded motion. Vote and motion carried.**
2. CITY OF NEGAUNEE PRESENTATION ON CAMPGROUND/TRAILHEAD – Heffron, Nelson and Trevillian presented on the idea of entering into an intergovernmental agreement between the IOHRA and City of Negaunee for Negaunee to use a portion of IOHRA-owned property near the Negaunee Ice Arena and an area north of County Road 480 for a campground (north of 480 with rustic and RV sites) and an ORV/Snowmobile Trailhead (near the Ice Arena south of CR 480). Negaunee’s city attorney would draft an agreement for us to sign with possible sharing of revenue of the campground. Maps were presented with the plans. Negaunee is pursuing ARPA Federal grant funds. However if unsuccessful, will still pursue other funding sources. Bussone questioned about environmental concerns. Environmental review will be needed. IOHRA would have to approve site plans and an intergovernmental agreement next. **Brennan motioned to pursue the intergovernmental agreement with Negaunee for campground and trailhead. Hendrickson seconded motion. Vote and motion carried.**
3. OLD BUSINESS
4. Michigan Grant Updates
	* 1. Negaunee Township Trailhead – Bids were advertised and are due on November 10. IOHRA can approve the awarding of bid on November 17 and project can begin this year. Project should be finalized by June 30, 2022.
		2. 2021 Trust Fund Purchase of 176 Acres – Put in for 25 additional points. Final scores out in December. We should be at 335.
		3. 2021 Trust Fund Negaunee Boardwalk – Tried for additional points under sustainability and a priority regional project. We will get final score in December. Discussed other ways of funding project if not successful. Scale it down. Use LSWP. Leach recommended looking at whomever did the boardwalk at Hogback trail.
5. 2021 Maintenance List – In packet with what has been done and still to do.
	1. Asphalt Repair – put in 2022 budget to repair 1137 linear feet of cracked asphalt between Winthrop Junction in Ishpeming to east of r/r crossing in Negaunee. Areas have been marked with spray paint. Discussion on rubberized asphalt, concrete and regular asphalt plus getting a big tooth saw blade to cut roots along the trail.. Will continue to review best possible applications and bid out project in March.
	2. Gate Destruction – Fulsher noted there are two separate problems going on with gates from Ishpeming to Ely. 1) Someone went through and damaged all the gates which had to be repaired with welding. Over $1000 in damages. One time thing. A case is opened at Sheriff’s Department. 2) Someone is cutting the locks mostly the gates at County Road 478 and west near O’brien’s property. Cameras have now been installed.
6. Millage Renewal Updates and Municipal Presentations – Presentation schedule is included in packet. We are attending municipal meetings to update and provide information on next year’s millage election. Board is invited to any and all meetings for support and can be the speaker if they’d like. Fulsher talked about 2016 millage renewal strategies. Direct mail piece went out to all registered voters, Facebook posts, and banners on the trail.
7. Pure Michigan video – Video is delayed but they will release in the spring since our season is over.
8. NEW BUSINESS
	1. 2021 Year to Date Budget v Actual – Fulsher reviewed where we are with income and expenses and what is expected to happen in next to months. We will up the income from taxes since numbers are now known through payments received. State grants will be less since the Negaunee Township trailhead is just going out on bids. Do not expect any reimbursements in 2021. Total income will be down due to Grant hitting next year. Expenses of trailhead will be down as well. Waiting for some maintenance bills to come in but maintenance budget will be less than budgeted by $13K. Net income expected at $67,478 rather than budget of $8528. Fulsher will bring amended budget to board in November.
	2. 2022 Draft Budget – Fulsher reviewed draft budget of 2022. Big items include property taxes of $329K, State grants of $379K (if land acquisition grant is awarded) for total income of $747,177. Expenses will be big in maintenance due to asphalt repair. Britton suggested even raising it higher than $143K projected, Negaunee Township trailhead of $105K and acquisition of land at $306K (covered by grant), interpretive signage/art of $10Kpayroll of $80K with federal and state payroll taxes), and ORV of $38K. Fulsher will tweak budget of maintenance, public relations (for millage and Recreation Plan update), and will review property tax payments to IOHT.
	3. Negaunee Township Trail Connection Plan – Leach provided map of planned trail connection from Township trails to the IOHT and asked for a support letter for their MDARD grant request. Brennan motioned to provide support letter; Bussone seconded motion. Vote and motion carried.
9. ADMINISTRATOR REPORT – no report
10. BOARD COMMENT – Brennan will follow up with Senator McBroom’s office on a trail complaint coming from Humboldt resident.
11. PUBLIC COMMENT – No public comment
12. ADJOURNMENT- Bussone motioned to adjourn meeting; Leach seconded motion. Vote and motion carried and meeting adjourned at 5:55 pm.