

Hayden Lake Watershed Association  
Minutes of Board Meeting on 8/26/25  
Submitted by Gil Rossner Jr.

Meeting was called to order by HLWA President Jan Wilkins at 10:02 a.m. Treasurer Bob Humiston gave the treasurers report. After our annual meeting the number of member families who have paid their dues has risen. Bob and Jan reported that the proceeds from the Hayden Lake Yacht Club meeting and fundraiser benefit was very successful. That organization's members continue to generously support the HLWA.

The board discussed feedback from members regarding the annual meeting held at Hayden Lake Country Club. There were many positive responses from our members with the only negative coming from a couple that felt the meeting was long, with maybe too much info to comprehend in one sitting. Shawn was told by more than one member that this was "the best meeting we've ever had". Board members estimated that attendance was between 80 and 100 guests.

Our members biggest concerns as voiced to board members were harmful algal blooms and boat wakes. During the annual meeting, Jan suggested the possibility of forming a work group to research and review wake damage studies that have been appearing in the news with greater frequency. That evening, three members approached her and asked to join such a group if formed. The board weighed in on the formation of such a group. Jan suggested that the group hold a formal meeting at the Hayden Lake Country Club. It was suggested that agencies (limited at first) should ultimately be read into our research and become involved. It is the position of our organization that we are not prepared to advocate for banning wake boats, but other mitigation measures might be considered such as requiring boats to use the middle of the lake or limiting times of day for wake towing / surfing activity. The latter idea, according to Sean, would make for peace between wake boats and trolling kokanee fishermen, who are getting discouraged about boats and huge waves rolling through while they are trolling.

Greg Hill presented his tech report. Beaver Builder is to be paid \$179 for their work on our website. Greg dug into the failure of the POS system at our member meeting. He has now set up service through Stripe. They charge a 1% fee and do not require a contract. Venmo is still in the works. Greg reports increased contacts coming in via the HLWA website, mostly seeking information. Greg replies to these. Greg would like to add to our site summaries of the agencies that work with us and the board agreed that this is a good idea. Wake reports continue to come in via the website.

Jan proposed meeting with the head Marine Deputy at the end of this boating season to roll up the data and discuss coverage of “hot spots”. Mary Ann Stoll reported that Ryan Miller’s tour as leader of the Marine Deputies is ending and he will be replaced with a new group leader next season. While discussing Marine Deputies and boat wakes Alicia Humiston reported that she has seen less high-speed boat traffic making it into Bob’s Bay this year. Whether that is because of shallow conditions, plant infestation, the harmful algal bloom or the new bouys installed by the Watershed Improvement District is anyone’s guess. As for the new HLWID buoys, Kristine Bartz reminded us that they have only been approved by IDL for a two-year period, limited to the time that District-sponsored testing by U of I continues. She strongly suggests that we contact IDL and let them know if we see other benefits to the existence of these new buoys and would like to see them stay permanently.

The board members did a final review of the permanent art to be installed at our Honeysuckle kiosk. Minor edits to the invasive mussel section and the HLWA purpose statement at the bottom of the tribute page were suggested. Costs for final printing of the graphics on foam core board will be \$140.59. A motion was made and seconded and the board approved this expenditure. Gil is in communication with City of Hayden on a planned dedication ceremony on September 13<sup>th</sup> at 11 am. When the necessary permissions are set in stone Gil will come up with a press release to send to the Cd’A Press and City of Hayden. Gil will come up with copy for Greg Hill to send out an email announcement to our membership / email list.

The folding Hayden Lake brochures were discussed. Current distribution points include Super1 Hayden, Hayden Lake Marina, Mark's Marine, Tobler Marine and the Fish and Game / Idaho Parks office on Kathleen Avenue in Coeur d'Alene. We discussed potential distribution through Hayden City Hall and the Hayden Chamber of Commerce. Alicia has purchased plastic holders for the brochures to use at distribution points that do not have their own racks / holders. Gil will take these to Mark's and Tobler's. The Hayden Lake Marina has asked for laminated versions of our folding map / brochure to place in their rental boats. All agreed this is a good idea.

There was a brief discussion of Dalton Irrigation. Todd Walker said that he would continue to research Dalton drilling a well as an alternative to taking water from the lake as well as having to pay for costly infrastructure maintenance.

Kristine and Alicia discussed reaching back out to vacation rental property owners. It was agreed to be an important step in educating out-of-town visitors to the lake and our county boating regulations. Kristine says that the City of Hayden Lake requires all vacation rental owners to register their vacation rentals and this might be helpful in updating our list. This requirement does not, however, apply to those outside it's boundaries.

Jan and Alicia discussed developing and distributing via mail a wake reporting postcard to remind waterfront residents of our reporting process. Distribution is targeted for next spring as the boating season begins.

A brief report was given by Alicia on the Wildcat On Hayden Development. The developer has pulled his application for a community center special use permit. He now says that these facilities will be constructed on his private property within the development and converted for private use.

Water levels were discussed. All are in agreement from their own observations that the lake level is dropping fast. Todd says Hayden Creek level is low and inflow into the lake is very slow and minimal. Kristine suggested the HLWID possibly work with

us to pursue minimum lake level water rights. While she believes all existing rights cannot be reduced, she would like to explore if future rights could be granted a “secondary” status so that they could not draw lake water after the water level reaches an established low level limit. This will require further research as to it’s feasibility.

With no further business before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:50.