

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION AGENDA**

**Wednesday, December 16th, 2015 – 7:00 PM
Denton Room**

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Chairman Brownlee	_____	Commissioner Merritt	_____
Commissioner Ahamiojie	_____	Commissioner Wilson	_____
Commissioner Debuck	_____	Board Representative Jahr	_____
Commissioner Gibson	_____	Director Akers	_____
Deputy Director Best	_____	Recording Secretary Halstead	_____

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. October 21st, 2015 Minutes

COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDANCE

UNFINISHED BUSINESS/UPDATES

1. Coal Tar Sealant
2. Recycling Road Map
3. 2016 Meeting Schedule

NEW BUSINESS

GENERAL DISCUSSION

1. Shoreline Ordinance
2. Iron Belle Trail

ADJOURNMENT

***** If you are unable to attend, please contact Developmental Services at 699-8913 before noon on December 16th, 2015*****

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MINUTES
October 21, 2015**

Chairman Brownlee called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Chair Brownlee, Commissioners Ahamiojie, Debuck, Wilson and Board Representative Jahr.

Absent/Excused: Commissioner Gibson, and Commissioner Merritt.

Staff: Deputy Director of Planning and Economic Development Best, and Acting Secretary Lampinen.

Audience: (2) Member

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Brownlee added election of officers as item number one of new business, motioned to approve agenda as amended, supported by Jahr, seconded by Wilson. **Motion Carried.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion from Brownlee to approve minutes for September 16th, 2015 as submitted, approved by Wilson, seconded by Ahamiojie. **Motion Carried.**

COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE: Discussion of Household Hazardous Waste Day and the success of the advertisement in the Independent Newspaper, and flyer distribution. Chairman Brownlee shared his hopes to ramp it up more for next year. Deputy Director Best discussed choosing an earlier date for next year and possibly getting Wayne County and U.S. Ecology involved in sponsoring the event.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS/UPDATES

1. **Coal Tar Sealant:** Discussed the draft ordinance banning Coal Tar Sealant in the Township. Deputy Director Best discussed the penalty and enforcement section of the draft ordinance, and shared his discussion with the Van Buren Ordinance Officers regarding the difficulties of enforcing this ordinance due to the Township not requiring permits for driveway paving. Board Representative Jahr suggested dropping out paragraphs C & D Section 42-153 of the ordinance and making the ordinance more about the Commercial Applicators rather than the homeowners. Brownlee motioned to remove Section 42-153 paragraphs C & D from the Coal Tar Ordinance, Wilson approved, Debuck seconded. **Motion Carried.**
Board Representative Jahr inquired if there was a way to have driveway permitting enacted. Deputy Director Best explained the inability as of now being due to lack of ability to inspect each driveway. Jahr mentioned a registration method for Asphalt businesses as a way of keeping track of the use of materials such as Coal Tar Sealant and other matters. Best agreed that the registration option could be explored and to have staff look into possible permitting and registration for Asphalt companies. Best mentioned having the attorney go over the ordinance with the sections removed and getting the revised ordinance onto a Work Study Meeting for the Board. Chairman Brownlee recommended discussing this topic further in the next meeting.

2. **Recycling Road Map:** Chairman Brownlee mentioned being in contact with the people who do the Resource Recovery Guide for Wayne County and how to get this information to the residence in Van Buren Township. It was suggested adding an insert for the Township into the Resource Recovery Guide. Chairman Brownlee recommended putting this topic on the next agenda and going through what would be idea for the Township insert.

3. **Shoreline Ordinance:** Deputy Director Best brought everyone up to speed on the revision and added definitions of the Shoreline Ordinance on page 15; Section P regarding Watercraft Repairs. Board Representative Jahr mentioned how this ordinance is starting to get off topic from its original intensions which were originally of the strip of land on the shoreline. It was suggested by Commissioner Debuck and Board Representative Jahr to just remove the section regarding Watercraft repairs all together. Deputy Director Best agreed to suggest the removal of Section P. to the Planning Commission who has been working on the ordinance and keep everyone up to date.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Chairman Brownlee opened nominations for Chairman, Board Representative Jahr nominated David Brownlee, Commissioner Wilson seconded. **Motion Carried.**
Brownlee opened nominations for Vice Chairman, Jahr nominated Commissioner Debuck, Wilson seconded. **Motion Carried.**

GENERAL DISCUSSION: Deputy Director Best discussed speaking to the director of Wayne County Resource Management about TENORM waste and the sources of TENORM waste. Also discussed was the meeting with U.S. Ecology, the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers and the Township. Deputy Director Best explained the purpose of the meeting which was the storage of hazardous waste, such as TENORM waste. The Army Corp was there to answer questions and concerns of the Township and get insight on how the Township views U.S. Ecology due to their plans of potentially utilizing U.S. Ecology as a place for their TENORM waste. Commissioner Wilson discussed his pleasure of what he learned about the disposal of TENORM and how there is no organic materials to transfer the radioactive gas in the landfill. Best clarified that the Army Corp did not say for sure that they will pick U.S. Ecology, but U.S. Ecology has agreed to inform the Township if any waste is decided to be brought into the landfill. It was also made clear that the waste that would be brought in, if any, would not be fracking waste. Commissioner Wilson ended the discussion by saying how pleased he was with being asked to attend that meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Ahamiojie, Supported by Debuck to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted by,

Jessica M. Lampinen
Acting Recording Secretary

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
2016 MEETING SCHEDULE**

The Environmental Commission Meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the Denton Room at Township Hall, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, MI 48111.

January 20, 2016

February 17, 2016

March 16, 2016

April 20, 2016

May 18, 2016

June 15, 2016

July 20, 2016

August 17, 2016

September 21, 2016

October 19, 2016

November 16, 2016

December 21, 2016

In Compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, reasonable accommodations will be made available with advance notice.

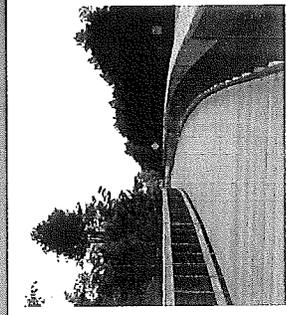
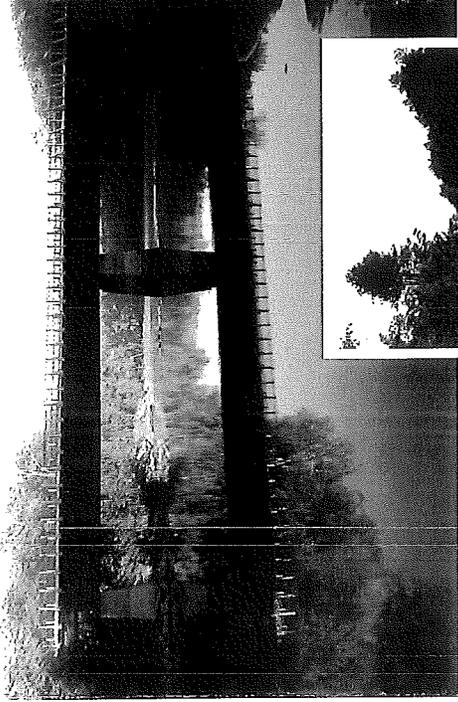
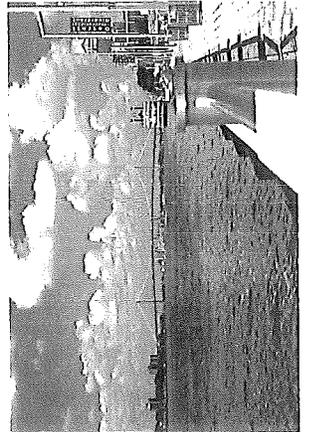
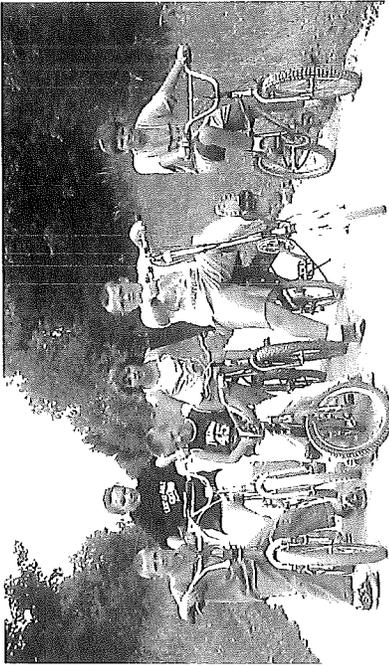
For more information, please call the Developmental Services Office at (734) 699-8913

Michigan's Iron Belle Trail is only part of what makes Michigan the Trails State. More than 12,000 miles of extensive trail network provides hours of fun, improved health, and lasting memories for Michigan's wide range of trail users from snowmobilers to paddlers, hikers to mountain bikers, and road bike enthusiasts to off-road vehicle (ORV) riders.

Michigan is home to over 12,000 miles of trails*, including:

- 6,407 miles of snowmobile trails
- 3,627 miles of ORV trails
- 2,623 miles of rail-trail (the most in the nation!)
- 560 miles of forest looped trails
- 900 miles of state park trails
- 590 miles of designated equestrian trails, including the 300-mile Shore-to-Shore Riding Trail
- 1,150 miles of the North Country National Scenic Trail – 750 developed.

*This list double-counts some trails as they may be available for more than one use.



Michigan's Iron Belle Trail is a major project stretching across the state (twice!), and touching many diverse communities along the way. Like any project of this scale, it could not happen without partners working together to make it a reality. We value these partners and the often-unseen work they do every day to make their segment of trail accessible, clean and safe. Pay them a visit. Say hello. Get involved.

For a complete list of trail partners, please visit michigan.gov/dnrtrails.



The Michigan Department of Natural Resources is committed to the conservation, protection, management, use and enjoyment of the state's natural and cultural resources for current and future generations. For more information, visit www.michigan.gov/dnr.

4/15/2015

Michigan's

Iron Belle Trail



Michigan's North Country National Scenic Trail, by Marilyn Hoogstraaten

Michigan's
Iron Belle Trail
Two routes,
one great trail



michigan.gov/dnrtrails

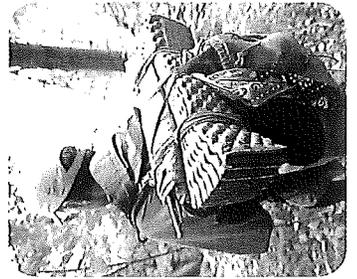
#ironbelle

The Hiking Route

Most of the hiking route will follow the North Country National Scenic Trail between Calhoun and Gogebic Counties. The trail traverses the west side of the Lower Peninsula, and borders Lake Superior in the Upper Peninsula.



1,259 miles
69% makes use of the existing trail
31% of the trail is yet to be developed*



Michigan's Iron Belle Trail

What is Michigan's Iron Belle Trail?
Michigan's Iron Belle Trail is the newest addition to Michigan's thousands of miles of recreational trails. Two routes make up Michigan's Iron Belle Trail; one for hikers and one for bicyclists. Both routes stretch from Detroit to Ironwood, each taking a separate route to complete the journey.

Is the trail complete?

More than 60% of both routes (bicycling and hiking) are already completed, and partners are working to establish temporary connectors that will be made permanent as resources become available. Federal, state and local units of government are working to complete the trail by acquiring trail easements from willing sellers. Detailed maps showing which segments are complete are available at michigan.gov/dnrtrails.

Who do I contact?

Michigan's Iron Belle Trail comprises many existing trails, so users should contact the local managing authority for information about local use, rules and detailed maps. An interactive map of the entire trail will soon be available at michigan.gov/dnrtrails.

How do I cross between the peninsulas?

Ferry to Mackinac Island: Ferries are available in both the Lower Peninsula (Mackinaw City) and the Upper Peninsula (St. Ignace). For details, visit mackinacisland.org/transportation.

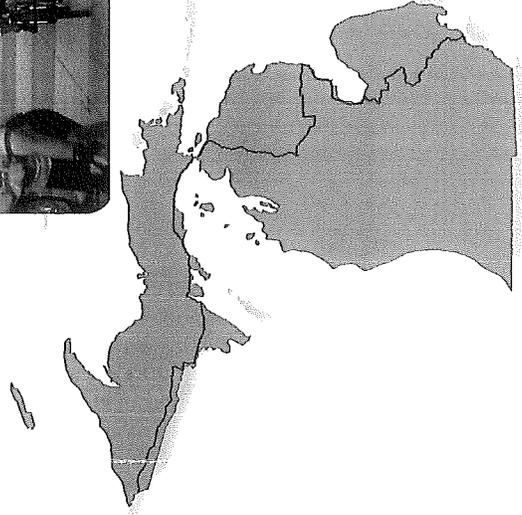
Mackinac Bridge Authority transport services: Users can call for a vehicle to transport them across the Mackinac Bridge, 24/7. Cost is \$3.50 per person, \$5 per bicycle as of March 2015. Users can walk across the bridge for the Labor Day Bridge Walk (Sept. 7, 2015). For details, visit mackinacbridge.org.

The Bicycle Route

Whenever possible, the bicycle route will use existing multi-use trails that have been developed by local units of government, counties, and the state. In the Upper Peninsula, the bicycle route will follow US-2, a designated national bicycling route.



774 miles
64% makes use of the existing trail
36% of the trail is yet to be developed*



*For the most up-to-date information, please visit

michigan.gov/dnrtrails