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**IRON ORE HERITAGE RECREATION AUTHORITY
DRAFT BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF**

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22, 2022**

**DRAFT MINUTES**

1. ROLL CALL - Don Britton, Chair, Chocolay Township; Nick Leach, Marquette; Glenn Johnson, Vice Chair/Secretary, Marquette Township; Al Reynolds, Exec at Large, Negaunee Township; Larry Bussone, Ishpeming; Dawn Hoffman, Tilden Township; Jim Brennan, Republic Township; Lauren Luce, Treasurer, Marquette County
Excused Absence: Bob Hendrickson, Negaunee
Staff: Carol Fulsher
Guests: Mike Springer, Alternate, Marquette Township; Rob Katona, DNR; Jon Becker, Blake Becker
2. PUBLIC COMMENT (Agenda Items – Limit to three minutes) – Jon and Blake Becker, Owner of Love and Bicycles, inquired about E-bike policy on the trail. Specifically requested that we allow Type II e-bikes.
3. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA **– Brennan motioned to approve consent agenda as presented in packet; Hoffman seconded motion.** Consent agenda includes May meeting minutes; May Balance Sheet showing total assets of $780,328; total liabilities of $33,449 and total equity of $746,879; May profit and loss showing May income of $1254 and expenses of $12,475 for net income of ($11,218). Total income YTD is $273,458. Q2 Budget via Actual as of May shows income at 143% of budget, expenses at 22% of budget. YTD as of May shows income at 99% of budget and expenses at 52% of budget. May General Ledger shows checks written 1429 through 1441 and June bills to be paid total $40,819.17. **Vote and motion passed**.
4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA **– Bussone motioned to approve agenda as presented; Leach seconded. Vote and motion carried.**
5. OLD BUSINESS
6. Michigan Grant Updates
	* 1. 2021 Trust Fund Negaunee Boardwalk – Engineering work has proceeded. Still waiting for grant agreement.
		2. 2022 MNRTF Development Grant for Lakenenland – DNR Grant Management personnel, Merrie Carlock and John Mayes, will be here on July 15 to review the grant application site. Preliminary scores expected in August.
		3. 2022 MNRTF Acquisition – Grant reviewers have already reviewed site in 2021. No new updates at this time but preliminary scores expected in August.
7. Millage Renewal Update – Fulsher thanked the Board members who helped install banners on the trail and reinstall after some sagging occurred. The millage brochures are out in the mail. Next up will be press releases and media. Board asked for extra brochures for their city and township halls.
8. Negaunee Township Trailhead Project – Project should be done at end of month. Board consensus to have ribbon cutting on July 15 so that DNR grants management can be in attendance. We will hold ribbon cutting at 11 am and follow up with Lakenenland review of grant application site visit. Johnson inquired if there should be a bike fixing station at this site. Fulsher will follow up.
9. Asphalt Repair Project – Oberstar plans to start on June 27 and wrap up within 2 weeks. Press release ready to update trail users on project and trail closings. Maps with reroutes will be available.
10. 2023 Recreation Plan – Springer updated on the work of the Recreation Plan committee. Went through the 10 questions of the survey monkey survey. Asked for feedback from Board. We should be able to start sending out survey in July. Next meeting is scheduled for July 18.
11. 2022 Maintenance List - Maintenance list in packet. Big projects are in process.
12. ORV Permits, Parking Lot and Access – Fulsher updated on permits. Negaunee has signed a 10-year permit for ORV route through Negaunee. Fulsher attended City of Ishpeming meeting and working on getting Ishpeming permit for route as well as a lease agreement for city right of way along Washington Street to connect proposed Winthrop Junction parking/trailhead to main trail over the railroad tracks. Still need permit from Cleveland Cliffs.
13. NEW BUSINESS
	1. Green Space & Trail Network Sustainability/Eagle Mine/LSCP – Fulsher reviewed this project as proposed by Eagle Mine and the Lake Superior Community Partnership. Involves $7 million in possible State funding for local trail and greenway planning. Information in the packet of partners and possible funding projects. Fulsher will continue to update Board and asked that one or two board members may want to get involved with committee.
	2. Michigan Sparks Grant, $100K to $1M 2022, spring 2023, summer 2023 – Michigan DNR information in packet on new “Sparks” Grants to be offered. $65M in grant funds for public outdoor opportunities, especially communities adversely affected by COVID. Three different opportunities to apply between 2022 and 2023. Possible funds for Lakenenland or other project as directed by Board. Will talk to Grants Management about these funds during their visit.
	3. Maintenance Discussion/Executive Board Meeting – Fulsher voiced concerns about the time she spends on maintenance of the trail. Becoming more of a problem as trail ages. Spoke to Superior Watershed Partnership about Corp and found that a 4-person crew with hand tools would cost us $4500/week. Requesting an Executive Board Meeting to discuss options. Leach suggested an NMU intern who may be able to step into Fulsher’s role when she retires or Cabin Caretakers. He also noted that he has hired 3 part time summer crew at township and that may be be possility.Britton informed that we now have a John Deere riding lawn mower that can be utilized. Funded with MISORVA grant dollars, a one-time grant, received this year. .Executive Committee will meet next month to discuss options on maintenance issues.
14. ADMINISTRATOR REPORT – Fulsher notified that she is still working with Michigan Trails and Greenways on a one-time transformational trails fund. The Lakenenland project is one of the transformational trail projects listed

Also was approached by the City of Marquette to work with them on their new cultural trail along the bike path from Presque Isle to Carp River kiln. No meetings thus far. She will keep board informed.

1. BOARD COMMENT – Leach talked about need for good transition between Fulsher and new person. Also inquired if Lakenenland extension could go along Lake Lavasseur.
Britton noted that grass needs cutting.
Johnson informed that he and his daughter took part in the Iron Range Roll this year and felt it was a fantastic event highlighting the IOHT. Took him 1:09 minutes.
Reynolds will be available for Executive Board meeting.
Luce suggested talking to Al Feldhauser with the Boy Scouts about the split rail fence that needs fixing in Ishpeming.
2. PUBLIC COMMENT – No public comment.
3. ADJOURNMENT- **Bussone motioned to adjourn meeting; Brennan seconded motion. Vote and motion carried and meeting adjourned at 5:50 pm.**

 *NEXT MEETING DATE: Wednesday, August 24, 2022, 4:30 pm, Ishpeming Senior Center and Zoom,*