

**Minutes of Meeting  
Parks & Waterways/Noxious Weeds  
June 11, 2019  
3:00 p.m.**

The Kootenai County Board of Commissioners: Chairman Chris Fillios and Commissioner Leslie Duncan met to discuss the following agenda items. Also present were KCSO Sergeant William Klinkefus, Parks & Waterways (P&W)/Noxious Weeds Director Nick Snyder and Deputy Clerk Tina Ginorio. Also present were Jan Wilkins, Geoff Harvey and Steve Meyer from the Hayden Lake Watershed Association and Reporter Brian Walker from the Coeur d'Alene Press. Commissioner Bill Brooks was excused.

- A. Call to Order:** Chairman Chris Fillios called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.
- B. Introductions:** No introductions were made
- C. Changes to the Agenda (Action):** There were no changes to the agenda.
- D. Updates Regarding Current Parks & Waterways/Noxious Weeds Projects (Action Items)**

**Upcoming Contracts**

Parks & Waterways (P&W)/Noxious Weeds Director Nick Snyder noted that the Harrison Breakwater Wave Attenuator Design agreement had just been approved in the Business Meeting.

He said that the contract for the remediation of the Cataldo Properties would probably be brought to the Business Meeting next week. He reported that he and the Operations Manager had staked the area that was to be worked on and a contract would be forthcoming. He reminded the Board that Civil Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Jamila Holmes had provided them with a legal opinion on the project.

**McGuire Park**

Mr. Snyder reminded the Commissioners that a letter had been received regarding McGuire Park. He suggested this matter should probably be discussed in an Executive Session at a later date.

**Spokane River Navigation Markers and Buoys**

Mr. Snyder said he was working with the private utility company Avista to arrange funding for Spokane River navigation markers and buoys.

**Greensferry Boat Launch**

Mr. Snyder noted that the Greensferry Boat Launch, on the south side of the Spokane River, had a driveway that cut through the park. He said he had spoken with the Post Falls Highway District about it and they had indicated they would accept a new encroachment

permit from the property owner to allow the driveway to be moved. He added that this would also add two or three parking spaces to the lot.

### **Harrison Breakwater**

Mr. Snyder predicted that they would do a two part bid process, including a pre-qualification, due to the unique construction needed by marine projects. He said once they had assembled a group of qualified companies, they would provide them with bid packets.

### **Cataldo Property Remediation**

Mr. Snyder noted that this topic had already been covered, under “Contracts.”

### **Waterways Advisory Board**

Mr. Snyder reported that the Waterways Advisory Board planned a special meeting for June 18, 2019 to try to organize a group of recommendations for presentation to the County Commissioners.

### **E-Bike House Bill 76 Legislation**

Mr. Snyder stated that House Bill 76 would allow E-Bikes (electric bikes) on the Centennial Trail. He said that Ms. Holmes had suggested that the County wait until the City of Coeur d’Alene had settled on their interpretation of the rule, then follow their lead. He noted that a speed limit would have to be placed on the trail by ordinance because some e-bikes could go up to 45 mph.

Commissioner Duncan asked whether the bikes in question were actually electric dirt bikes or if they were only electric bicycles. Mr. Snyder said he did not have a firm answer on that and suggested that Legal be consulted about the definition of e-bikes as referenced by the bill.

### **Highway 95 Trail**

Mr. Snyder reminded the Board that ITD (Idaho Transportation Department) and the City of Coeur d’Alene were involved with the extension and maintenance of the trail all the way to Athol. He said the trail might be completed as soon as this fall. Mr. Snyder announced that a \$50,000 stipend had been allocated to permit Kootenai County P&W to buy a mower able to handle the upkeep.

### **Stateline Bridge**

Mr. Snyder reminded the Board that the County had painted and stenciled the Stateline Bridge a few years ago. He said there was an initiative being undertaken now to light it. He said arrangements would have to be made with Avista to run power to the site. He promised to bring the Commissioners more information on this as it became available.

### **Noxious Weed Spray Contractor**

Mr. Snyder said the County's spray contract no longer covered Highway District parcels, only County properties. He said BOCC Senior Business Analyst Nanci Plouffe was helping to compile a list of the properties that needed attention.

Chairman Fillios declared a ten minute recess to the meeting at 3:20 p.m.

Chairman Fillios called the meeting back into session at 3:31 p.m.

### **Hayden Lake Regulatory Buoys**

Mr. Snyder reminded the Commissioners of the recent discussions regarding placement of official regulatory buoys. He stated that KCSO Sergeant William Klinkefus had surveyed the lake with members of the Hayden Lake Watershed Association and the Hayden Lake Watershed Improvement District to determine where to place new buoys. He added that, during the survey, Sergeant Klinkefus had noted a number of illegal buoys. Mr. Snyder said that KCSO and P&W were in agreement that the illegal buoys should be removed before the official ones were placed, to eliminate confusion for boaters. He suggested that IDL (Idaho Department of Lands) be asked to notify the property owners to remove these buoys.

Sergeant Klinkefus reported that he had only included "Coastguard Approved" buoys, or those that resemble them, in his count, not floating milk jugs or other objects, although those were also illegal. He pointed out that the privately owned buoys were often not placed at the correct 200 hundred foot distance from shore and could constitute a navigational hazard. He estimated that there were at least fifteen to twenty of them.

Hayden Lake Watershed Improvement District Representative Steve Meyer remarked that the illegal buoys were a sign of the concern and frustration of the property owners. He suggested that if people were told that legal ones were going to be installed, they would be willing to cooperate by removing their own.

Idaho Department of Lands Representative Mike Ahmer entered the meeting at 3:36 p.m.

Mr. Ahmer informed those assembled that the efforts to have illegal buoys removed from the Spokane River last year had been very successful: the Department of Lands had sent postcards to every resident on the Spokane River and by the end of the summer only that one had remained out of the original count of seventy-five.

Mr. Ahmer said IDL was going to repeat their mailing to the Spokane River residents this year so he was not sure their budget would allow them to do Hayden Lake as well. He asked if the County or one of the private groups involved could cover the expense. He also asked if the County and the Sheriff's Office wanted to work with IDL on another press release about the project. Chairman Fillios and Commissioner Duncan agreed that was a good idea.

Jan Wilkins, from the Hayden Lake Watershed Association, asked how the mailing should be timed in relation to when the new buoys would be installed. A spirited discussion

followed. Mr. Ahmer estimated that they would not be able to place the buoys until about August 15, 2019. Mr. Snyder reminded those assembled that a thirty-day notice needed to be given to the people with illegal buoys telling them to to remove them and suggested that the mailing should go out about July 1, 2019. He said that would give them two weeks to complete all the preparatory work needed. There was general agreement regarding the timetable.

**E. Public Comment (Discussion):** This section is reserved for citizens wishing to address the Board regarding a County-related issue. Idaho Law prohibits Board action on items brought under this section except in an emergency circumstance. Comments related to future public hearings should be held for that public hearing. There was no additional public comment.

**F. Adjournment (Action):** Chairman Fillios adjourned the meeting at 4:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JIM BRANNON, CLERK

CHRIS FILLIOS, CHAIRMAN

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tina Ginorio, Deputy Clerk

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