BURT TOWNSHIP
BURT LAKE TRAIL COMMITTEE MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 28, 2026

The monthly meeting of the Burt Township Trail Committee was called to order by Gene Hodulik on September 28, 2026, at the Burt Township Hall at 7:00 PM.

ATTENDANCE: Committee members: Gene Hodulik, Paul Janness, Dennis Dombroski , Brett Lindgren, and Jerry Trudell. Margie Reh and David Jacalone absent. Public attending: Carolyn Hodulik, Recording Secretary.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Hodulik

AGENDA ADDITIONS: Motion by Dennis Dombroski, seconded by Jerry Trudell to approve the September 28 agenda as stated. Motion Approved.

APPROVAL OF AUGUST 24, 2026 MINUTES:: Motion by Brett Lindgren, seconded by Dennis Dombroski to approve as written. Motion approved.

OLD BUSINESS

AFTON STONE QUOTE FOR EAST TRAILHEAD :
Hodulik met with Mike Spierling regarding a quote to have the surface graded, some brush and weeds removed on the north and west sides and then an Afton stone base applied and compacted. It would then be ready to install the split rail fence. Dennis Dombrowski again recommended that if there is not enough time to install the fence before winter, then the project should be re-scheduled to the spring as the fence should keep unwanted traffic out of the trailhead.

Twenty-- three 10-foot sections of Red Cedar split rail fence, about $1,300, are needed for installation parallel to Mullett-Burt and Crump Roads. Hodulik has contacted Brian Wallace (Burt Township resident) and Jamie Zinke (Margie Reh suggestion) as possible installers.

REPAIR SECTION OF HARDWOOD TO INDIAN RD TRAIL: As stated in last month's meeting minutes, the trail must be rebuilt as the three culverts have been installed after the June storm which washed away portions of the "old" West Burt Lake Road and the adjacent stone based trail. The C2AE original trail engineering drawings will be shared with Mike Spierling to help with the reconstruction. We hope this can be done yet this year, but the county road commission still needs to pave over the culverts. Hodulik has communicated with Matt Hall, manager of the road commission, who has not gotten a commitment yet for paving the road, after which the trail can be repaired. Matt Drake, our county road commission foreman for Burt Township said he would try to level off the trail so it is usable by walkers until repaired.

INDIAN RD NORTH TOWARD HOGSBACK RD: There is about two tenths of a mile of stone trail north of the paved hill at Indian Road intersection that must be reconstructed due to the June storm that brought much sand from the west side hills onto the trail and even across the new portion of West Burt Lake Road. The good news is that West Burt Lake Road was not damaged in this area. Matt Hall, CCRC Manger would like the trail butted up against the old West Burt Lake Road, which is at least two feet narrower than the newly paved road. Our position is the extra footage should be paid by the CCRC, not the township.

PAVE THE LAST 1.5 MILES OF STONE TRAIL ON THE WEST SIDE: The committee agreed that the damaged trail, all stone aggregate, be reconstructed this year to provide the base for paving, and then if time, pave it in the late fall or postpone paving the remaining 1.5 miles to next year.

NEW BUSINESS

SCALE LAYOUT OF EAST TRAILHEAD: Hodulik will work on this as it has been asked for by Meg Sheehan of EGLE Gaylord. A parking spot is usually 10 feet wide and 16 feet long. There is probably space for at least 14 parking spaces, a bench, and structure for signage. There will be a split rail fence on the Crump Road and Mullett-Burt Road sides.

NEW BUSINESS:

QUOTES TO PURCHASE AND INSTALL SPLIT RAIL FENCE: Hodulik will get a quote from Jamie Zinke (231-420-1256) and also Brian Wallace (420-0643). If there are no surprises from EGLE, most likely the completion of the east side trailhead will be either this fall or May 2027.

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

FINANCES: The **Trail Maintenance Fund** has a balance of **$ 50,618.14 as of September 30, 2026**. A total of $4,170 has been spent this year for maintenance of the trail. The Burt Lake Trail donation account at TOMTC has a balance of **$20,887.80** as of **June 4, 2026. The trail donation account at CNB has $432.91 as of September 30, 2026.**

NEXT MEETING: OCTOBER 26, 2026, at 7 PM at the Burt Township Hall

PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE

COMMITTEE COMMENT: 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.
Dennis Dombroski mentioned that he has seen the Amish with horse and buggy on the trail in the U of M trail section. Based on his experience on Mackinac Island, the “excrement” sould be

removed as soon as possible as it will eat through the blacktop. Jerry Trudell commented he has also seen them on the west side trail.
Hodulik commented that Becca Nelson, TOMTC Executive Director, will be at our October 26 trail meeting.

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

ADJOURNED: 8:17 PM Carolyn Hodulik, Recording Secretary