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**IRON ORE HERITAGE RECREATION AUTHORITY
BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF JULY 27, 2022**

**ISHPEMING SENIOR CENTER**

**DRAFT MINUTES**

1. ROLL CALL – Don Britton, Chair, Chocolay Township; Glenn Johnson, Vice Chair/Secretary, Marquette Township; Lauren Luce, Treasurer, Marquette County; Al Reynolds, Executive Board At-large member, Negaunee Township; Jim Brennan, Republic; Dawn Hoffman, Tilden Township; Larry Bussone, Ishpeming; Nick Leach, Marquette
Staff: Carol Fulsher
Guests: Kathy Peters, Mike Springer
2. PUBLIC COMMENT (Agenda Items – Limit to three minutes) – Kathy inquired about new cultural trail proposed along bike path in Marquette
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3. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA – **Hoffman motioned to approve consent agenda as presented in packet; Reynolds seconded motion**. Consent agenda includes:

June board meeting minutes,
June Balance sheet showing current assets of $750,122.78, current liabilities of $33,712.51 and total equity of $706,410.27;
June Profit/Loss showing income of $1230.28, expenses of $40,255.19 for net income of ($39,024.91). YTD net income of $233,761.81;
Q2 Budget v Actual showing profit at 166%, expenses at 41%. YTD budget v actual showing profit at 99%; expenses at 62% and net income at 147% of budget.

June General Ledger shows checks written 1443 to 1460.
July bills to be paid totals $146,919.06

**Vote was taken and motion carried.**

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – **Bussone motioned to approve agenda as presented; Reynolds seconded motion. Vote was taken and motion carried**.
2. OLD BUSINESS
3. Michigan Grant Updates
	* 1. 2021 Trust Fund Negaunee Boardwalk – Our grant agreement is in packet with resolution to accept grant language and provide $100K in match dollars for the $218,700 grant**. Brennan motioned to sign the resolution accepting the terms of the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Agreement; Bussone seconded motion. Roll call vote was taken and motion passed 8 to 0 with 1 absent.**
		2. 2022 MNRTF Development Grant for Lakenenland – After reviewing the project with the grant administration, Fulsher noted that comments were made about access through Lakenenland project if something should happen to owner. She suggested we work with Lakenenland on a lease agreement for access to rail grade through a corridor through Lakenenland. A draft lease was provided in packet. Tom Lakenenland is willing to work with us on a 50-year lease. Question on easement vs lease. Fulsher to follow up and bring back language to Board in August. IOHRA also asked to present to the Trust Fund board on this project at the Trust Fund Board’s April 17 board meeting in Alpena.
		3. 2022 MNRTF Acquisition – Land owner wants to meet with Fulsher and NTN to discuss options of fundraising for this project if grant not funded.
		4. Michigan Spark Grants Update – Fulsher noted that the Grant admin is working on getting the sparks grant proposals out and we should be prepared to ask for the Lakenenland project in the Spark grants. No match required and up to $1M in grant funds. Luce suggested asking for the acquisition project as well.
4. Millage Renewal Update – Fulsher provided information on 2016 millage renewal. Ballot passed with wide margins from 61% to 79% positive. Millage flyers sent out, banners up, press releases out with press follow up.
5. Negaunee Township Trailhead Project – The project has been finalized. Ribbon cutting was on July 15 with a good attendance. Lots of good comments from the public. This should be the model for future trailhead projects.
6. Asphalt Repair Project – The repair project is done except for one spot in Ishpeming between 3rd and 7th street. Oberstar will go out and get that one spot.
7. 2023 Recreation Plan – Mike Springer took us through the final survey draft. **Brennan motioned to accept this final draft; Johnson seconded. Vote was taken and motion carried.** Discussion on ways to get survey out to public. Suggestion to link on Facebook, web site and send out to email lists. Also print copies and have at City/Township Halls.
8. 2022 Maintenance List – Fulsher noted work completed and work yet to be completed on maintenance list in packet.
9. ORV Permits, Parking Lot and Access – Fulsher working with Ishpeming City Attorney on a lease for Ishpeming Right of Way along Washington Street. We need a connection between proposed trailhead and main trail. Discussion on amenities of the trailhead; paving vs gravel, porta potties, vault toilet or nothing, etc. Discussion on whether vault toilet should go in at Stoneville rather than Washington since Washington so close to Ishpeming pavilion.
10. Executive Committee Meeting on Maintenance, Administration – Executive committee met about ongoing maintenance needs, administration contract and upcoming millage. Draft minutes in packet. Discussion on administration staying on until December 2023, hiring committee recommended to start looking early next year, providing overlap between Fulsher and new administrator in 2023. Also discussion on maintenance personnel and what the needs would be for that role. Possible 20 hour week through summer. IOHRA would need to provide work truck and tools. Will discuss more after millage election. Truck would give us a presence on the trail. No vote taken on Executive Committee meeting minutes. Executive committee should meet again after millage renewal vote.
11. Eagle Mine/LSCP Green Space Update – Britton and Fulsher attended an NTN meeting where Matt Johnson, Eagle Mine and Elle Jansen, Lake Superior Community Partnership (LSCP) presented on the sustainable trails project. LSCP putting out a survey monkey survey on residents and non-residents use of trail. Looking to secure long term funding for trail sustainability.
12. NEW BUSINESS
	1. Marquette Marathon Permit – **Bussone motioned to sign Marquette marathon permit for use of trail September 3; Reynolds seconded. Vote was taken and motion carried**.
	2. EBike Policy – Fulsher followed up with City of Marquette and reviewed State law. City of Marquette allows Class I pedal assist only as Stated in Michigan law. Fulsher noted that we should not change our current policy as it would be confusing to bikers. The industry is getting ahead of policy makers as happened with ORVs as well.
	3. Humboldt Township Request to Present at August 8 board meeting – Jim Kippola, a Humboldt Township planning committee member, and previous County employed Planner, has requested that we speak to the Board at their August 8 meeting on how the IOHRA works, funding, membership. Meeting is scheduled for 7 pm.
	4. Mile Marker Costs/Selling Price – Fulsher noted that our costs for the fabrication of our mile markers has increased and we now use paid labor for installation and requested that we raise our price to $750 per mile marker. We barely break even at $600. **Leach motioned to raise the mile marker sponsorship price to $750; Johnson seconded motion Vote and motion carried.** Reynolds suggested we look into price of our interpretive signs as well.
13. ADMINISTRATOR REPORT – Fulsher noted that she dropped off two bikers from California in Ishpeming earlier to bike the trail. Found us through the Pure Michigan social media video.
14. BOARD COMMENT – Brennan noted that the board meeting minutes needs a signature/name of who took the minutes.
Hendrickson noted the busy upcoming weekend.
Britton noted we should all vote on Tuesday.
Leach noted that Ishpeming Ski club is rebranding and we could possibly tie in with them and build another trailhead on scale of recently completed one.
15. PUBLIC COMMENT – Springer thanked board for approving survey. Will provide a link for Fulsher to send out to board. Print QR codes as well and maybe think of posters.
16. ADJOURNMENT *-* **Bussone motioned to adjourn meeting; Johnson seconded. Vote and motion carried and meeting adjourned at 5:50 pm***.*

Minutes provided by Carol Fulsher, Administrator of the IOHRA