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**IRON ORE HERITAGE RECREATION AUTHORITY
BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 25, 2022**

**DRAFT MINUTES**

1. ROLL CALL – Chair Don Britton, Chocolay; Glenn Johnson, Vice Chair/Secretary, Marquette Township; Lauren Luce, Treasurer, Marquette County; Al Reynolds, Executive At Large, Negaunee Township; Jim Brennan, Republic; Dawn Hoffman, Tilden Township; Larry Bussone, Ishpeming; Bob Hendrickson, Negaunee; Nick Leach, Marquette
Guests: Rob Katona, DNR; Mike Springer, Marquette Township Alternative
Staff: Carol Fulsher, Administrator
2. PUBLIC COMMENT (Agenda Items – Limit to three minutes) – No public comment.
	1. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA – **Bussone motioned approve consent agenda with bills to be paid pulled as separate agenda items; Johnson seconded motion.** Consent agenda included December minutes, December balance sheet showing assets of $871,201; liabilities of $365,714 and total equity of 4505,486; December profit/loss showing income of $1258, expenses of $19,816 for net loss of $18,667; ytd income of $474,983, expenses of 452,762 for net income of $22,221, Q4 budget v actual as of December showing income at 141%, expenses at 83%, YTD income at 100%, expenses at 98%; December general ledger showing checks written 1528 through 1543. **Vote and motion carried**.
	2. January Bills to be Paid – Fulsher noted that she had paid Oberstar in December for $10,614 waiting for their invoice from summer pavement project. Unfortunately she did not get an invoice and cancelled the check. A day after cancelling the check, they sent in invoice, so the board will see the $10,614 in January bills to be paid**. Brennan motioned to pay the bills as presented; Hoffman seconded motion. Vote and motion carried.**
3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA - **Bussone motioned to approve agenda as presented; Reynolds seconded motion. Vote and motion carried.**
4. OLD BUSINESS
5. Michigan Grant Updates
	* 1. 2021 Trust Fund Negaunee Boardwalk – Waiting for Bill Sanders on bid documents; Fulsher will follow up.
		2. 2022 MNRTF Development Grant for Lakenenland – We can get boundary maps in and hire an engineering firm, but rest of project requires the grant to be signed.
		3. 2022 MNRTF Acquisition – We can do boundary maps, ESA phase I and Title work without grant agreement. Fulsher to speak to owner’s representative, Michelle Schwemin before proceeding.
		4. Michigan Spark Grant , Lakenenland- Grant application submitted in December requesting $300K and waiting for outcome. $15M in funding for first round with well over $100 million in requests so will be very competitive.
		5. Michigan Spark Grant 2, Trust Fund and/or Rec Passport, Lighting – Fulsher requested guidance on what to do with Spark Grant II if Lakenenland not funded**. Leach motioned that if Lakeneland not funded in first round, we try again in second round when more money available. Luce seconded motion**. Discussion on getting funding for this project which is already planned. Try for lighting in other grants available. There will be $50M in funding on rounds 2 and 3. **Vote and motion carried.**
		6. MDARD Grant 2022 – Submitted in November. Funding for truck, tractor and trailer. Waiting for word in February.
6. Negaunee Campground Environmental Assessment Lease Addendum – Lease addendum in packet already approved by Negaunee City council. **Brennan motioned to sign the lease addendum; Hendrickson seconded motion**. Agreement allows City to proceed with Phase II “due care” analysis on campground property. City agrees to pay any remediation needed for development undertaken by the City. If City elects not to proceed with campground, City remediation would be limited to that necessary for no development. **Roll call vote taken and motion passed with 9 yesses, 0 nos.**

1. NEW BUSINESS
	1. Administrator Hiring Committee Schedule – Hiring committee will meet virtually on February 14. Leach will set up zoom meeting.
	2. 2023 Priorities - List of 2023 priorities in packet
	3. Proposed ORV Route Negaunee Ice Arena to 492/35 with r/r crossing – Fulsher reviewed the proposed route from the Negaunee ice arena to 492/35 intersection. Uses snowmobile trail, with slight overlap in wetlands area and across the r/r crossing, and then route goes out to County Road 492 and follows on shoulder. Katona submitted request for ORV crossing to Michigan MDOT Rail Safety Division. If crossing approved, then bring in County Road Commission and make a trail proposal to DNR ORV Division for funding. Leach noted that Negaunee Township is working on Tony Harry of Team Riders on Negaunee Township hosting an ORV trailhead at their facilities.
2. ADMINISTRATOR REPORT – Fulsher noted that 2022 audit is starting end of January this year, she’s working on signage for boardwalk and needed ideas for helpers as the Science Teacher she had on board dropped out of project. Superior Watershed Partnership was suggested as organization that could help; and noted that the Eagle Mine/LSCP Trails Sustainability project will be holding open houses the week of February 6.
3. BOARD COMMENT – Hoffman noted that Aspen Ridge is again hosting their Fair on May 24.

Britton noted that the Polar Roll permit we approved did not include the new Polar Roll Ultra. It’s a 140 mile snowbike event held on Monday – Wednesday after the Polar Roll of February 17 and 18. Their initial route did not get approvals from Moose Country Snowmobile Club and they are looking to use Heritage Trail. Would use Chocolay section, Holiday Inn to Smith Paving pit road, and Ishpeming to Humboldt. Brennan noted that since we have no permit application in packet, the Board could defer this to Executive Board once a permit received since event happens before our February meeting

PUBLIC COMMENT – Springer encouraged board members to attend open houses; Asked that marketing and Zoom equipment be priorities, and suggested Conservation District for signage help. Also noted that Iron Range Roll will be submitting permit in February for their June event..

1. 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, IOHRA Administrator*