

Draft Meeting Notes  
Hayden Lake Watershed Association Board Meeting  
10:00 AM to 11:30 PM PST, Tuesday, April 28, 2026  
Meeting Held via Zoom

**Participants:** Board Members: Jan Wilkins, President presiding, Gil Rossner, Vice President, Robert Humiston, Treasurer, Greg Hill, Shawn Hathaway, Alicia Humiston, and Geoff Harvey.

The meeting was called to order by Jan Wilkins at 10:05 AM

**Regular Business:** (Treasurer's Report delayed by technical difficulty)

Recorder: No Report

Technology/Communication: Greg Hill reported that some linking problems have occurred as a result of migration of the website to a new domain and website name HLWAIdaho. He plans to correct these problems. The next step will be to roll out the new e-mail system. Posts of short histories and other items are in progress. Posts supporting the Dalton Gardens Irrigation customer's mailing are being readied to post.

Treasurers Report: Bob Humiston supplied the Board financial documents prior to the meeting. He briefly described the financial position and interest gained from the CD of invested funds. The discussion then folded into the next topic, which was what to do with the CAHLME legal funds donated now that the marina expansion proposal has been withdrawn. For purposes of that discussion Bob pointed out that these funds can 1) only be donated to another 501 (C) (3) nonprofit organization and 2) that organization must have similar objectives as those of the HLWA. Both criteria must be met.

**Old Business:**

*Proposed Hayden Lake Marina Expansion:* Jan Wilkins updated the group on events concerning the marina. The application for expansion was withdrawn. The weight of points against expansion coupled with public opposition and opposition from agencies like the Lakes Highway District likely caused the proponents to withdraw the application. In addition the business that owned the marina was swallowed up by a larger investment group. It is unknown if or when there will be another expansion proposal and application. The attorney brought in by the Association believes the matter is concluded for now.

The core organizers of CAHLME want to go ahead with a post card in opposition to the marina expansion. Representatives of the HLWA counseled against this move but did commit to fund it from the CAHLE legal fund. The question before the Board was what should be the disposition of the funds in this special account. Bob Humiston defined the constraints on use of these funds. In addition, there is still an outstanding bill from the attorney to pay. Based on the fact that the CAHLME has yet to achieve 501 (C) (3) status and it is unsure whether CAHLME's goals align with those of the HLWA, it was decided to hold the funds to the end of the fiscal year to assure all bills are paid and the marina issue does not again arise and once all bills are paid refund the donations to the donors with the legal and any other costs equally

deducted. Jan will write a letter to CAHLM E outlining the constraints and eventually disposition of the funds.

#### Community Awareness and Education:

*Dalton Gardens Irrigation District Customers Mailer:* The message that Gil Rossner developed was placed on a post card by Alicia Humiston. The mocked up card was discussed by the Board. One line was removed from the front to lessen the verbiage that made the card too busy. The information on the back uses codes to direct readers to two web pages providing additional information. The points on the website will be further reduced to bullet points. Gil will add a couple to reference papers to the web pages; a University of Idaho Paper and an EPA bulletin. The changes are minor tweakings so the plan is to make the changes and get the card printed and sent out. The estimate is about a thousand plus so the cost is estimated at \$800-\$1,000. The plan is to modify the card for those withdrawing water from Hayden Lake for irrigation. Information on yard management ( fertilizer/water use) could be added for this group. Jan will get a list of those with water rights for DWR who are entitled to withdraw water from Hayden Lake.

*Healthy Hayden Creek Event, May 9<sup>th</sup>:* The Norris logs are the only log source we have this year. It was learned after the meeting that the Watershed Improvement District did not remove docks last summer, so no logs at Mivoden. There were problems contacting Tom Norris to access the logs. However after the meeting Todd made contact and Jan was informed the logs are available to the contractor. The contractor believes there are enough logs available to complete the site at the FSR 437-206 junction and start the area at the lower FSR 437-2096 junction. The log placement and ground scarification work will be completed May 4<sup>th</sup> through May 8<sup>th</sup>.

#### Event assignments were made:

Geoff will obtain the seedlings and the tree protectors.

Alicia will arrange for refreshments

Gil will arrange the porta potty; there may be a closer provider in Rathdrum

Shawn will bring the canopy, banner and easels

Gil will bring the posters he has and brochures.

Alicia and Greg will bring tables

Bob will take photographs.

The event will start at 9 AM and last to around noon. Jan will issue the press release by Friday 5/1.

*Annual Meeting:* Jan asked Alicia to make a reservation for the annual meeting at the Hayden Lake Country Club. Monday August 3<sup>rd</sup> was the desired date.

*Code Enforcement:* The question of what became of the official complaint to Kootenai County concerning the marina expansion and the lack of sufficient parking is being pursued by Todd Walker.

*Hayden Days:* July 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. Shawn and Gil will set up at noon on Friday the 24<sup>th</sup>. The event runs from noon to 10 PM on Friday (8/24) and 10 AM to 8 PM on Saturday (8/25). Assignments to man the booth were outlined. Shawn and Gil will man the booth Friday afternoon and evening, but Gil must leave at 4 PM so Geoff will take over between 4 PM and 10 PM. Bob and Alicia will be at the booth Saturday 10 AM to 3 PM and Jan and Ross from 3 PM to 8 PM. Shawn and Gil will take down the booth Saturday evening with help from Jan and Ross. Gil will inquire into using the Watershed Improvement Districts buoy. There is plenty of time prior to the event to plan the booth content.

*Lake Level:* The lake is spilling across the large spillway so it is full; elevation 2239 msl plus. Very little snowpack is left at the highest elevations in the watershed. Lake level will depend on the spring and early summer rains.

*Small Waterways Collaborative:* Jan and Geoff reported on the meeting held April 10<sup>th</sup>. The meeting may have been over organized, but was a good airing of the common problems of the communities around the small waterways. There were also many insights on how common problems have been addressed and how these communities have organized to address issues. The focus groups coalesced around two issues: excessive boat wakes and erosion-sedimentation and nutrient loading. It was pre-mature to assess whether the group can form an organization, although the advantages of a unified voice was recognized. The representatives of each waterbody need to consult with their Boards. A next meeting is being planned for a July time frame.

There was discussion of the group becoming a Watershed Advisory Group (WAG). WAGs are a feature of Idaho water quality law. The group could act as a WAG if it wished but it should operate well beyond that narrow focus.

*English Point Trails:* The effort to raise additional funds in early April was foregone because tree fall the west side trails has made use difficult. The Forest Service has a contractor on site to salvage the fallen logs, but until this is complete the trails will be difficult to traverse. The work completed last fall worked where there is topographic relief that allowed water drainage. However where there is no relief, the water pools in the spring having no place to drain except into the ground which has very low permeability. The two remedies are either trail relocation or causeways through these areas. Relocation requires Forest Service environmental assessment. The Forest Service does not have staff to do this so causeways are the option that is viable in any reasonable time frame. Geoff proposed that the HLWA undertake the collection of donations to support the building of causeways where needed. He is developing the cost information. The Association would have a site on its web page where the causeway projects would be outlined and members and others could contribute to supporting causeway construction.

Geoff indicated a similar approach could be taken to address illegal motor vehicle use in the Hayden Lake Watershed. The healthy Hayden Creek work has been supported by Clean Water Act 319 funds and RAC funding from the Forest Service. Funding support for a parking area will be sought from RAC. These are large sites of abuse however there exist illegal trails and many departures from roads into the forest that are small but are many and all sources of erosion. The Healthy Hayden Creek work is demonstrating that hard sideboards must be placed at these locations of illegal use to stop the practice and allow the forest

to heal. Like the English Point effort a webpage would explain this problem, the project sites and solicit funds to support these small site restorations.

The Board will consider the approach.

Hayden Lake Watershed Improvement District Report: The District will not monitor water quality this coming season. The District has appropriated \$8,000 to support a "Lake Host (s)" to man the Honeysuckle Boat Ramp during peak use periods during the summer.

#### **New Business:**

Lake Host(s): The host or hosts would man the Honeysuckle Ramp full time when use is high. They would track boat inspection compliance especially on out of state boats and launch fee compliance. They would be trained by the Idaho Agriculture Department (IDA) boat inspectors to be capable of detecting invasive species. They could also assist in boat launch traffic control, however they would have no enforcement authority. The host(s) would be IDA trained and an employee of the Kootenai Soil Conservation Service. The position(s) would cost \$16-\$17K. Efforts are being made to finding funding support from the Cities of Hayden and Hayden Lake, Dalton Irrigation District and Hayden Lake Country Club. We should hear back from the City of Hayden at its next council meeting. The question is whether the Association is willing to fund the other half of the position(s), some \$8,000. The treasurer indicated the funds are available in the Association's account to support this expenditure. A motion was made to support the lake host position(s) up to \$8,000 by Geoff Harvey, seconded by Alicia Humiston. The motion passed unanimously.

Invasive Mussels Summit: A summit on invasive mussels was held for the Pend Oreille Lake Basin. All interest groups and agencies attended. Jan and Kristen are working to organize a similar summit for the Coeur d'Alene Basin.

The next meeting will be held at the Hayden Library. Gil has reserved the large conference room. Otherwise we will use a small room that are first come first served. The meeting would be scheduled for 10 AM to noon on Tuesday May 26, 2026. We will have Venmo training after the meeting to use at Hayden Days.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 PM.