

**BURT TOWNSHIP
BURT LAKE TRAIL COMMITTEE MINUTES**

SEPTEMBER 26, 2022

The Regular meeting of the Burt Township Trail Committee was called to order by Chair Gene Hodulik on September 26, 2022 at 7:00 pm at the Burt Township Hall.

ATTENDANCE: Committee members: Gene Hodulik, Paul Janness, Katie Parker, Margie Reh, Mike Goerke, and Brett Lindgren. Public attending: Brent Bolin (TOMTC), Jess Miller (Biathlon), Kathleen Pawloski, and Carolyn Hodulik, Recording Secretary.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Hodulik

AGENDA ADDITIONS: Add Biathlon and TOMTC

MINUTES: August Minutes correction should say "Katie Parker and Scott Haley (UM Bio Station) volunteered to empty the trash at the Gorge when observed that it is full". A motion by Brett Lingren, supported by Mike Goeke to approve the August 22 Minutes with this correction. Motion approved.

BIATHLON/TOMTC: Brent Bolin and Jess Miller presented a \$4,000 check from the proceeds of the recent Indian River Biathlon to the Burt Lake Trail. This was a complete surprise to everyone. Photos were taken to put on the TOMTC website. Jess Miller is retiring as the Director of the Biathlon which he began. Margie Reh has been assisting Jess for several years and will continue in her roll while TOMTC will take over responsibility to continue the Biathlon. Brent Bolin suggested that a new Burt Lake Trail map be developed using the standard format used now for all the trails working with TOMTC. He presented three different sections of the TOMTC trails which use this standard format. Using the TOMTC current graphics partner would cost \$3,000 to \$4,000. The graphics and map could also be enlarged to be posted on the trail. He also emphasized that TOMTC will support us to move forward to connect to the North Central State Trail and the North West State Trail.

OLD BUSINESS

TRAIL MAINTENANCE: Due to another hard rain, another area has washed out about half way along the Phase III East side fence and near the east end of the trail. Spierling has not repaired it yet, but will do it as soon as he can. Building a blacktop"curb" to force water to drain to the rock formations may be required next spring. The second mowing of the entire trail by Slowinski has been completed. Brush-hog of Phase I and part of Phase II to the crossover on West Burt Lake Road has yet to be done. Painting of bike and walking stencils is scheduled to happen the first weekend of October on East Burt and Mullett-Burt Roads. Gary Street is measuring the footage on Phase I sections not paved and he is asking the maintenance teams to

rank the sections for future paving. He will bring the results to the next trail meeting to discuss for possible 2023 improvements. The Gorge driveway should also be addressed in 2023.

Becky Rivard (Huron Engineering) and Matt Hall (ChCRC manager) informed Gene Hodulik that “YIELD” signs are optional at the 3 driveways at the east end of Phase III.

TOPINABEE MAIL ROUTE: Step one is to obtain the answer as to how we get across I-75 at TopinabeeMail Route or Mullett-Burt Road. Once this information is provided, the next step is to hire a survey done to determine the possibility of five foot paved shoulders or an off-road trail. There is a new grant called” Spark” that will be available yet this year through MDOT. More review is needed to determine if we meet the criteria and time-frame to even apply for a grant. Brent Bolin provided Margie Reh the MDOT contact, Heidi Phaneuf, North Region Planner who should be able to provide answers regarding crossing I-75.

PHASE III CLOSE OUT: Still not done, but “close”.

NEW BUSINESS

INPUT FOR NEXT YEAR’S BUDGET: Discussed at a high level to include maintenance and some possible paving next year. Gary Street and the maintenance group will provide a prioritized list for next meeting. Priority should be from Indian Road south to Maple Bay Road for 2023. West Burt Lake Road is scheduled to be reconstructed in 2024 from Riggsville Rd. south to Indian Road and what they may do to the trail in this section is not known at this time.

EAST SIDE TRAIL HEAD: Discussed whether a plan should be developed for a trail head on the township lot on Crump Road. The Corner Store/EGLE project has been put on hold for now. Katie Parker asked “will EGLE pay for damages from contamination when it hits Burt Lake residences as it moves northwest?”

FINANCES: Gene Hodulik covered that approximately \$15,249 has been spent on the trail from the Parks and Rec Budget of the \$30,000 budget. Paving cost of \$30,125 was spent from the Township Maintenance Fund.

FINANCIAL STATUS: There is **\$12,232.87** of Burt lake Trail donations at Top of Michigan Trail Council, thanks to the \$4,000 donation from the Biathlon and \$5,000 donated by the Melvin Family Trust Fund. The Trail Fund at CNB is **\$ 6,440.13 as of August 31, 2022. A fourth and final invoice will also come from Huron Engineering to complete the project.**

TOWNSHIP TRAIL MAINTENANCE FUND: Balance on August 31, 2022 is **\$82,555.81**. A payment of **\$30,125** was made from the Parks and Rec Budget(transferred to the Parks and Rec Budget August 1,2022) to Spierling Trucking to pay invoice #22-258 dated 7/4/2022 for paving portions of Phase I of the trail.

PHASE III CONSTRUCTION COSTS: To date a total of **\$499,260.54** has been paid to J and N Construction, leaving a balance of **\$8,516.46**, of the **\$507,777.00** Phase III bid unpaid.

MEETING DATES FOR 2022: All meetings will be at 7 pm on the 4th Monday of the month. Jan 24, Feb 28, March 28, April 25, May 23, June 27, July 25, Aug 22, Sept 26, Oct 24, and Nov 21 (3rd Monday), and for Dec 12 (second Monday).

NEXT MEETING: October 24, 2022, 7 PM at the Burt Township Hall.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Brent Bolin stated the Burt Lake Trail has made great progress and he is impressed with our committee accomplishments. The TOMTC will support us to move forward with the next phase.

COMMITTEE COMMENT: Thank you to Brent Bolin for attending our meeting.

MOTION TO ADJOURN: Brett Lindgren made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Mike Goerke. Motion passed.

ADJOURNED 8:13 pm.

Carolyn Hodulik, Recording Secretary