

**BURT TOWNSHIP  
BURT LAKE TRAIL COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**SEPTEMBER 25, 2023**

The Regular meeting of the Burt Township Trail Committee was called to order by Chair Gene Hodulik on September 25, 2023 at 7:02 pm at the Burt Township Hall.

**ATTENDANCE:** Committee members: Gene Hodulik, Mike Goerke, Paul Janness, Brett Lindgren. Public attending: Carolyn Hodulik, Recording Secretary.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Led by Hodulik

**AGENDA ADDITIONS:** None, Motion by Brett Lindgren,, supported by Mike Goerke to approve Agenda as written. Motion passed.

**MINUTES:** Motion by Mike Goerke, supported by Brett Lindgren to approve the August 28, 2023 minutes. 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:** Gordon Ormsbee cut low branches, blew off the trail where needed and mowed both sides of Phase I, II, and III of the trail on August 8-11 for \$1,000. He suggested a third mowing or brush hog cutting be done in late September. Spierling paved 2300 feet (.44 mile) going north from the Mundt Rd and WBLR intersection for \$41,400 and applied gravel (paid by the ChCRC) for \$1,850 on a long section going north from the Indian Rd/WBLR area. It was brought to Hodulik’s attention that the two areas (Raver Drive area and Hardwood RD north area) did not receive part of the limestone as it was all applied north of Indian Road. Phase I was also brined in early July for \$1,000 when the gravel roads were brined. Brine packs the trail gravel and helps keep the weeds to a minimum. A few bike images have faded badly and need re-painting on both the west and east side. The support of the west side volunteers is greatly appreciated for this coming fall, as well as a few new volunteers from the east side.

A detailed discussion led by Brett Lindgren (many years of experience doing this on the snow mobile trails), regarding brush hogging the trail vs just mowing it again led to the conclusion to mow it again and discuss brush hogging next year.

**GRANTS STATUS:** There are three grants outstanding waiting for award decisions. SPARK award winner notification may be anytime during the fourth quarter. The grant request is for \$450,000 with a \$50,000 match to pave Phase I. The MDOT grant, a joint grant with

Mullett Township for paved shoulders on Topinabee Mail Route is for \$450,000 with a \$90,000 match (\$64,000 Burt and \$26,000 Mullett), and the third is a Passport grant for \$150,000 and a \$50,000 match for paving Phase I with November notification of winners.

**GORGE DRIVEWAY ENTRANCE:** Hodulik will try again to co-ordinate a meeting in October with Karie Slavik(UM) and Mike Spierling to discuss the culvert vs. catch basin approach to solve the driveway erosion and sediment dumped on the trail. UM also suggested installation of two ten- foot sections of fence along the west side of the Gorge entrance parallel to the trail. The goal is get the driveway project approved by UM staff and the Cheboygan CRC this year to be in place to be paved in the spring of 2024.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**BURT LAKE TRAIL MAP SIGNS :** Margie Reh delivered several maps to Topinabee Library, Burt Lake State Park and Hoppies. TOMTC mailed maps to Mac City Visitors Center. A list of additional locations was provided by Reh for spring distribution.. A discussion regarding map signs to be at strategic locations mounted on trail posts led to defining the locations and marking them on the map with “You are here” and to also include the mileage between points. Hodulik will meet with April Atkinson of Screen Graphics, Indian River, to create the digital map with distances and locations. The map signs will be on 11inch by 18 inch metal material.

**CRUMP ROAD TRAIL HEAD:** PIEG will be applying for a Special Use Permit for a 100 ft. tower which will now be located at the East Side Transfer Station, not the Crump Road township property. The property has been surveyed and staked. A drawing of a possible trail head with one entrance/exit will be developed and trees to be cut down identified.

**FINANCIAL STATUS:** There is **\$14,182.00** of Burt Lake Trail donations at Top of Michigan Trail Council as of **July 31, 2023**. The Trail Fund at CNB is **\$ 717.34 as of August 31, 2023**. Huron Engineering invoice #5479, dated April 17, for \$500.00 for DNR PASSPORT Grant writing was paid with check #156 on June 1 and a second Huron invoice #5632 dated 7/13/2023 for \$500 for the SPARK GRANT update was paid August 4, 2023, Check# 157.

**TOWNSHIP TRAIL MAINTENANCE FUND:** Balance on **AUGUST 31, 2023 is \$101,944.26**. Spierling Trucking and Excavating paved **2300 feet** (.44 miles) of the Phase I trail from Mundt Road/WBLR intersection going north . The **cost is \$41,400**, invoice 23-261 dated August 1, 2023 and **also repaired** a portion of the trail going north from the Indian Road/WBLR intersection to the “Swayze ” paved section, invoice 23-260 for **\$1,850**. The stone was provided by the Cheboygan County Road Commission. Gordon Ormsbee trimmed low branches, blew the trail in several spots, and **mowed Phase I,II, and III August 8-11 for \$1,000**. All three invoices were paid September 11, 2023 from **Parks and Rec Budget after moving \$23,000 from the Trail Maintenance Fund to the Parks and Rec Budget**.

**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 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month. Jan 23, Feb 27, March 27, April 24, May 22, June 26, July 24, Aug 28, Sept 25, Oct 23, and Nov 20 (3<sup>rd</sup> Monday), and for Dec 11 (second Monday).

**NEXT MEETING; OCTOBER 23, 2023 AT 7 PM AT THE BURT TOWNSHIP HALL.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE**

**COMMITTEE COMMENT:** The Melvin Project of dirt bike trails on the east side of Bennett Road/Woodmansee Rd in Mullett Township is under development.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN:** Motion by Brett Lindgren, supported by Paul Janness to adjourn. . Motion passed.

**ADJOURNED: 8:13 pm.**

Carolyn Hodulik, Recording Secretary