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**IRON ORE HERITAGE RECREATION AUTHORITY
BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 30, 2022**

**DRAFT MINUTES**

1. ROLL CALL – Don Britton, Chair, Chocolay; Glenn Johnson, Vice Chair/Secretary, Marquette Township; Lauren Luce, Treasurer, Marquette County; Jim Brennan, Republic; Larry Bussone, Ishpeming; Al Reynolds, Negaunee Township; Nick Leach, Marquette City
Excused Absence: Bob Hendrickson, Negaunee City; Dawn Hoffman, Tilden Township
Staff: Carol Fulsher
Guests: Mike Springer, Rob Katona, Todd Poquette
2. PUBLIC COMMENT (Agenda Items – Limit to three minutes) – Springer spoke about Recreation Plan Committee and the Plan. New this year was the inclusion of County plan geographical representations and formatting for Power Point presentations.
	1. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA – **Brennan motioned to approve consent agenda as presented; Reynolds seconded motion.** Consent agenda includes October meeting minutes, October balance sheet showing current assets of $686,904; current liabilities of $155,186 and equity of $531,718; October profit/loss showing income of $4519, expenses of $14,161 for net income of $(9642). Total net income to-date is $59,070; Q4 budget v actual as of October showing income at 111% of budget; expenses at 53%. YTD income at 107%; expenses at 93%; October general journal showing checks written1501 to 1513; and November bills to be paid totaling $9195.
	**Vote and motion carried and consent agenda approved**.
3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – **Bussone motioned to approve agenda as presented; Brennan seconded motion. Vote and motion carried and agenda approved.**
4. EVENTS – Polar Roll Application – Fulsher noted that we are now asking all event coordinators to address the board in person before applications approved. Poquette updated on Polar Roll scheduled for February 18 and organized by the 906 Adventure Team. Uses portion of trail in Ishpeming. 500 people allowed and is sold out. Ends in Ishpeming. **Leach motioned to approve Polar Roll event application; Johnson seconded motion. Vote and motion carried and application approved.**
5. OLD BUSINESS
6. Michigan Grant Updates
	* 1. 2021 Trust Fund Negaunee Boardwalk -Working will Bill Sanders to get project bid out this winter. Fulsher will follow up to see if we can get out in February 2023.
		2. 2022 MNRTF Development Grant for Lakenenland – Score 395 – Our final score was released and we gained 15 points. This may be our highest scored Trust Fund grant. Trust Fund meets on December 14 to review applications and make decisions on funding.
		3. 2022 MNRTF Acquisition - Score 355 – Our final score remained unchanged at 355, which is 15 points higher than 2021. We will find out if funded on December 14.
		4. Michigan Spark Grants Resolution to Submit, Due December 19 – Resolution to submit the Spark grant, due on December 19, for $300,000 for the Lakenenland extension was requested**. Leach motioned to approve the spark grant and sign the resolution; Brennan seconded. Discussion on Spark grant needs versus other grants. Roll call taken and motion carried to sign resolution with 7 yesses, 0 nos, and 2 absent**.
		5. MDARD Grant Submittal – Fulsher noted that she submitted MDARD grant for $56,000 to cover 70% of cost of purchasing new truck, trailer and tractor. Total cost would be $80,000. Trying to beef up our maintenance capacity.
7. 2023 Recreation Plan Update – Our draft Recreation Plan is now in 30-day review period. Copies emailed to all municipalities and physical copies at Ishpeming, Negaunee and Peter White Libraries. We should be ready to approve the Recreation Plan at our December 21 meeting. All board members received digital copy.
8. Negaunee Campground Environmental Phase I – Negaunee has requested that we attend a meeting with County Brownfield consultants on Wednesday, December 14 at 2 pm. Their Phase I ESA came back with recommendation to get a Phase II done since old mining property. Phase II requires digging into ground. Discussion on our role and/or status liability since we own land. We have requested Negaunee not move forward until we hear from our attorney and talk to consultants. Luce, Leach, and Britton volunteered to meet with consultants. Will try to get attorney opinion on lease addendum to shelter ourselves. Also discussed possible sale of property to Negaunee. Will bring back to board in December before moving forward.
9. Marquette Trail Sustainability Meeting Update – A stakeholder meeting was held on October 27 at Marquette Township. Britton, Hendrickson, and Springer attended. There will not be quarterly meetings and a web site set up to keep all stakeholders updated.
10. NEW BUSINESS
	1. 2023 Draft 2 Budget – 2nd draft of 2023 budget in packet for review and approval. Fulsher noted that she added $56,000 in grants income for MDARD grant and $80,000 in equipment in expenses for purchase of truck, trailer and tractor. Total income including millage, grants, donations at $678,127; total expenses at $739,523 for deficit of $61,626. Due to payroll (due to two people on staff for 6 months), maintenance purchases, Negaunee Township trail upgrades. **Brennan motioned to approve 2023 Draft Budget 2 as presented; Johnson seconded motion. Roll call vote taken and motion passed and draft 2 budget approved with 7 yesses, 0 nos, and 2 absent.**
	2. 2023 Hiring – Britton, Luce, Leach, and Johnson volunteered to be on hiring committee. Will work on monthly meetings starting in January. Johnson volunteered U.P. State Bank as location for meetings.
	3. Annual Municipal Report – Fulsher noted that we provide a written report to member municipalities at year end to update on our accomplishments. Asked for input prior to December 15. Johnson noted to rephrase the pavement project.
11. ADMINISTRATOR REPORT – Fulsher noted there is a group Facebook page that is not under our control and is getting hacked. Also noted that our printer died so she had to purchase a new one. She also updated that she had been invited to Michigamme to talk about trail extension and had a Zoom meeting with representatives from CUPPAD and Alger County about any possibilities of extending trail into Alger.
12. BOARD COMMENT – Brennan noted that Republic Township is hiring Rock Solid to build mountain bike trails in Republic including 4 miles of single track and 2 miles of walking trails. Also noted that Jim Kippola included Iron Ore Heritage Trail in Humboldt’s Planning document and thinks we will see them try to pass a millage in 2023.
13. PUBLIC COMMENT – Paquette noted that Phase II environmental reports are approximately $15,000. He also updated on his 4500 mile bike ride throughout the U.P. and concerns of large land purchases by private property owners. Suggested trying to use Facebook group to our advantage.
14. ADJOURNMENT**- Bussone motioned to adjourn meeting; Leach seconded motion. Vote and motion carried and meeting adjourned at 5:50 pm**.

*Minutes respectively submitted by Carol Fulsher, Administrator*