

**BURT TOWNSHIP
BURT LAKE TRAIL COMMITTEE MINUTES**

MAY 22, 2023

The Regular meeting of the Burt Township Trail Committee was called to order by Chair Gene Hodulik on May 22, 2023 at 7:00 pm at the Burt Township Hall.

ATTENDANCE: Committee members: Gene Hodulik, Mike Goerke, Margie Reh, and Katie Parker. Public attending: Carolyn Hodulik, Recording Secretary.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Hodulik

AGENDA ADDITIONS: None. A motion by Mike Goerke, supported by Katie Parker to approve agenda as written. Motion approved.

MINUTES: A motion by Margie Reh, supported by Mike Goerke to approve the April 24, 2023 minutes. Motion approved. Motion to approve the "TO DO" list of 4/24 by Mike Goerke, supported by Katie Parker. Motion approved.

OLD BUSINESS

PHASE III CLOSEOUT: Cheboygan County Road Commission clerk, Dana Stempky, has received communication from MDOT that the project is "finished", but final financial data has not yet been provided. When received, it will be sent to Hodulik.

TRAIL MAINTENANCE UPDATE: Mr. Slowinski notified us that he is returning to college and has "put his mowing business away". Gene Hodulik obtained a commitment from Gordon Ormsbee to mow Phase I,II, and III of the trail twice for \$1,000 each time. Hodulik drove him on Phase II and III and along Phase I to observe what had to be mowed. He will notify Hodulik 2-3 days before mowing, probably between June 15 to the 30th and again in mid- August. He plans on riding the trail and clearing the mowing area ahead of time and weed wacking where the mower will not get close enough to mow.

Mike Spierling said he will pave approximately 2,000 linear feet of trail from the Mundt Road intersection north along West Burt Lake Road. The trail was power swept May 1.

EMMET COUNTY/BRUTUS ROAD PROJECT WITH PAVED SHOULDERS: Gary Street, working with Tammy Doernenburg, Director of Emmet Co. Planning and Zoning, arranged a meeting on May 17 with Brent Shank, Emmet Co. Road Commission, Matt Hall and Ruby Solario of Cheboygan Co Road Commission, Nancy Solar, Asst. to Tammy and also on the Maple River Township Board, Heidi Phaneuf, MDOT Northern District Planner, and Hodulik to discuss the plan for using the \$1.1 million Federal Grant for the Brutus Road re-construction.

The upgrade of the road will happen in 2025, widened from 22 ft to 26 ft with 2 foot paved shoulders and one foot gravel on each side. The road cannot be widened in many areas because of wetlands. However, Brutus Road in Cheboygan County has space for expanded 5 foot shoulders, but is not on the Cheboygan Road Commission's five year plan for improvement.

Discussions led to the following conclusions: A possible alternate route will be explored going south off Brutus Road, a grant will be needed to determine if this alternate route will work, and there is a possibility that a grant entitled "Safe Street and Roads for All" would provide for engineering costs. This grant information provided by Ruby Solario, will be explored with Becky Rivard. Gary Street will investigate grant possibilities, such as from the Harbor Springs Foundation.

MDOT GRANT APPLICATION FOR TOPINABEE MAIL ROUTE: With the support of the Cheboygan County Road Commission Manager, Matt Hall, a Multi-Jurisdiction (Burt and Mullett) MDOT "Highway Safety" Grant proposal was submitted by May 1 and has been verified as in the MDOT system. The application for the Grant is \$450K with a match of \$90K split approximately \$64K Burt TS and \$26K Mullett TS. Should we be awarded this grant, the match money will be required in 2025. This information was presented to the Mullett Township Board April 10 by Hodulik and the Mullett TS Board passed a motion to support the grant application. Sometime in August we will know if we have received a grant.

GORGE DRIVEWAY May 11 meeting: Hodulik and Street met with Mike Spierling to discuss paving the Gorge entrance to eliminate the drainage problem at the entrance. Spierling suggested a culvert on the east side would be a possible solution along with paving the entrance with an asphalt curb and a couple of boulders on the west side. He will submit a possible solution to Matt Hall, Cheboygan County Road Commission. Katie Parker will schedule a meeting with Karie Slavik and Gene Hodulik to review the possible solution, followed by a possible second meeting with Karie Slavik, Mike Spierling, Katie Parker, and Gene Hodulik to review the final solution.

SPARK GRANT; The SPARK Grant was submitted December 19 to MIGRANTS for \$450,000 and a township match of \$50,000, to pave the remaining sections of Phase I. The grant was not selected. We discussed our 55 out of 100 score. Margie Reh suggested that Hodulik work with Rivard to see if there can be enough updates to gain a much higher score and if not to forget about resubmitting. June 26 is the deadline to resubmit.

NEW BUSINESS

STATUS OF THE "TO DO" LIST: Updates to this list are provided on a separate page to be included with the minutes. Updates will continue until completed.

MUNRO TOWNSHIP BOARD UPDATE MAY 9: Hodulik updated the Munro Township Board with a presentation on the trail and the possible Gorge project which was well received. Once the cost of the Gorge upgrade is available, Hodulik will provide the information to the board.

FINANCIAL STATUS: There is **\$13,192.00** of Burt Lake Trail donations at Top of Michigan Trail Council as of **January 18, 2023**. A May donation of \$750 by the Grant family brings the total to at least **\$13,942.00**. The Trail Fund at CNB is **\$ 1,716.89 as of April 28, 2023**. **Huron Engineering invoice #5479, dated April 17, for \$500.00 for DNR PASSPORT Grant writing will be paid at the June 1 Township Board meeting.**

TOWNSHIP TRAIL MAINTENANCE FUND: Balance on April 28, 2023 is **\$82,610.13**. **In June an additional \$10,000 plus the remainder of money in the Parks and Rec 2022-23 budget will be transferred to this fund.**

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 2023: All meetings will be at 7 pm on the 4th Monday of the month. Jan 24, Feb 28, March 28, April 24, 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; JUNE 27, 2023, at 7 pm at the Burt Township Hall.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

COMMITTEE COMMENT: Hodulik will get white highway paint to paint a few bike stencils that have worn off. Hodulik obtained today another grant possibility from Ruby Solario which will be reviewed with Becky Rivard.

MOTION TO ADJOURN: **Mike Goerke** made the motion to adjourn, supported by Katie Parker. Motion passed.

ADJOURNED: 8:02 pm.

Carolyn Hodulik, Recording Secretary

Attachment: "To Do" list as part of the minutes

1. Meeting with Karie Slavik to discuss Gorge Driveway paving (Katie, Gene)

Katie Parker talked to Karie Slavik. She agreed to meeting when she gets here in April. She will not be here until second week of May.(April 24 update). Katie will arrange a meeting in next few days (May 22).

2. Mike Spierling meeting to pave Gorge (Gene,Gary, Dennis?)

Gene Hodulik talked on the phone with Mike Spierling 3/23 to update him on Gorge driveway plan. First a meeting with Karie Slavik is planned and if she agrees to go forward, review a possible entrance and approximate cost from Mike, followed by a final meeting with Karie, Mike and anyone else. Hodulik and Street meeting with Spierling in May, followed by a meeting with Karie Slavik. (April 24). May 11 meeting with Spierling—recommended a culvert and will work with Matt Hall, ChCRC for a solution.(May 22)

3.Meeting with Emmet Co. Planner about Brutus Road (Gary). Street will set up a meeting with Emmet Planner and Brent Shank by mid May to discuss plans for Brutus Road construction.(April 24). Meeting held May 17, outcome is to have only 2 foot paved shoulders because of wetlands. Alternate route being explored. (May 22).

4.Maple River Township Meeting—update on trail/Brutus Rd (Gary and Gene). Street will coordinate with the Emmet Co. Planner and have her invite Supervisor Eby to the Brutus Road meeting.(April 24). Nancy Solar, a Maple RiverTownship board member was at the May 17 meeting regarding Brutus Road. (May 22) completed.

5. Meeting with Munro TS—update on Gorge entrance plan and cost (Gene). Plan to attend their May TS meeting.(April 24). **Presented to Munro TS Board without any costs available on May 9. (May 22).**

6. Investigate orange gates and cost (who? Paul?,Brett?) Brett obtained engineering drawings of the gate from Dave Stempky (DNR) which were constructed by Moran Iron Works in Onaway, powder coated orange by "Scope" in Petoskey. Discussion followed stating they are not attractive and there are many places where ATV's can get on the trail. Suggested a camera or two at defined spots might work better.(March 27) Completed

- 7. Huron Engr.--Proposal for Topinabee Mail Route engineering cost (Gene)**
Hodulik had a phone conversation with Becky Rivard 3/23. She can submit a MDOT Grant with the data she has on Topinabee Mail Route. Engineering specs to build the paved shoulders will be done once a Grant is awarded. Becky will complete and enter the Grant by the May 1 deadline. Completed. (May 22)
- 8. Spark Grant update and re-submit (Margie and Gary)** No new info. However Becky Rivard suggested we apply for a DNR Passport Grant for \$ 150,000 with a \$50,000 match which was submitted April 3 to be used to pave Phase I. Margie Reh printed out the grant request and our score. Ours was 55 out of 100. (April 24). We must analyze the ability to upgrade our score and determine if it is worth doing again. Hodulik will talk with Rivard. (May 22).
- 9. Meeting with Mullett TS board to present TMR /grants (Gene, Mike, Brett)**
Laz Serabian, Mullett Supervisor, called 3/24 to invite Hodulik to present MDOT Grant proposal and finances at the April 10 meeting. Hodulik accepted. Hodulik updated their township board and obtained agreement for the MDOT Highway Safety Grant submission as a joint effort. (April 24). Completed.
- 10. TOMTC new map of the Burt Lake Trail (Margie).** TOMTC staff and Margie Reh have written the trail description and a map is the next step. (April 24). No update. (May 22).
- 11. Discussion with Matt Hall regarding sponsorship of a Burt/Mullett Multi-Jurisdiction Grant through MDOT (Gene, Dennis?, and supervisors?)** Hodulik phone call 3/24 gained agreement that Matt Hall would sponsor the Burt/Mullett Multi-Jurisdictional MDOT Grant. Rivard will enter a grant due May 1, "Highway Safety Improvement Project", asking for \$450,000 with a 20% match (\$90,000) Also discussed West Burt Lake Rd construction and engineering drawings have not been started yet. (April 24). Completed.
- 12. Update Cam Cavitt, state rep on our TMR project (?)**
Cam will be at the Mullett TS hosting MTA meeting in April. He did not attend as he was still in Lansing. (April 24). No update. (May 22).
- 13. Review the yearly entire trail maintenance, plus paving Phase I section with Mike Spierling and rehire Slowinski for grass mowing (Gary).** Gene Hodulik reviewed with Mike Spierling on 3/23 phone call about the Gorge entrance.. Told him that Gary Street would be calling him regarding the maintenance and paving. (April 24). Slowinski out of

business-back in college. Ormsbee hired to mow the trail for \$1,000 twice. Powerswept trail May 1, other work will happen in June.(May 22).

- 14. ANALYZE** another grant entitled "Safe Streets and Roads for all" suggested by Ruby at the ChCRC. Will need to be reviewed with Becky Revard as to the appropriate project to apply it to. (May 22).