



**Friends of the Fred Meijer River Valley Rail Trail
Minutes: June 9, 2022 @ Saranac Depot**

- I. **Call to Order:** Chair Ron Gunderson called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.
- II. **Board Members Present:** Ron Gunderson, Chad Farlee, Lynn Mason, Wayne Addis, Mark Fritsma.
- III. **Board Members Absent:** Mark Grieves. Ron moved to excuse Mark due to work, Mark F. seconded. Motion carried 5-0.
- IV. **Guests:** Dean Gage
- V. **Approval of May Minutes:** Spell Dumon Rd. correctly and adjust Scott Litchfield's work description and costs. Wayne moved, Ron seconded to approve with amendments. Motion carried 5-0.
- VI. **Approval of Agenda:** Wayne moved to approve and Lynn seconded. Motion carried 5-0.
- VII. **Public Comment:** None
- VIII. **Reports of Officers and Chairperson:**
 - A. **Chairperson:** None...included with the Maintenance Report.
 - B. **Treasurer Report:** Chad reported:

All Bills are paid we are solvent

We Balance at **\$77252.33**

We had an income of **\$10,007.82**

0 Lifetime Memberships were sold

0 Yearly memberships were sold

We had Expenses of \$ **\$19543.24**

Lynn moved to approve and Wayne seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Bills: Wayne moved and Mark F. seconded to approve reimbursement to Ron for mileage, costing \$1616.35. Motion carried 5-0.

Mark G. arrived at 6:18.

C. Authority Report:

- All three Friend's Groups were approved for the \$10,000, however, Ionia County hasn't approved it yet.
- Our group asked for dollars to deal with 3 damaged culverts. One collapsed and separated, one needed to be dug out, and one was broken and had beaver damage (this caused water issues covering approximately 10 acres. Cost for all is \$13,831.64. Authority Approved.
- There was no report from Bob Craig on American Recovery \$\$\$.
- Barry has been cleaning using Scout troops. They are having difficulty with one culvert and the DNR will be doing a site review.
- Discussion continued on counties being added to the Board.

D. Maintenance Report;

- The City of Belding will be removing and saving rocks at River St.
- The 95 Mile Marker was damaged and completely painted over.
- The bench south of Fletcher Rd. was spray painted. Discussion on whether to try using a plain.
- Railroad ties were dragged about 40 ft. and placed on Hock Rd. They were removed due to huge safety concerns.
- One mile marker was broken off.
- Chad Thelan did limestone section weed spraying today.
- Ron repaired a gopher hole, using asphalt repair, north of Berridge Rd.
- A bench pad needs to be built west of Prairie Creek. There is a litter problem where it is placed currently. Cost \$6-700.00. Lynn moved and Wayne seconded. Motion carried 6-0.
- The Lowell Women's Club has asked to support the bench at Vergennes. The slats have been ordered. A pad needs to be placed here. Lynn moved to place pad for \$6-700.00 and Mark G. seconded. Motion carried 6-0.
- Mitch will be surfacing on Monday.
- Four "Welcome to Our Trail" signs need to be purchased at a cost of \$100. Kent Co. has decided not to do this. Motion to approve by Lynn seconded by Mark G. Motion carried 6-0. Tom Byle was recognized for his 50 years service!
- There has been an issue of trespassing at a private pond near McPherson Rd. Lynn moved and Mark F. seconded to purchase 6 "Private Property, No Fishing" signs for \$100. Motion carried 6-0.
- Ron power washed all pads and benches. Thank you Mitch for lending the equipment.
- A motion is made by Mark F. and seconded by Wayne to paint 3 corner markers and whistle stop markers gray with black letters. It would take approx. 5 gallons. The money would come from Donations or Authority. Motion carried 6-0.
- Two crossings, one north of the twin bridges and one south, were never addressed. They are land locked and historical crossings. Culverts have been acquired. Mitch will review for costs to install.

IX. Upcoming Events:

- The Cow Pie Classic turns out not to be on our section of the trail. There has been no news from the YMCA.

X. Unfinished Business: None

XI. New Business: None

XII. Public Comment: None

Director Comments: Mark F. continues to add to the web-site (thank you), there is a need to notify police when events are occurring, and he is working on the brochure. Thank you to Wayne for helping with the trees.

Adjournment: 7:43 Moved by Ron seconded by Mark G. Motion carried 6-0.

Minutes submitted by Lynn Mason