

Draft Meeting Notes
Hayden Lake Watershed Association Board Meeting
2:00 to 4:20 PM, Tuesday, December 2, 2025
Meeting Held via Zoom

Participants: Board Members: Jan Wilkins, President presiding, Gil Rossner, Vice President, Robert Humiston, Treasurer, Greg Hill, Shawn Hathaway, Alicia Humiston, Todd Walker and Geoff Harvey. Attending: Kristen Bartz (HLWID) and Mary Ann Stoll

The meeting was called to order by Jan Wilkins at 2:10 PM

Agenda Item Additions: Inserted: Code violation in Berven Bay; Waterways Committee taking up Spokane River boat use; Hayden scoping on Honeysuckle Beach grant; and North Arm public meeting.

HLWID Report: The District's North Arm Working Group is having an open meeting with interested citizens to learn about the projects that group has sponsored and obtained funding for to further study the North Arm and lower Hayden Creek. The meeting is December 17th at the Coeur d'Alene Library between 11:30 AM and 1:30 PM. Results of studies on the North end of the lake and potential sediment settling features along Hayden Creek will be reported.

Regular Business

Treasurers Report : Bob Humiston discussed the treasurer's reports made to the Board by e-mail. Based on the MOU with The City of Hayden on the Honeysuckle Beach Kiosk, the kiosk can be considered an asset and will be treated as such. For the foreseeable future the "legal fund" will be folded into the regular fund. The statement of financial activities indicates that expenditures have been balanced over the past year by donations.

Recorder: Nothing to report.

Technology & Communications: Greg Hill reported that the website as it is functional but in need of an update to uncomplicate its use for conveying information to users. It is a portal into who we are and what we do but requires modernization. Hiring expertise to achieve the goal of defining the website's size and reach the following questions were discussed:

Who is the desired audience? Generally agreed it is those living and owning land in the watershed and those coming to use Hayden Lake. Additionally, there should be information on who we are and what we do for potential donors visiting the site.

What does the audience come to the website for? Those curious, frustrated or mad about specific issues and those simply looking for information.

Point made that the website needs a strong statement of threats to the lake and watershed and what the Association is doing to address them. Discussion of website organization and content should clearly demonstrate we are on task with the organization's goals

Greg and a smaller group (Jan, Mary Ann and Alicia will take what they heard of the website discussion and crystalize the ideas expressed.

Old Business

Dalton Irrigation Water Use: Working on reviewing documentation.

Mailings and Education:

Brochures: Super 1 is stocked. Gil will check on the other distribution sites.

Wake and Mussel Mailings: Jan and Alacia are working on developing these as well as the dock flyers that will more specifically address the invasive mussels issue.

Presentation at Four Counties Natural Resource Meeting: Mary Ann and Gil gave the presentation to the Natural Resources Group. Representatives of many of the lakes (Hauser, Twin, Spirit and Fernan as well as Cocollala Lakes and the Spokane River) were present. The presentation was very well given and received by the audience. A news reporter was present resulting in a good write up in the CD'A Press. Representatives of many of the lakes met shortly after and agreed on the value of pooling our efforts on these and other issues.

Community Awareness Projects:

RAC Grant to Complete Healthy Hayden Creek Work: The Forest Service is back from furlough. Geoff will attempt to assess whether the funds will be available to do the work next Spring.

Code Violations Enforcement:

Shore Protection Issue. Berven Bay: A homeowner on the bay wants a variance from the City of Hayden Lake's thirty (30) feet shoreline protection zone. The public hearing will be held at 5 PM on December 11th. Geoff will attend for the Association and speak for the Association in support of the shoreline protect and against the variance.

Wildcat Subdivision: Not much occurring on site. For sale signs not up.

Lake Level: The lake level is about as low as it gets this time of year.

Healthy Hayden Lake Project: Bob Humiston visited the project recently most of the trees doing well. No evidence of vehicles entering the area or cutting of logs placed.

Area of Impact: At the Planning Committee meeting Association representatives testified against the Richards Property and the two Dalton Irrigation Properties being included in the City of Hayden's Area of Impact. The argument was based on the fact the majority of the land (the Richards Property) is in a no development easement with the Inland Northwest Land Trust. The committee agreed and removed the area from the city's map. The hearing before the County Commission was attended, but after testimony from a former land planning director, the Commission agreed the process was too rushed and would delay it into December and/or the next year. HLWA will continue to monitor the process.

Wake Surf Boat/ Small Lakes Study Group: Initial meeting will be this week. The group will work on boat wake issues and other issues affecting all the small lakes of North Idaho. It will also confer strength in numbers. Since other issues other than wakes will be included, a name change to small waters or waterbodies was suggested.

Hayden Lake Country Club Fireworks Displays: Jan spoke with the Country Club manager on use of drones during wedding events rather than fireworks that potentially effect the lake water quality. The club management did some research that found that drone displays are five times more expensive. Those providing the firework service are independent contractors not associated with the club. They work off barges out in the lake. If inquiries are made the club will suggest the drone option.

New Business:

Spokane River No Tow Proposal: Sheriff's Deputy Miller will be bringing a proposal before the Kootenai County Waterways Advisory Committee at its December 11th meeting. The proposal would prohibit towing behind boats that includes wake surfing on certain days and a certain time of day. An Association member will attend in support of the proposal and Spokane River groups.

North Arm Working Group: Will hold a public meeting described earlier December 17th at the Coeur d'Alene Library between 11:30 AM and 1:30 PM.

Honeysuckle Beach and Boat Launch Waterways Grant Proposal: The City of Hayden is preparing a grant to repave the boat ramp; move the south dock back further off the ramp and work of ADA

Issues. The city is seeking input from the public as it prepares the grant. Greg will do an email blast to invite input for the city's plans.

Executive Session: The Board entered executive session with the motion made by Alacia Humiston and seconded by Gil Rossner. After a short discussion, Shawn Hathaway made a motion to end the session, seconded by Gil Rossner.

Next Meeting: Was set for Tuesday, 10 AM to Noon on January 27, 2026 in a Zoom like format.

With no other business the Board adjourned at 4:20 PM.