

**BURT TOWNSHIP  
BURT LAKE TRAIL COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**AUGUST 23, 2021**

The Regular meeting of the Burt Township Trail Committee was called to order by Chair Gene Hodulik on AUGUST 23, 2021 at 7 pm at the Burt Township Hall.

**ATTENDANCE:** Committee members: Gene Hodulik, Mike Goerke, Brett Lindgren, Katie Parker, Margie Reh, Mac Richardson, Gary Street, and Paul Janness at the hall. Public attending: Harold Koviak, David Jacalone (Mullett Township Recreation Planning guest), and Carolyn Hodulik, recording secretary.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Led by Hodulik

**AGENDA:** Moved by Brett Lindgren, supported by Katie Parker, to add “Bricks to raise money” to the agenda.

**MINUTES:** July 26, 2021.

**MOTION:** Moved by Mike Goerke to approve the July 26, 2021 minutes as written, seconded by Katie Parker. Motion approved.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**TRAIL MAINTENANCE:** Phase I and II mowed (18 inches on each side of the trail) August 19 by Slowinski Property Maintenance of Indian River for approximately \$850. Trail is in good shape. This will most likely be done twice during the summer every year. Brushhog cutting will need to be done next season to remove saplings and larger brush/weeds along the trail.

The Gorge entrance problem resulting from hard rains bringing much sand onto the trail from the berm of Riggsville Road to the west of the driveway must be addressed. Possible solutions may involve a culvert and blacktopping the driveway entrance to the Gorge. During tonight’s meeting a large French drain was also discussed as a possible solution. Brent Shank (County Road Commission), agreed to a meeting with Karie Slavik (UM), Mike Spierling (Spierling Construction), Gary Street and Gene Hodulik to discuss an approach to solve this problem. Gary Street volunteered to set up such a meeting before next month’s trail meeting.

**PHASE III.** This phase has not been started yet. At the June 30 Pre-construction meeting the trail was to start August 2, with 60 days to complete. Obviously the start and end dates are now changed. As of the August 23 it has not been started. There was no returned phone call by meeting night from Huron Engineering for an update regarding the construction start date. Hodulik will get an update and inform the members by email.

**GRANT POSSIBILITES:** Katie Parker will contact Nancy Lindsay of Citizens National Bank for a possible grant. There have not been any donations yet from the letters Katie Parker mailed to a few of the northeast property owners. Another mailing is planned for the rest of the people on the list .

**SIGNS:** Hodulik had a phone conversation with Brent Shank August 19 regarding additional signs on East Burt Lake Road and Mullett-Burt Road. There is no paperwork involved for us to install 4 by 4 wood posts in the ROW with signs indicating a walk/jog/bike trail on the paved shoulders, and signs pointing to Topinabee and Brutus. Mile markers can also be added to existing posts. Simple metal signs were recommended. These can be designed and purchased from Screen Graphic in Indian River. Dornbos Signage is another provider that was 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):** Guest Mullett Township's David Jacolone stated that a Mullett Township Recreation Master Plan will include the trail and possible trail head location/designation in Topinabee. The plan will include widening Mail Route Road and improving Woodruff St which is a gravel road. A future MDOT Grant request will be part of the plan. Jacolone is an avid biker and would like to be on the Burt Lake Trail Committee and will be involved with the trail in Mullett Township . Burt Township Committee members welcome him to be a member of the Burt Lake Trail Committee. Planning with the Road Commission regarding future reconstruction of Topinabee Mail Route Road in Burt Township is the next priority for the committee.

**BRICKS TO RAISE MONEY :** Discussed were the best place to have bricks displayed and it was agreed at the trail heads A plaque display instead of brick was also discussed. It was agreed that until a trail head on the east side happens to put this idea "on the back burner". Brett Lindgren stated there is a company in Central Lake that does bricks, Northern Monument and Engraving, phone 231-544-1295. A \$100 donation brick cost about \$18 plus shipping cost.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

.

**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) is progressing well. 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. The Township Board has requested that EGLE prepare the necessary Baseline Environmental Assessment Report.

**INDIAN RIVER BIATHLON JULY 18:** Margie Reh reported that \$2,000 from the biathlon was donated to the Burt Lake Trail and deposited in the Burt Lake Trail account at TOMTC. 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 \$ **44,154.88** as of July 30,2021. There is also a balance of approximately **\$20,600.00** in our Top of Michigan Trails Council account.

**TOWNSHIP TRAIL MAINTENANCE FUND:** Balance July 30, 2021 is **\$102,569.28**.

**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:** September 27, 7 PM at the Burt Township Hall.

**COMMITTEE COMMENT:** Mullett TS has a Township meeting on Monday Dec 13 and Mike Goerke and Brett Lindgren can not attend the trail meeting if held that date.

The usual yearly maintenance plan will be developed by Gary Street for Phase I and Hodulik will work with him and develop the maintenance plan for the other phases. The possibility of paving a section of Phase I to create a longer continuous paved section will be analyzed.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN:** Brett Lindgren made motion to adjourn, seconded by Gary Street. Motion passed.

**ADJOURNED:** 8:21 pm

Carolyn Hodulik, Recording Secretary