

Waterways Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
Thursday, May 17, 2018 at 9:00 am
Commissioners Conference Room – 3rd Floor
1500 Hwy 2, First Floor
Sandpoint, ID 83864

Members Present: Ed Jochum, Ray Pipella, Keith Sheckler, Jim Thorpe, Doug Cossette & Forrest Schuck

Absent: Molly McCahon

Commissioners: Commissioner Dan McDonald

Staff: James Shannon, Betsy Hull

Others:

At 9:00 a.m. Doug Cosette opened the meeting and asked if anyone present need assistance to hear, see or participate in these proceedings

- I. Public Comment – Carolyn Deshler spoke regarding Priest Lake water levels and no wake zones during periods of high water, she also presented a letter to the board (see attached).
Burt Dinette – Discussed the boat launch at Hope (see attached).
No wake zones extended to 500 feet via Resolution by the BOCC on 5/15/18
There was a substantial discussion surrounding no wake zones
Rick Peterson commented on the need to educate homeowners as well as boat owners
Richard Cramer noted that there was no effort to reach out to property owners
- II. Adoption of Meeting Minutes
Ed Jochum made a motion to approve the minutes from April 19, 2018. Ray Pipella seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion passed.
- III. Old Business
 - A. Maintenance Report – James Shannon gave the maintenance report – half-staff right now, been putting out buoys on priest Lake, clearing camp ground at Garfield Bay and mowing lawns, etc...port a pottys and dumpsters ordered for memorial day weekend, Slee Street dock ready to be moved.
 - B. Priest Lake Navigational Aid Project Update – Will be checking and documenting this next week
 - C. Sub-Committee Update
 1. Present findings from the Wake Workshop and discuss subcommittee vote results on specific policy recommendations.
- IV. New Business
 - A. Discussion and decision on making the following recommendations to the BOCC:
 1. Marine Deputies should perform "Emphasis Patrols," periodically providing a concentration of officers in problem areas.
Ray Pipella made a motion to recommend to the BOCC Marine Deputies should perform "Emphasis Patrols," periodically providing a concentration of officers in problem areas. Forrest Schuck seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion passed.

2. The county should add two additional deputies to the Sheriff's Marine Division.
Ed Jochum made a motion to strike recommendation number two. Jim Thorpe seconded the motion (Ed Jochum – aye, Forrest Schuck –aye, Jim Thorpe, aye, Keith Sheckler – aye) (Doug Cossette – nay, Ray Pipella – nay) There was a brief discussion regarding this, there is currently 20 positions that Ed can't even fill currently. Marine averages 16-17 staff at a time. James Shannon mentioned the possibility of pairing cadets with more experienced officers. 4 for 3 against, motion passed.
3. A "Fix-It" ticket option, where boaters can avoid moving violation fines by completing a boater education course which includes a wake education component.
Ed Jochum made a motion to strike number recommendation #3. Forrest Schuck seconded the motion. Ray Pipella was opposed. The motion passed.
4. Implementation of higher fines for no-wake-zone and/or change in penalty structure.
Ray Pipella Made a motion to recommend to the BOCC to implement higher fines for no-wake zones and/or change in penalty structure. Forrest Schuck seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion passed.
5. The county should continue to educate boaters by funding the "Ride the Core" campaign.
Ray Pipella made a motion to recommend to the BOCC that county should continue to educate boaters by funding the "Ride the Core" campaign. Ed Jochum seconded the motion. Jim Thorpe opposed. The motion passed.
6. The Pend Oreille River should have at least 10 "Roving" No-Wake-Zone buoys.
Ed Jochum made a motion to recommend to the BOCC that the Pend Oreille River should have at least 10 "Roving" No-Wake-Zone buoys. Ray Pipella seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion passed.
7. Increasing the no-wake-zone to 300' county-wide.
Ray Pipella made a motion to recommend to the BOCC to increase the no-wake-zone to 300' county-wide. Forrest Schuck seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion passed.
8. The development of an organized protocol for reporting moving violations on the water, for civil complaints related to waterways users, and for waterways infrastructure complaints.
Ray Pipella made a motion to recommend that James Shannon provide for the development of an organized protocol for reporting moving violations on the water, for civil complaints related to waterways users, and for waterways infrastructure complaints. Forrest Schuck seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion passed.
9. Recommending that Bonner County issue a statement of support for statewide mandatory boater education.

Forrest Schuck made a motion to recommend to the BOCC that the BOCC issue a statement of support for statewide mandatory boater education. Ed Jochum seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion passed.

- B. Construction priorities discussion – Ed Jochum made a motion to table this item until the next meeting. Forrest Schuck seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion passed.
- V. Miscellaneous Business – Ray Pipella brought up the wake surf competition at Willow Bay, and the permitting process. Ray Pipella wanted to make a motion regarding this issue, but it was not agendized. Ray requested that this issue be placed on the agenda for June. Ed Jochum made a motion to amend the agenda to include a discussion/decision regarding schedule A infraction penalty's on the water. Forrest Schuck seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion passed. There was a discussion regarding the fee schedule and potential changes before submission to the BOCC. Forest Schuck made a motion to raise the fees to \$150 for the first infraction and \$300 for the subsequent infraction on the following sections: 3-105A, 3-105B, 3-107A, 3-201A & 3-701A. Ray Pipella seconded. Ed Jochum abstained. The motion passed.
- Betsy Hull gave an update on lake levels to the committee. This weekend water is expected to rise, more water than 2011, but less than 1997. Recreation areas are open, boat ramps are closed due to emergency conditions. Wide open, not more water can be let out, going to get worse before it gets better. Hoping for peak this next week, worst case scenario is 4-6 weeks out. Lots of debris on the lake, be aware and be careful.
- VI. Adjournment

At 11:30 a.m. Forrest Schuck moved to adjourn the meeting. Keith Sheckler seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion passed.

Chairman

Date Approved