

MINUTES OF MEETING
Kootenai County Waterways Advisory Board –June 19, 2017
Kootenai County Search & Rescue Building
10865 N Ramsey Rd
Hayden, Idaho 83835

MEMBERS PRESENT: Norm Blakney, Ray Bradley, Craig Brosenne, John Condon, Fred Gabourie, Mike Pelissero, Brad Pendleton, Terry Werner

STAFF PRESENT: Nick Snyder, Director, Parks & Waterways; Sergeant Will Klinkefus, Sheriff Recreation Division; Ranell Schwartz, Recording Secretary

OTHERS PRESENT: Dave Dahms, IDPR; RC Roland, Spokane River Association; Fred Ebel; Bob Bjelland

Chairman John Condon called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. No conflicts of interest were declared by Advisory Board members.

MOTION: Michael Pelissero moved to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. The motion was seconded; all were in favor; the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

OLD BUSINESS

REGULATORY MARKER APPLICATION PROCESS and WAKE BOAT DISCUSSION:

Nick Snyder reviewed the history of the regulatory marker application process. The previous Board of County Commissioners wanted the WWAB to continue to review applications so that the public has a venue to be heard. This issue will be discussed with the new Board of County Commissioners in the future.

Dave Dahms, the boating program manager for Idaho State Parks, shared their efforts to promote boating safety with educational videos and ads. He also discussed the history of efforts to implement mandatory boater education in Idaho. He stated that research shows that mandatory boater education has been found to be beneficial in other states but that IDPR has no position on it.

Fred Ebel of the Spokane River, wants all wake boat activity to be on the lake, not the Spokane River. He stated that property owners on the Spokane River have suffered extensive damage to docks and shorelines due to wake boats.

RC Roland, president of the Spokane River Association, stated that he is a wake boat owner, lives on the Spokane River and has had no dock damage. He stated that those that wake board want to keep wakeboarding and feels that regulations will make property values will go down. His position is personal and not an official position of the Spokane River Association.

There was extensive discussion on this issue. Nick Snyder stated that the new Board of County Commissioners still needs to be presented with this issue.

MOTION: Michael Pelissero moved to refer back to the old request to the BOCC (not to hear requests for no wake buoys anymore). The motion was seconded; all were in favor; the motion carried.

Bob Bjelland addressed enforcement issues. He stated that the regulations are already there. The KCSO need help from property owners in the form of videos of boats speeding in the no wake zone that shows the registration numbers on the boat. Sergeant Will Klinkefus explained the Sheriff Marine Division staffing issues and the RBS Grant funding for the Marine program. He stated that enforcement is the tool to education adding that enforcement is hard; education is better.

MOTION: John Condon moved to recommend mandatory boater education in Kootenai County to the Board of County Commissioners. After some discussion, the motion was seconded; all were in favor; the motion carried.

Bob Bjeland and Sergeant Klinkefus discussed a program the KCSO is pursuing that would allow boaters to take boater education in lieu on receiving a citation.

MOTION: Ray Bradley moved to recommend to the Board of County Commissioners that they whole heartedly support the education program the KCSO is pursuing and ask them to give all the support they can to that. After some discussion, the motion was seconded; all were in favor; the motion carried.

BOATER SURVEY REPORT:

Mr. Snyder reviewed the survey sent to boaters in 2016. The survey results will be presented to the New Board of County Commissioners in the near future.

FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS

WAKE RESTRICTIONS/ WAKE BOAT DISCUSSION
REGULATORY MARKER APPLICATION PROCESS DISCUSSION
PARKS & WATERWAYS PROJECT UPDATE PRESENTATION
POTENTIAL MARINE FACILITY TOUR FOR WWAB

MOTION: Ray Bradley moved to recommend to the Board of County Commissioners that they hold a public hearing on the proposed 500-foot rule. After some discussion, the motion was withdrawn.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Fred Ebel from Post Falls commented that there are discrepancies in the current and proposed no wake rules. He stated that 500 feet is too much and 100 feet is too small on the river.

STAFF REPORTS

Nick Snyder, Parks & Waterways: Mr. Snyder reported that this winter/spring the high water and ice damaged many Parks & Waterways facilities on Lake Coeur d'Alene. ICRMP will be covering about \$200,000 in damages to docks; Avista contributed funds for debris removal and the Forest Service contributed for Bell Bay damage.

The WIF grant application for the replacement of the dock system at Mowry Boater park was approved by Idaho State Parks. The Hauser Dock replacement project is 95% finished. Parks and Waterways is now on Facebook to give up to date information to the public. Revenue is down due to the bad weather this spring. A long-time employee of Parks & Waterways will be leaving at the end of June.

Sergeant Klinkefus, KCSO: Sergeant Klinkefus stated that they will have six seasonal marine deputies this year. The new teams have been very aggressive with boat safety inspections, which will help with the RBS funding for next year. They also plan to use patrol teams.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ranell Schwartz

Recording Secretary