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**IRON ORE HERITAGE RECREATION AUTHORITY
BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 19, 2022**

**DRAFT AGENDA**

1. ROLL CALL – Don Britton, Chair, Chocolay; Glenn Johnson, Vice Chair/Secretary, Marquette Township; Al Reynolds, Executive Committee At-Large, Negaunee Township; Bob Hendrickson, Negaunee; Larry Bussone, Ishpeming; Dawn Hoffman, Tilden; Jim Brennan, Republic

Excused Absence: Lauren Luce, Treasurer, Marquette County; Nick Leach, Marquette
Staff: Carol Fulsher
Guests: Mike Springer, Alternate, Marquette Township; Rob Katona, DNR

1. PUBLIC COMMENT (Agenda Items – Limit to three minutes) – No public comment
2. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA – **Brennan motioned to approve consent agenda as presented; Hoffman seconded motion.** Consent agenda included December 2021 meeting minutes; December balance sheet showing assets of $823,852; liabilities of $357,704 and equity of $466,148;
December profit and loss showing December income of $3996, expenses of $22,582 for net income of $(18,585). YTD income of $66,9878.
Q4 budget v actual as of December showing income at 91% of budget; expenses at 89% of budget. YTD income at 99% and YTD expenses at 102%.
December General Ledger showing checks written 1369 to 1383, and
January bills to be paid totaling $35,597.
**Vote 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. 2021 Trust Fund Negaunee Boardwalk - A professional services proposal letter was presented to board for the boardwalk project. Fees for engineering services for design, drawings/bidding, and construction admin of $33,200 which is less than the amount budgeted in grant paperwork. **Bussone motioned to approve and sign professional services proposal with Sanders-Czapski; Johnson seconded motion. Vote and motion carried.**
		2. 2022 MNRTF Development Grant for Lakenenland – Fulsher noted she is working with DNR on getting a land lease with State extended for 5 miles to get us to Lakenenland so we have land control. Katona noted that the State is moving forward on lease. Noted that lease will include that the trail remains Restricted ORV, meaning ORV’s 65” or less can use the trail.
		3. 2022 MNRTF Acquisition Grant,
			1. Appraisal cost of $3500 – Fulsher noted that the owners of the property of the 176 acres wanted to try again for the Trust Fund acquisition grant. Fulsher wanted to get a better value of the land since the last appraisal was in 2005. After Brennan talked to his assessor in Republic, he recommended a new appraisal and felt we were undervaluing the land. Fulsher contacted Swanson and Mercier to see if they could fit us in for an appraisal before grant deadline. They can and quoted $3500 for the full DNR “best use” appraisal. **Brennan motioned to hire Swanson and Mercier to do the “best use” appraisal for a fee of $3500; Hendrickson seconded the motion.** Discussion on necessity of full appraisal, cost sharing. **Vote and motion carried.**
			2. U.P. Land Conservancy Conversation – The acquisition grant scoring offers 25 extra points in the land is in land conservancy or green space planning. Fulsher has had preliminary conversations with Andrea Denham from U.P. Land Conservancy to see if they are interested in including this parcel in their conservancy. Denham will forward request to her board for determination.
		4. MDARD Grant for Lakenenland – Another opportunity to get some funding for the Lakenenland project which will be $500K or more and Trust Fund only offers $300K maximum.
6. Millage Renewal Resolution for millage language of .1970 mills – Fulsher noted that in July 2021 the board approved a resolution to approve a renewal vote of our millage at .1971 mills. In the months since then, Fulsher received a call from Anne Giroux at the County that our millage request should be .1970 because we needed to round down. In order to have the resolution and ballot language match, we need to consider this new resolution for the .1970 mills. **Brennan motioned to approve and sign the resolution to renew the .1970 mills in August of 2022. Johnson seconded motion. Roll call vote was taken and motion passed 7 yesses, 0 no’s, and 2 absent.**
7. Negaunee/IOHRA Land Lease Agreement Resolution – The final lease agreement and resolution to sign lease prepared by our attorney is included in packet**. Hendrickson motioned to approve and sign the resolution and lease; Bussone seconded**. Bussone’s survey will be included as Exhibits in the lease laying out exact legal land descriptions. **A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with 7 yesses, 0 no;s and 2 absent.**
8. Negaunee Township Trailhead Project – An update was provided on this project. Oberstar cleared and graveled the driveway and parking lot before the snow came. Will need to install vault toilet, signage, bench, and bike rack in spring/summer 2022.
9. NEW BUSINESS
	1. 2022 Maintenance Projects
	1. Asphalt Repair – Fulsher noted that she is working with Coleman Engineering on RFP language for replacing 1110 linear feet of bumpy, cracked asphalt between Washington Street in Ishpeming through and a bit east of the r/r crossing in Negaunee. Discussed digging up asphalt, putting down herbicide and trenching and replacing asphalt with 2” of new asphalt of 4” of concrete. Discussion on using recycled asphalt/tire mix. Fulsher to speak with Bill Sanders. Need to get this RFQ out early to get best pricing.

2. ORV Grading/Bike Path mix in Tilden – Fulsher noted that the ORV gravel/grading grant will focus on repairing holes in Tilden and grading the rest of trail.

3. Perkins Property Trailhead, Ishpeming (not budgeted) – Discussion on what to do with the property near Winthrop Junction. Fulsher asked for direction on what we want at this property. Board directed her to work with Bill Sanders on design for trailhead.

B. Marquette Lions Club Letter of Support – Fulsher noted that we had voted to approve a letter of support the Lions Club/City of Marquette Recreation Passport to upgrade the Lions Park near the Father Marquette park. Fulsher noted that since that time, she spoke with the grantees and felt we could provide an in-kind donation of an interpretive sign to talk about the miners strike of 1865. Cannons were brought in to the land to scare the miners and get them back to work. **Hoffman motioned to approve the letter and the in-kind donation of sign; Reynolds seconded motion. Vote and motion passed.**

1. ADMINISTRATOR REPORT – Fulsher noted that she had an hour long conversation with Dan Korhonen, an Iron Range Roll organizer and interested party, who wants to do a video about the history and development of the Iron Ore Heritage Trai, much like the Redhead Mountain Bike Trail in Minnesota. Also let board know she is working on 2021 audit.
2. BOARD COMMENT – Johnson noted that there is a display area at his bank that we could use to promote Heritage Trail.
Brennan noted that he is working on getting access to the Republic wetlands
3. PUBLIC COMMENT – Katona looking for information on who bought the Canadian National line in Upper Peninsula.
4. ADJOURNMENT *-* **Bussone motioned to adjourn meeting; Hoffman seconded motion. Vote and motion carried and meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm.**