

**BURT TOWNSHIP
BURT LAKE TRAIL COMMITTEE MINUTES**

JULY 26, 2021

The Regular meeting of the Burt Township Trail Committee was called to order by Chair Gene Hodulik on JULY 26, 2021 at 7 pm at the Burt Township Hall.

ATTENDANCE: Committee members: Gene Hodulik, Paul Janness, Katie Parker, Margie Reh, Mac Richardson at the hall. Mike Goerke and Brett Lindgren were excused-conflicting meeting to attend. Public attending: Carolyn Hodulik, recording secretary.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Hodulik

AGENDA: Moved by Margie Reh, supported by Mac Richardson to add Indian River Biathlon report, and discuss run off on Riggsville Road at the Gorge to the agenda.

MINUTES: June 28, 2021.

MOTION: Moved by Katie Parker to approve the June 28,2021 minutes as written, seconded by Paul Janness. Motion approved.

OLD BUSINESS

TRAIL MAINTENANCE PHASE I: Brined in late June for a cost of \$860. Grass mowed about 18 inches on each side by Slowinski Property Maintenance of Indian River for \$445. Trail is in good shape.

TRAIL MAINTENANCE PHASE II: The Gorge entrance stones and sand that washed onto the paved trail from Riggsville Road after heavy rains have been shoveled off once again. Gary Street and Gene Hodulik met to find a solution to this problem. Discussed possibility of removing a few inches of sand and stone and replace with Afton Stone or locate a culvert. Brent Shank evaluated the situation and said there is no grading work that could be done to help the water run elsewhere as there is no ditch. Grading within the driveway may be possible to direct water down the driveway. Street will arrange a meeting with Mike Spierling to evaluate a possible solution. Reh suggested to have Huron Engineering look at the Gorge entrance for their recommendation. Similar mowing is needed along the edges of the trail and Slowinski will be contacted for possible mowing. Stones need to be removed along the railing by shoveling and sweeping.

TRAIL MAINTENANCE PHASE IV AND V: The county mowed along the paved shoulders of both East Burt Lake Road and Mullett-Burt Road July19. Several home owners have been also cutting the grass along the edges of these two roads.

PHASE III. June 30 Pre-construction meeting was very positive. All topics discussed in detail. Assurance made that certain trees will be saved. Huron Engineering has been contracted

by the Township Board for \$51,440 to oversee the construction of this phase which should begin August 2, 2021. J and N Construction, Gaylord has met with the company that will be cutting down the trees for the trail. Hodulik updated the Munro Township Board on July 13 regarding Phase III construction. Don Tracey, trustee, volunteered to join our trail committee to represent Munro Township.

GRANT POSSIBILITES: Gary Street sent Hodulik an email with many organizations listed that provide grants for bike trails for future investigation. Katie Parker contacted Citizens National Bank for a possible grant and told to contact Nancy Lindsay for a possible grant. Dollar amount was discussed this meeting, and agreed to ask her for \$500 to \$1,000, to be directed to unexpected costs or signage. Katie Parker mailed a letter to a few of the northeast property owners that should be contacted for possible donations that were not contacted in November 2020 during the fundraiser. Another mailing is planned for the rest of the people on the list.

SIGNS: Hodulik met with Screen Graphic rep in Indian River on June 30 to discuss and look at sample signs. They can make any sign we may require on site for a reasonable price. Mile maker signs were discussed with the starting point being the west- most point, Brutus Road/ US 131 intersection and continuing all the way to Topinabee. Hodulik will discuss again with Brent Shank trail signs placement/approval requirements in the ROW. Brent Shank said trail signs can not be put on the MDOT sign posts. Dornbos Signage is another provider suggested by Brent Shank as they provide signs for the road commission. Their phone numbers are 517-543-4000 or 800-922-0029.

TOPINABEE MAIL ROUTE ROAD IN MULLETT AND BURT TOWNSHIPS (PHASE VI): Road was paved in Mullett Township from South Extension to US 27, approximately 1.2 miles by Reith Riley at the end of June. It does not have the 5 foot paved shoulders for the trail at this time. The trail plan is to use Woodruff St, a gravel road at this time, to get from Topinabee Mail Route Rd to the North Central State Trail near the Mullett Lake boat ramp as it is the safest route for bikers and walkers, with a gradual incline. Suggestion was made to work with Mike Goerke and Brett Lindgren to create trail committee in Mullett Township to assist with connecting the trail to the North Central Trail.

NEW BUSINESS

PHASE III BID LETTING: Construction is to begin August 2. Huron Engineering will have an engineer on site daily. A short daily email report from Huron Engineering will be provided to a select group. Hodulik will forward them to the committee members. Bert Ebbers will be overseeing the private property owners easement areas concerning trees to be kept and those to cut down. A special concern is to also keep as many trees as possible between the road and the trail. It is extremely close quarters at the intersection of EBLR and Birchwood Rd.

TRAIL HEAD POSSIBILITY ON THE EAST SIDE: A possible land swap of the township land on Crump Road(4.86 acres) for the Corner Store land(.5 acre) continues. Necessary documentation has been received by the township from EGLE to complete the 2 environmental

reports, and a letter stating that the township has no future liability regarding the contamination on site and how the gas wells will be monitored in the future. So this is progressing favorably.

INDIAN RIVER BIATHLON JULY 18: Margie Reh reported that 82 people were in the kayak/bike event, 4 less than 2019. Expenses were higher this year for shirts and plaques. There was approximately a net of \$2,600 revenue of which \$2,000 will be donated again to the Burt Lake Trail. A very special thank you to the work and generosity of Margie Reh and Jess Miller for this outstanding donation, as well as the large donations over the last several years to continue to support the completion of the trail.

FINANCIAL STATUS: The Trail Fund at CNB is **\$ 44,151.25** as of June 30, 2021. There is also a balance of approximately **\$18,540** in our Top of Michigan Trails Council account.

TOWNSHIP TRAIL MAINTENANCE FUND: Balance June 30, 2021 is **\$102,560.85**.

MEETING DATES FOR 2021: All meetings will be at 7 pm on the 4th 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: August 23, 7 PM at the Burt Township Hall.

COMMITTEE COMMENT: Mullett TS has a special meeting tonight and Brett and Mike will not attend the trail meeting.

Margie Reh is doing a survey for TOMTC at the Indian River Trail Head gathering data on bikers/walkers, joggers and trail groups regarding economic impact for future grants. Two examples were given of the UM long distance runners (14 plus miles of running), and tour group from Pennsylvania biking from Indian River to Mac City and then to Petoskey and south. Seven identical tours are coming yet this summer.

Mac Richardson discussed the possibility of the “ Brick Name “ donations being re-visited as a possibility to raise funds. Possible locations would be the trail heads. Engravers will be researched. Further discussion will take place next meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

MOTION TO ADJOURN: Katie Parker made motion to adjourn, seconded by Paul Janness. Motion passed.

ADJOURNED: 8:06 pm

Carolyn Hodulik, Recording Secretary

