

MINUTES OF MEETING
Kootenai County Waterways Advisory Board
October 8, 2020
Kootenai County Search & Rescue Building
10865 N Ramsey Rd
Hayden, Idaho 83835

MEMBERS PRESENT: Doug Harris, Mike Pelissero, Gary Schmidt, Terry Werner

STAFF PRESENT: Nick Snyder, Director, Parks & Waterways; Jake Strange, Operations Manager, Parks & Waterways; Deputy Justin Arts and Deputy Gerald Wallace, Sheriff Recreation Division; Ranell Schwartz, Recording Secretary

OTHERS PRESENT: Will Neal, Hayden Lake Watershed Association

Chairman Werner called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Advisory Board members declared no conflicts of interest.

MOTION: Terry Werner moved to approve the minutes of the previous meetings. The motion was seconded; all were in favor; the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

PROPOSED FEE CHANGES:

Nick Snyder presented a PowerPoint of the fee changes proposed by the Parks and Waterways department. The last increase was in 2015.

	Current fee	Increase	Recommendation	Percent increase
Idaho Annual Pass	\$25	\$5	\$30	20%
Out of State Annual Pass	\$50	\$10	\$60	20%
Additional Pass	\$10	\$0	\$10	
Idaho Day Use Fee	\$5 per day	\$5	\$10 per day	100%
Out of State Day Use Fee	\$10 per day	\$10	\$20 per day	100%
Citations -Failure to pay launch fee	\$15	\$15	\$30	100%
Citations-Parking	\$25	\$25	\$50	100%

There was lengthy discussion about the proposed fee increase.

MOTION: Doug Harris moved to recommend a 50% increase for the top two and review bi-annually, not every five years.

A new motion was proposed.

Mike Pelissero moved to start a new motion for line-by-line discussion. Doug Harris changed his motion to a line-by-line discussion. The motion was seconded; all were in favor; the motion carried.

There was discussion about each fee:

	Current fee	Recommendation by the board
Idaho Registered Boat- Annual Pass	\$25	\$40
Out of State Registered Boat- Annual Pass	\$50	\$100
Additional Pass	\$10	\$10
Idaho Registered Boat- Day Use Fee	\$5 per day	\$10 per day
Out of State Registered Boat- Day Use Fee	\$10 per day	\$20 per day
Citations -Failure to pay launch fee	\$15	\$50
Citations-Parking	\$25	\$50

CONTINUED MOTION BY DOUG HARRIS: to recommend to the Board of County Commissioner the fees as discussed. The motion was seconded; all were in favor; the motion carried.

- Mr. Snyder also proposed implementing parking fees at the Kootenai County managed boat launches and parks.
- It may be the appropriate time to consider the implementation of parking fees to help offset the sharp increases in maintenance costs due to growth and increased use of County recreational facilities from out-of-state visitors. Increased costs include personnel hours, servicing vault and floating restrooms, toilet paper, cleaning supplies and other consumables.
 - Currently, there is no cost to use a County facility for picnicking, swimming, or other non-boat launch activities. Boat launch, commercial use and shelter reservation fees are the only fees currently used to help offset costs.
 - A parking fee will provide unilateral equality amongst park users, regardless of residency or activity. Similar to existing boat launch fees, a different fee structure for out of state visitors vs. Idaho residents is recommended.
 - Similar to annual boat launch passes, the County could offer an annual parking pass for convenience.

There was lengthy discussion about parking fees.

	Recommendation by the board
Idaho Resident- Annual Parking Pass	\$20
Out of State Resident- Annual Parking Pass	\$40
Idaho Resident- Day Use Parking Fee	\$5 per day
Out of State Resident- Day Use Parking Fee	\$10 per day
Citations -Failure to pay parking fee-Idaho Resident	\$30
Citations-Failure to pay parking fee-Out of State Resident	\$50

MOTION: Doug Harris moved to recommend to the Board of County Commissioner the Parking Fees as discussed. The motion was seconded; all were in favor; the motion carried.

- Mr. Snyder presented proposed ordinance changes:
- HAUSER PARK CLOSED - 10:00 pm to 4:00 am
 - CARLIN BAY - NO PETS IN SWIM AREA
 - GREENSFERRY AND MCGUIRE PARKS CLOSED - 10:00 pm to 5:00 am
 - SINGLE VEHICLES CANNOT PARK IN SPACES MARKED "VEHICLES WITH BOAT TRAILERS ONLY"

There was some discussion.

MOTION: Mike Pelissero moved to recommend to the Board of County Commissioner the proposed ordinance changes as presented. The motion was seconded; all were in favor; the motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS

PUBLIC COMMENT

Will Neal from Hayden Lake Watershed Association talked about the buoys that were placed on Hayden Lake recently. He said the most common comment from the Lakeshore property owners is "That's 200 feet?" The buoys are effective. The association also placed educational cards of the rules on vehicles at Hayden boat launches on busy weekends.

STAFF REPORTS

Nick Snyder showed pictures of one of sections of the Harrison Breakwater. They now are being shipped and will be installed by November 20. Each section weighs 45,000 lbs. The Snowgroomer program was turned over to the Parks and Waterways department in March. The Parks and Snowgroomer departments have two heavy equipment mechanics to maintain the complex grooming machines. Parks workers will operate the groomers in the winter months.

Jake Strange showed pictures of the large round buoys that were installed on the Spokane River. They will be wrapped with large stickers with big, highly reflective lettering and lights will also be installed. There are 19 buoys on the river now. He may add more and will mark hazards as well. Mr. Strange also showed a picture of the new round mooring buoys. They have been installed with new, better, larger chains and anchors. The department will be submitting a Waterways Improvement Fund Grant for a new workboat to replace the 1997 workboat they currently use. He also recognized Parks and Waterways employee, John Corbett. He just celebrated his 20-year anniversary with the county. Mr. Strange and Mr. Snyder have spent time in the field doing maintenance at the Parks and Waterways facilities this season. They were needed to fill in due to COVID and staff shortage. The Pine View Cemetery on Seltice has seven dead trees from beetle kill. The bid to remove those trees is \$12,000. Access to the trees is difficult.

Deputy Justin Arts stated that the waterways were busy this year from out of state visitors and growth in the area. Many of the boaters knew about the new ordinance changes. Much of the wake surf activity was in the middle of the river. The new problem is that other boats are now hugging the shore and creating a wake. They had excellent teams out on the water. The major events of the season were the plane crash and two drownings while kayaking at Corbin Parks. None of the fatalities were boat crashes. The teams wrote many OUI citations.

The meeting adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ranell Schwartz

Recording Secretary