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**IRON ORE HERITAGE RECREATION AUTHORITY
BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF AUGUST 24, 2022**

**DRAFT MINUTES**

1. ROLL CALL – Mike Springer, Marquette Township; Al Reynolds, Negaunee Township; Dawn Hoffman, Tilden Township; Don Britton, Chair, Chocolay Township; Jim Brennan, Republic township; Larry Bussone, Ishpeming; Lauren Luce, Treasurer, Marquette County; Bob Hendrickson, City of Negaunee; Nick Leach, City of Marquette
Staff: Carol Fulsher
Guests: Carrie Hair
2. PUBLIC COMMENT (Agenda Items – Limit to three minutes) - No public Comments
3. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA – **Hoffman motioned to approve consent agenda as presented in packet; Bussone seconded motion.** Consent agenda included July meeting minutes: July Balance Sheet showing total assets of $721,373; total liabilities of $155,186 and total equity of $566,187.38;
July profit and loss showing July gross profit of $844.73 and expenses of $125,944.11 for a net income of ($136,560.23). Total net income YTD of $93,538.92; and
Q3 budget v actual as of July showing income at 2.69%; expenses at 393%; Total YTD income as of July is at 92%; total expenses at 75%.
July General Ledger shows checks written from 1461 to 1477, and
August Bills to be paid totaling $207,247.04.
**Vote was taken and motion carried.**

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA - **Brennan motioned to approve agenda as presented; Reynolds seconded. Vote and motion carried.**
2. OLD BUSINESS
3. Michigan Grant Updates
	* 1. 2021 Trust Fund Negaunee Boardwalk – All items have been uploaded into the MI Grants and we are waiting for our signed agreement. Leach requested that this project be bid over winter.
		2. 2022 MNRTF Development Grant for Lakenenland and Lease Language – As part of our grant application supplemental process, we should include a lease with Tom Lakenen so that DNR knows we have land control to get trail users through Lakenenland to any upgrades to trail and trailhead that they help support with funds. Fulsher noted that she suggested a lease vs easement since we have lease with the State for the rail grade. Tom Lakenen requested two changes from previous lease—make lease 25 years instead of 50 and that IOHRA should notify Tom Lakenen about renewal 120 days prior that IOHRA wants to renew. Those changes are within the new lease. **Leach motioned that IOHRA sign the lease as presented; Brennan seconded motion. No additional comments. A roll call vote was taken and motioned passed 9 ayes to 0 nays.**
		3. 2022 MNRTF Acquisition – Still waiting on preliminary score. Fulsher will meet with Schwemin, land owner’s representative and Lori Hauswirth, NTN on August 25 to review other options of securing this land if Trust Fund does not approve grant. Fulsher noted that due to decline in market conditions, the Trust Fund will less dollars this year for funding.
		4. Michigan Spark Grants Update – Fulsher provided some background and updates on the Spark Grants provided by State through ARPA federal funds. $65 million to be provided to outdoor recreation development projects in next two years through 3 rounds of funding. Scoring will include ALICE, a United Way method of determining how many residents are asset-limited, income constrained, employed, park density in area, and how communities were negatively impacted by COVID. Should be prepared to apply in October for first round. Fulsher laid out some options on how to use this “one time” money infusion into outdoor recreation. **Leach motioned that the following become Priority 1, 2, and 3. Priority one is beefing up Lakenenland extension project, Priority 2 is lighting between Ishpeming and Negaunee and Priority 3 would be Ely/Humboldt trail upgrades. Bussone seconded** **motion.** Discussion on Ely and Humboldt applying themselves for funds, DNR if possible; how to make hill in Humboldt accessible or how to get around and access to Koski Korners. **Vote and motion carried.**
4. Millage Renewal Update – Packet included millage outcomes and percentages ranging from 64% to 81% approval. Leach noted that mail in ballots were more supportive than voting day although both types of voters supported measure.
5. 2023 Recreation Plan Update – Springer reviewed process of collecting survey responses through Survey Monkey. Also reviewed the 210 responses collected thus far. Asked board for suggestions on how to collect more responses. We had 273 responses in 2017. Discussion on another trail survey being undertaken at same time, use of QR codes, and methods of getting more feedback, and using the County Planning regions in our Recreation Plan verbiage. We will keep survey open until September 30, 2022.
6. 2022 Maintenance List –Maintenance list in packet. Most big items are done. Decided to use last bike fixing station at Negaunee Township Trailhead.
7. ORV Parking Areas, Stoneville and Washington Street – Fulsher noted that she is working with City of Ishpeming’s attorney on right of way lease to get trail users from proposed parking lot to main trail. Questions about type of trail, drainage, snow plowing. Fulsher to follow up with Rob Katona, DNR, to get a sample parking lot layout and work with Sanders on drawings to submit to City. Will work on through the winter.
8. Proposed Executive Committee Meeting – Fulsher requested follow up Executive Committee meeting to review discussion of last Executive Meeting after millage approved. Requested a September 21, 4 pm meeting at U.P. State Bank (if approved by Glenn Johnson).
9. Humboldt Township Meeting – Brennan provided feedback on our August 8 presentation to the Humboldt Board. He related they will put in on ballot in 2022. Discussion centered on getting trail to Koski Korners and how to manage the Humboldt Hill.

1. NEW BUSINESS
	1. Marji Gesick Event Permit – B**rennan motioned to sign Marji Event permit; Leach seconded.**  Leach also noted that numbering on permits is off. **Vote and motion carried**.
	2. Interpretive Sign Costs – **Reynolds requested we review sign costs after raising prices on mile markers. Reynolds motioned that we raise prices of Type A sign to $2700, Type B to $2200, Type C to $1400. Hoffman seconded motion.** Discussion on our costs going up and installation costs being borne by IOHRA when we used to have volunteers. **Vote and motion carried.**
2. ADMINISTRATOR REPORT – Fulsher noted the t/y note received from the Iron Range Roll. Also noted the positive comments on the Negaunee Township trailhead project. She also noted that the DNR Director is not keen on asphalt trails and wanted us to be aware of that. Lastly RAMBA is cleaning out the Howard Oil building and wants us to tag items of ours that we want to keep. Britton volunteered to help Fulsher clean/declutter at the Building next week.
3. BOARD COMMENT – Luce asked about Negaunee Township Trailhead supplies/odor. Fulsher noted she is going through toilet paper and thought we might want to do a table with hand sanitizer and spray and hire someone to hose out floor. Brennan suggested locking the toilet paper as he’s had people take multiple rolls.
4. PUBLIC COMMENT – Carrie Hair followed up on Humboldt discussion and Planning Commission is supportive to put in front of voters. Finding a Koski Korner spur trail would help get people on board.
5. ADJOURNMENT *-* **Leach motioned to adjourn meeting; Hoffman seconded motion. Vote and meeting adjourned at 5:45 pm**

Minutes submitted by Carol Fulsher, Administrator