

**BURT TOWNSHIP  
BURT LAKE TRAIL COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**FEBRUARY 23, 2026**

The Regular meeting of the Burt Township Trail Committee was called to order by Gene Hodulik on February 23, 2026, at the Burt Township Hall at 7:11 PM.

**ATTENDANCE:** Committee members: Gene Hodulik, Brett Lindgren, Paul Janness, Jerry Trudell, Dennis Dombroski, and Dave Jacalone. Special guests Gary Setla, a friend of Dave Jacalone. Public attending: Carolyn Hodulik, Recording Secretary.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Led by Hodulik

**AGENDA ADDITIONS:** Motion by Brett Lindgren, seconded by Paul Janness to approve February agenda as stated. Motion Approved.

**MINUTES:** Motion by Jerry Trudell, seconded by Brett Lindgren to approve the January 26, 2026 minutes. Motion Approved.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**2026 FINANCING TO PAVE 1.5 MILES OF PHASE I.** At the February 5<sup>th</sup> Township Board meeting a discussion of the three alternatives presented by Hodulik at the January 26 trail meeting was held. The result was to provide the **extra \$40,000** to pave the remaining **1.5 miles of trail on the west side in 2026**. It was concluded that one year to complete the trail is the best financial approach over a 10 year period using an estimated cost of \$45,000 per half mile. A special thank you to Connie and Steve Vorenkamp for attending the township meeting and providing several important points to help with the positive decision to complete the project in 2026.

Hodulik had a conversation with Mike Spierling regarding the project. Spierling gave a **written quote of \$128,000** to complete the project. It is less than \$45,000 per half mile projected cost because the equipment will be on site to finish the job, the mile from Indian Rd north to Hogsback will be easy to prep for paving compared to the ½ mile from Harwood to Indian Rd, thus bringing down the price for the paving. Labor costs and the cost of base gravel material and asphalt will all be at a price that will be lower this year than in years two and three. Yearly maintenance has averaged less than \$7,000 per year, bringing the **total budget for 2026 to \$135,000**. There will also be an improvement in safety as the bikers, walkers and joggers will stay on the trail instead of riding, walking, or jogging on West Burt Lake Road with their back to traffic, where the gravel trail remains.

Hodulik will work with Spierling to get on his schedule to complete the paving before July 4<sup>th</sup> for people to use the entire trail and reduce maintenance costs.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**EAST SIDE TRAIL HEAD AT THE CORNER STORE PROPERTY:** A discussion led to the actual size of the property must be verified. The planned entrance will be on Crump Road, a split rail fence installed on the majority of its perimeter, and a bench anchored in the lot. The base will be compacted Afton stone. It was again stated that the commitment by EGLE last year to provide gravel, spread it and pack it down should be honored by EGLE this spring.

**HARDWOOD TO INDIAN RD TRAIL:** The right of way along this stretch of trail must be identified before paving. There is a proposal from Huron Engineering for \$3,900 to do a topographic survey of the trail so as to know where to pave the trail. Jerry Trudell measured 33 feet from the center of the road for road right of way. He concluded that there was space between the old West Burt Lake Road edge and the trail. When that portion of West Burt Lake Road is reconstructed, consideration should be discussed as to widening the road to meet the trail or leaving a 2 ft. to 3 ft. space between them.

**2026 MEETING DATES:** All meetings will be at 7 PM on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month. No meeting in December unless necessary. Meetings are Jan 26, Feb 23, March 23, April 27, May 18 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday), June 22, July 27, August 24, Sept 28, Oct 26, Nov 23

**FINANCES:** The **Trail Maintenance Fund** has a balance of **\$ 54,760.39 as of February 27, 2026**. The Burt Lake Trail donation account at TOMTC has a balance of **\$19,260.00** in donations as of February 27, 2026. The trail donation account **at CNB has \$432.68** as of February 27, 2026.

**NEXT MEETING: MARCH 23, 2026, 7 PM at the Burt Township Hall**

**PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE**

**COMMITTEE COMMENT:** Hodulik stated again that there is an account at TOMTC to honor Harold Koviak with contributions to the Burt Lake Trail. People should mail a contribution to TOMTC, 1687 M-119, Petoskey, Mi 49770. Write the check to: TOMTC and in the check memo write : in Memory of Harold Koviak/ Burt Lake Trail.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN:** Motion by Jerry Trudell, supported by Brett Lindgren to adjourn. Motion passed.

**ADJOURNED: 8:00 PM**

**Carolyn Hodulik, Recording Secretary**

