

Waterways Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
Thursday, March 17, 2016 at 9:00 am
1500 Hwy 2, Suite 338
Sandpoint, ID 83864

Members: Erin Mader, Ed Jochum, Jim Kelly, Terry Jensen, Keith Sheckler, Jim Thorpe
Staff: Steve Klatt & Rob Stepp
Others: Mike Brown, Betsy Hull

1. Public Comment – There was no public comment.

2. Adopt Minutes from February Meeting

Ed Jochum made a motion to approve the February 18, 2016 WWAB meeting minutes, Jim Kelly seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion passed.

3. Budget Re-Caps-Year to Date Review – Steve Klatt

Steve provided a re-cap/update on the budget where he advised other than the normal expenses there was an expenditure just under \$9,000 for the grant match for the engineering assistance for the Priest Lake Thoroughfare.

4. Old Business

A. Maintenance Report – Rob Stepp

- Completed cleanup at campgrounds
- Ron Raiha is teaching the waterways staff to braid rope lines, install drop down bumpers, etc.
- New boater information boxes are being installed
- New buoys to be installed in Priest Lake – making labels and anchors
- Working on extending dock system at Garfield – to extend an additional 40 feet.
- Ramp extension in Laclede

B. Projects to Follow Up & Follow Through – Steve Klatt

Steve commented on the following:

- Motor safety laws
- No wake sign - proof. There was a brief discussion regarding the sign colors, size and wording for the signs.
- Working on the permits for the Pend Oreille Bay Trail mooring buoys installation; anticipate installing before Memorial Day – dependent on lake levels.
- Hope boat ramp: 1st of April low water we plant to bore holes and push concrete to fill the void
- Navigation light repair
- No wake buoys at 8 Mile Island, Steve will pull permits for

C. Garfield Rule Recommendations – Steve Klatt

Steve would like feedback and approval from the WWAB to raise the camping rates at Garfield Bay and recommend to the BOCC:

\$15 for RV sites (w/a 10 day max stay)

\$12 car accessible tent sites

\$10 park and walk into tent sites

Jim Kelly made a motion to increase the fee schedule that Steve Klatt provided. Erin Mader seconded the motion. There was a brief discussion amongst the WWAB members. All in favor. The motion passed.

D. Public Waters – 1st Draft – Ed Jochum

Ed spoke regarding the final edits to the Ordinance Draft. He advised that the WWAB will need to discuss how this reaches the public for review. This will be added to the Waterways & Parks & Waterways website.

Jim Kelly made a motion to authorize Steve Klatt to do the research for noise mitigation. Keith Sheckler seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion passed.

Keith Sheckler made a motion to post this on the County website as soon as possible; with the emphasis that this is a re-write of an existing ordinance, not a new ordinance. Ed Jochum seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion passed.

Mike Brown – Blue Sky Radio News – there are no changes to the regulations or penalties?

Ed Jochum confirmed that there were no enhancements of penalties, there were deductions from misdemeanors to infractions, updating of penalties section. Ed explained the changes.

Ed Jochum commented that Schedule A was suggested by the County Commissioners to outline the exact infractions and penalties for each infraction. Ed will provide a digital copy to Darcey to place on the website.

E. Possible Springtime Projects

1. Garfield Bay Dock & Ramp Extension

Steve corrected a previous statement regarding the length of this project; it will only be extended (technically) 10 feet longer than it is now. Twenty feet will be replaced and then the additional ten feet will be installed. Steve expressed his concern that by the time the dock is manufactured, that the water will be too high, so these will be on hand for next fall with the draw down.

We will be adding 40 feet of dock to Garfield Bay, we plan to do this spring before boating and fishing season.

Steve also discussed a potential location of a marine pump out. He will keep the WWAB up to date on this potential project.

2. Laclede Ramp Extension

Steve advised that the concrete planks have been ordered, and that the new ramp will be extended an additional 30 feet.

5. New Business

A. Overnight Parking for Boat Campers?

Steve commented about a problem with overnight parking for those who use the mooring buoys. We allow overnight camping, but aren't currently allowing overnight parking. He suggested that we take this under advisement to figure out a solution.

There was a brief discussion regarding ownership of neighboring property, extending the road/access, overnight parking, and enforcement.

B. Noise Ordinance – How & what can be enforced?

Steve asked if Jim Kelly would you have time to work with this, research online?

Jim – I will get a copy of the ordinance that I worked on previously, it gets complicated due to the time of day, ambient noise, location, etc.

There was a brief discussion amongst Betsy Hull and the WWAB regarding Federal rules & regulations.

C. Sign Boards at the Boat Launches - visual clutter

Steve commented that he would really like to start over with our sign boards. In various parts of my career, I have spent a long time developing signs. The average person's attention span is three seconds. After 3 seconds people quit looking at what is there. Erin Mader agreed to work on this project with Steve.

D. Season pass/punch card – campground?

Steve asked the WWAB to consider a season pass or discounts. Terry suggested that we should gather feedback from camp hosts to confirm their attendance/usage. There was a brief discussion regarding a reservation system. Payment by credit card will now be available.

E. Policy for Commercial Users of Launch Facilities

Steve asked the WWAB if this is something we want to allow, since there is no overnight parking. There was a brief discussion amongst the WWAB regarding the commercial users of the Bonner County launch facilities and the fee use schedule.

6. Miscellaneous Business

A. Albeni Falls Dam Update – Betsy Hull

- 2054.7 Lake water level

As soon as unit 1 is back online, we will start drafting (hopefully today) We hope to be 2051.5 – 2052 by the end of the month (that's the lowest the water will get). Then we plan on bringing the water level up and 1 ½" per day through the end of April reaching 2055.

- I looked at snow levels this morning, right about 100%
- Fish trap being installed this week at the dam
- Rock job at Priest River is complete, hydro seeding at the highway
- Spring public meeting – April 21st at 6 p.m.

B. Future Meeting Notice – Garfield Bay Breakwater – May?

Steve advised the WWAB that he has not heard anything further; it is still snowbird off season. If I don't hear anything by our next meeting I will let that go. They have rebuilt moorage, and existing breakwater.

Steve would like the WWAB to start looking at funding, public involvement for several issues at Priest Lake: Rebuild the thoroughfare channel and breakwater, and the use of thoroughfare. It may be appropriate to have a meeting up there, to get public testimony; most likely in August.

7. Featured Facility Review – new regular discussion idea

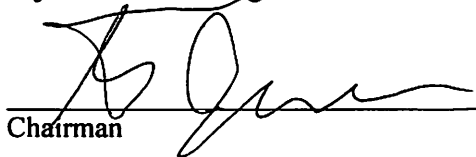
A. Hope Boat Basin – Should we broaden our perspective for uses?

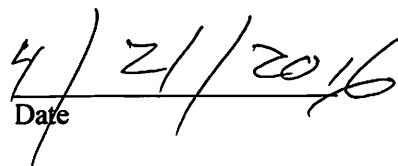
Steve commented/questioned if we should we try to create a more community water park atmosphere?

There was a brief discussion amongst the WWAB regarding parking, management plans, goals and objectives, picnic area and docks.

8. Adjournment

10:19 am with no further business to come before the WWAB, Jim Kelly made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Erin Mader seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion passed.


Chairman


Date