

**BURT TOWNSHIP  
BURT LAKE TRAIL COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**March 22, 2021**

The Regular meeting of the Burt Township Trail Committee was called to order by Chair Gene Hodulik on March 22, 2021 at 7 pm at the Burt Township Hall, with phone attendance via phone number 1-866-678-6823, password 7861936#.

**ATTENDANCE:** Committee members: Gene Hodulik, Paul Janness, Gary Street, Mike Goerke in person and Brett Lindgren via phone. Public: Harold Koviak and Carolyn Hodulik, recording secretary in attendance at the Township Hall.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Led by Hodulik

**AGENDA:** No additions

**MINUTES:** February 22, 2021 minutes as written.

**MOTION:** Moved by Mike Goerke to approve the February minutes, seconded by Paul Janness. Motion approved.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**PHASE I.** Parks and Rec \$25 K approved for 2021 at the March Township meeting. Gary Street will contact Spierling Construction to power sweep the shoulders of Phase I and all of Phase II. Phase IV and V will be monitored as to possible power sweeping the paved shoulders based on the date the other phases are swept. Brine will be applied near the end of June on Phase I.

**PHASE II.** The re-imbusement check #147 for \$100,000, dated March 15, 2021 has been paid back to the Township for Phase II construction.

**PHASE III.** UM has signed and sent “Donation to Local Public Agency (LPA) and “Right of Entry” (construction) documents March 11,2021. Karie Slavik, UM Biological Station, indicated the easement and the construction documents should be sent to us the week of March 22 to be signed and then recorded at the Register of Deeds. MDOT requested the SHPO letter (dated June 14,2020) and was sent to MDOT March 18, 2021. All documents have been submitted to MDOT. If everything goes smoothly, bid letting will be June. This means the bid would be awarded then with construction to start within 30 days of awarding the contract.

**GRANT POSSIBILITES.** DALMAC FUND Grant . Hodulik submitted the written \$10K grant request due March 1 and also the 3 minute video March 13 with a March 15 deadline. DALMAC committee member sent an email with 3 questions to respond to by April 22. Two of the 3 have been answered covering motorized vehicles on the trail, and what fundraising was done to obtain our match. Remaining request is for support letters which are due by April 22.

Several letters used for Phase II are still relevant for Phase III as these phases were originally in one grant request. No other foundations were researched yet.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**SIGNS** Some signs are needed to “point the way” to the Topinabee Trail Head to the east and the Brutus intersection at US 31 to the west. These could be signs with arrows and “Bike Trail” or image of a bike on them. There is one sign at the west side of US 31 near the old Brutus Post Office. An inventory of signs stored in Gary Street’s barn will be taken to possibly reduce the number of signs to have made. Additional signs stating the “Burt Lake Trail” may also be a good idea. Mike Goeke stated that Mullett Township does not have any money allocated for trail signs at this time. Additional “bike” stencils painted on paved shoulders were also discussed. There are no signs on posts on East Burt Lake Road or Mullett Burt Road indicating the paved shoulders are for bikers, walkers, and joggers and a few are needed. There are 4 bike symbols painted on the Mullett-Burt Road last summer. Trail will most likely connect at the Mullett boat launch using Woodruff Street.

## **TOPINABEE MAIL ROUTE ROAD.**

The current ChCRC plan for Topinabee Mail Route does not support the trail plan which has been in place since Sept 2008 to connect to the North Central Trail in Topinabee and Northwest Central Trail in Brutus. The Cheboygan County Road Commission project plan is to spend \$225,000 to upgrade the road in Mullett Township this year without extended paved shoulders. A meeting to discuss the project with Brent Shank, Manager, Cheboygan County Road Commission to either alter it to include 5 foot paved shoulders or possibly move it back to 2022 as originally scheduled to provide more time for Mullett Township to come up with the additional finances was scheduled for March 3.

Attending the March 3 meeting were Laz Surabian, Mullett Township Supervisor, Harold Koviak, Burt Township Supervisor, and Gene Hodulik, Burt Lake Trail Chairman. The project was moved forward a year because the auditor told Shank that money had to be spent in the year collected, and could not be carried forward into next year. The plan is an overlay of 2 to 3 inches of blacktop. There will not be any shoulders on the road. Shank agreed to do another boring of the existing stone shoulders and create another five foot paved shoulders estimate, (2 feet should be the expense of the CRC and 3 feet Mullett Township), as up to 40% of the project can be the stone base. Mullett Township does not have the funds to pay for paved shoulders at this time. Shank assured everyone that if the base is excellent, the addition of paved shoulders later will work. An understanding/agreement in writing between Mullett Township and the Road Commission should have them paying for two feet and Mullett Township paying for the additional 3 feet for a 5 foot paved shoulder for the trail. Also discussed was a “bike bridge” over I-75. Extremely high costs will make building a bike bridge across I-75 impossible. Signage will have to be used for safety crossing the narrow overpass.

## **FINANCIAL STATUS**

**PHASE II.** Grant Funds for the project were DNRTF at \$295,000 plus MDOT Grant at \$374,090.75 for total Grants of \$669,090.75. J and N Construction Bid was \$697,758.44 but

actual cost was \$610,263.15 for a savings of \$87,495.29 or a 12.54% reduction. All of the MDOT Grant was paid to the construction company, \$374,090.15 plus another \$236,172.40 of the Trust Fund Grant for a total of \$610,263.15. The Phase II \$100,000 used by the trail committee to simplify payment timing to the road commission and re-imbursements from the Trust Fund, was repaid to the township March 15, 2021, (Check #147).

A deposit of \$56,024.64 was made on 2/23/2021 as the last payment from the DNR Trust Fund to close out Phase II finances. The Trail Fund balance after this deposit was \$98,332.64 ending February 22, 2021. An additional deposit of \$50,000 of the Burt Lake Trail partial donations held in the TOMTC account was made 3/5/2021 for a balance of \$148,332.64. Check #147 for \$100,000 was then written to pay back the Township for the Phase II use of the money. This simplified the timing of payments to the road commission which had to be made before receiving re-imbursements from the Trust Fund.

In addition during 2017 and 2018 a total of \$50,023.83 was paid to OHM for Phase II and 2019 to the end of the project in 2020, an additional \$78,236.75. A total of \$128,260.58 was paid using donations to the trail.

**PHASE III.** The grants are \$355,000 from MDOT and \$152,000 from the Recreational Trail Program for a total of \$507,000. Engineering cost during the construction phase are estimated at approximately \$60,000, which are not included in the grants. Huron engineering estimate is \$512,795 for construction. A total of \$33,229.25 has been paid to OHM for work on Phase III. Huron Engineering has been paid \$12,677.00 for a total of \$45,906.25 so far on Phase III.

The Trail Fund at CNB is \$ 48,332.64, plus interest earned during March. There is also approximately \$16,749 in the TOMTC account. An exact amount will be provided next meeting.

The Township Trail Maintenance Fund at CNB is \$87,444.20 as of February 26, 2021

**MEETING DATES FOR 2020: All meetings will be at 7 pm on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month. Jan 25, Feb 22, March 22, April 26, May 24, June 28, July 26, Aug 23, Sept 27, Oct 25, Nov 22, except for Dec 13 (second Monday).**

**NEXT MEETING: APRIL 26, 7 PM AT THE BURT TOWNSHIP HALL OR OPTIONALLY VIA PHONE IF CAN NOT ATTEND.**

**COMMITTEE COMMENT:** Street suggested a meeting onsite with Brent Shank to solve a water problem at Indian Road/West Burt Lake Road. It is a problem after rain storms, with gravel washing onto the trail. Brett Lindgren suggested Shane Redman also attend. A meeting will be requested to happen before the April trail meeting..

**MOTION TO ADJOURN.** Paul Janness made motion to adjourn, seconded by Mike Goeke. Motion passed. **ADJOURNED:** 7:56 pm

Carolyn Hodulik, Recording Secretary

