

**BURT TOWNSHIP  
BURT LAKE TRAIL COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**APRIL 26, 2021**

The Regular meeting of the Burt Township Trail Committee was called to order by Chair Gene Hodulik on APRIL 26, 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, Katie Parker, Brett Lindgren on site and Margie Reh and Dennis Dombrowski 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.

**MOTION:** Moved by Mike Goerke to approve as written, seconded by Katie Parker. Motion approved.

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

**MOTION:** Moved by Brett Lindgren to approve the March minutes, seconded by Gary Street. Motion approved.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**TRAIL MAINTENANCE:** Spierling Construction power swept the paved shoulders of Phase I, IV, V and all of Phase II (10 feet wide). A portion was missed from intersection of West Burt Lake Road and Brutus Rd north to the Mundt Road intersection and will be completed soon. The plan to blacktop two areas at Indian Rd and West Burt Lake Road intersection and 300 feet north at the former Swayze residence will be reviewed with ChCRC and Spierling Construction. The plan is a completion date before Memorial Day. Letters should be sent to neighbors in the Indian Road area informing them of construction on Indian Road of approximately 150 feet long and 18 feet wide. The crushed stone trail will be dragged in May and brine will be applied near the end of June on Phase I. TOMTC knows Mr. Huffman who invented an attachment to a tractor to cut roots on each side of a blacktop trail.

**PHASE II.** A couple of spots near the Gorge entrance have root damage cracks caused by 2 large trees close to the trail blacktop. Another spot to repair is on the east side of West Burt Lake Road north of Hogsback Road and probably needs a new runoff created. It is marked with an orange ribbon on the tree.

**PHASE III.** UM Easement and Construction License were signed April 2 (effective date of each), easement recorded April 5 at Register of Deeds, and both documents emailed to all parties (UM Real Estate, MDOT, ChCRC, Huron Engr, UM Biological Station to Karie Slavik).

All documentation is completed for May release by MDOT to obtain construction bids. Thank you notes have been sent to UM Judy Kirkdorffer (Real Estate Division) and Karie Slavik (Biological Station) for all their work to obtain the easement in a timely fashion to meet the May release for bids.

**GRANT POSSIBILITIES:** DALMAC FUND Grant . Hodulik sent support letters, Trail Handbook, and MDOT Grant award email before April 22 deadline. Decision expected in early May. Thank you notes were sent to TOMTC and BLPA for their outstanding support letters. Several letters used for Phase II which are still relevant for Phase III were included as these phases were originally in one grant request. No other foundations were researched yet.

Gary Street volunteered to investigate Kodak Foundation as was done for Phase I and he has historical information regarding that grant request. Consumers Energy Foundation and DTE Foundation still need to be investigated.

**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. An inventory of signs stored in Gary Street’s barn will be taken to possibly reduce the number of signs to have made. A plan for locations of strategic signs on Phase II,IV,V will be done before next meeting. Sharing of ChCRC sign posts will be investigated. Locally, Screen Graphics of Indian River makes signs.

**TOPINABEE MAIL ROUTE ROAD IN MULLETT AND BURT TOWNSHIPS (PHASE VI):** Emphasis should be on this road as it is completely located in Cheboygan County, which involves working with Brent Shank, Cheboygan County Road Commission. Brutus Road is located in Cheboygan and Emmet counties, requiring cooperation from two road commissions.

Brett Lindgren reported that the new boring estimate from Brent Shank for 5 foot paved shoulders for Topinabee Mail Route Road in Mullett Township is **\$120,000** if done with this summer’s scheduled pavement work (which does not include paved shoulders), or \$200,000 if done as a stand alone project next year. The point was made by Harold Koviak and Dennis Dombroski that two feet of the five feet should be paid by the Cheboygan County Road Commission just as they have been doing for several years and have stated publicly on several occasions. This would reduce the cost to **\$75,000 (3/5 of the cost)**, with an additional reduction available by shortening the project to stop at Woodruff St, not at Lea St. Also to be considered is will the road commission offer any match dollars to reduce the cost as they do with certain township road projects. A revised quote and follow up meeting is needed to obtain agreement concerning the 3 feet the township would pay for and shortened distance to Woodruff St.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**PHASE III BID LETTING: It is a “GO”!** May 14 should be the bid release date, June 4 the bid letting date (award low bidder), then 30 days of paperwork, contract awarded, pre-construction meeting hosted by MDOT/Cheboygan County Road Commission and our engineers-Huron Engineering, followed by construction.

**TRAIL HEAD POSSIBILITY ON THE EAST SIDE:** A possible land swap with township land on Crump Road(4.6 acres) for the Corner Store land(.5 acre), will be further investigated by the Township Board at the May 6 meeting with a presentation by an EGLE (Michigan EPA?) representative regarding the clean up of contamination including demolition of the building, and possible land trade which would relocate where Mrs. Kinney would live and provide a trail head on the corner store property. Both properties are being appraised at this time. Plan is to dig up one lane of Crump Road and one lane of Mullett-Burt Road and all of the store property.

**FINANCIAL STATUS:** The Trail Fund at CNB is \$ 48,340.71 as of March 31, 2021. There is also \$18,540 in the TOMTC account, for a total of \$66,880.71. Check #148, dated April 2, for \$3,767 was written to MacArthur Law for preparing the easements for the private property owners for Phase III, bringing the CNB balance down to \$ 44,573.71. Just received during the meeting is the last invoice #4202, dated 4/1/2021 with Huron Engineering for pre-construction services for \$5,433.00. This will complete the \$18,100.00 contract with them. Payment will be authorized this week.

The Township Trail Maintenance Fund at CNB is \$87,452.11 as of March 31, 2021. This should be approximately \$103,000 after adding in \$10,000 plus the excess of \$5,454 not spent from the Parks and Rec budget of 2020. Verification of the deposit will be made with the township Treasurer, Shirley Reimann.

**MEETING DATES FOR 2021: 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: May 24, 7 PM at the Burt Township Hall** or optionally via phone if you can not attend in person.

**COMMITTEE COMMENT:** Street suggested a letter be sent to property owners using the Indian Road intersection at West Burt Lake Road regarding the 150 feet of construction and paving which should happen sometime near Memorial Day. Hodulik will compose a letter.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Harold Koviak stated brining of Phase I of the trail is planned for June 25-June 30 timeframe.

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

Carolyn Hodulik, Recording Secretary