

DRAFT Hayden Lake Watershed Association, Inc. Annual Meeting Minutes for 8.16.12
Hayden Lake Country Club, Hayden Lake, Idaho.

- I. Meeting was called to Order at 6:31pm. Board members in attendance are Geoff Harvey, Gloria Lund, Todd Walker, Bob West, Joe Threadgill, Barb Neal, and Chris Meyer.
- II. Introductions
- III. Officer reports:
 - a. President's Report – Geoff Harvey
 - i. Lake levels have varied dramatically this year with unseasonably high levels lasting through the summer. Boat wakes at high water have been problematic as a consequence. Lake nutrient input went up this year which may be contributing to the recent algae bloom. Weed control has been transferred from the County to the State this year and efforts to control noxious weeds have continued. Development around the lake is at the lowest levels seen in many years but it will inevitably return. The new County comprehensive land use plan ordinance will have a large impact on lakefront property owners and we're tracking it closely. It is a complex issue and takes a great deal of effort to understand the balance between lake preservation without posing undue restrictions or burdens on property owners. A final appeal to please pay your dues as the organization is solely dependent on dues and donations for our support. Projects that the Association is involved with include the efforts to clean up the shooting range at the back of the lake and support the Lake Manager position that helps monitor projects and support weed control efforts.
- IV. Informational presentations
 - a. Blue Green algae update – Bob Stead, Senior Water Quality Biologist for the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
 - i. Monday brought a complaint of a floating scum near Sportsman's Access and a DEQ staffer was sent out to get a sample. It tested as blue-green algae "*Anabaena circinaliscan*" which can sometimes create Anatoxin "A" which can be a neurodisruptor for humans and animals. Additional samples were taken the next day to confirm and two additional samples validated these conditions.
 - ii. The similar bloom on Fernan Lake earlier this summer lasted about 6 days and served to clear up the water by consuming the phosphorous present in the surface.
 - iii. Questions
 1. Can this be carried to other parts of the lake?
 - a. This is a ubiquitous microorganism and could bloom in other areas too if the right conditions exist.
 2. Is this new to Hayden Lake?
 - a. Yes, this is the first time this type of issue has arisen in this concentration in the lake. Consistent high temperatures have increased the likelihood of this event.
 3. Should we call DEQ if we see a floating mat on the surface near the shoreline?
 - a. Yes, please do. DEQ does want to track locations and frequency of blooms like this one.
 4. Is there a treatment for this?
 - a. No, typically these will bloom and die off within 7-10 days.

5. What's the brown stuff that floats on the top?
 - a. A natural and ubiquitous zooplankton that creates a little shell for its offspring when stressed to help facilitate reproduction.
- b. Milfoil Suppression and Invasive Species Exclusion – Tom Woolf, Idaho Dept. of Agriculture
 - i. The State Department of Agriculture took over the noxious weed control accountability from Kootenai County this year.
 - ii. Treated 72 acres this year on July 17th in 8 areas of the lake.
 - iii. Milfoil is still visible on the bottom of the lake but it is dead and ready for decomposition.
 - iv. A new herbicide (Triclopyr) was used because it is designed to break down faster than the typical use of 2-4-D.
 - v. The State does not deal with native plants under their noxious weed program but recommends that groups in shallow bays that are overrun with native species get together to explore mechanically harvesting these native weeds.
 - vi. New species of invasive called Curlyleaf Pondweed which is making inroads into Hayden Lake
 - vii. Zebra and Quagga mussels continue to be a threat but have not been found in Hayden Lake. Inspections stations around the state have helped to filter out any potential invaders.
 - viii. 55 vessels contaminated with mussels have been intercepted so far this year. Over 50 vessels carrying milfoil were also stopped. A reminder to clean your boats!
 - ix. Next steps are to re-survey for milfoil status this fall and then work with the Association to put together a treatment plan for 2013.
 - x. Please see the [HLWA website](#) for the [full version](#) of Tom's presentation
- c. Milfoil and Aquatic Vegetation Suppression Mats – Todd Walker, Lake Manager
 - i. Todd has been the lake manager for over 7 years now, starting with the recreational water and sewer board.
 - ii. Mats are now available for use in Hayden Lake after years of successful use in Pend O'reille
 - iii. Mats are made of 10'x10' frames of 1" PVC pipe with a mesh mat stretched across the frame to block light from getting to the weeds.
 - iv. Todd has applications and can help property owners complete them.
 - v. Up to 5 mats per property owner are permitted
 - vi. One free mat is available from Kootenai County Noxious weeds and the other 4 must be made by the property owner.
- d. High Water Wake Rules for Hayden Lake
 - i. CDA Lake and Spokane River have automatic no-wake regulations during periods of high water. Rules would restrict boats to 5 mph or a 3" wake.
 - ii. Straw poll taken of membership interest in advocating for a similar regulation for Hayden Lake.
 1. Members voiced concerns over wakeboarding boats carrying ballast, lack of enforcement on the 200' distance from docks, and some concerns over undue restrictions on boat traffic.

2. 28 members of ~40 in attendance expressed their support for a preliminary investigation of a high water no-wake ordinance.
- e. Hayden Lake Watershed Improvement District – Board Introduction
 - i. The Hayden Lake Watershed District was originally formed in the 1960's but soon became inactive and was dormant until recently. The association asked the Governor to reinstate the District and in 2011 a new board was appointed.
 - ii. Mel Schmidt, Cecil Hathaway, and Steve Meyer are the appointed board members.
 - iii. The District has some limited taxing authority which can be used for various projects to help preserve and improve lake water quality. Examples of possible projects include:
 1. Provide a permanent and reliable source of funding for a lake manager
 2. Undertake a continuing education program about Phosphorous.
 - a. The biggest threat to lake water quality is the rise in nutrients in the water – primarily phosphates and nitrates – which come from runoff water into the lake. You see this in the form of green growth on the rocks and on the bottom of your boat. Human activity like roads, houses, and fertilizers are the culprits.
 3. Explore and implement remediation practices for high nutrient content
 4. Highlight and educate about the relationship between water quality and fish
 5. Explore weed management in shallow areas of the lake
 6. Work with small neighborhoods (like a bay) on weed removal projects
 7. Explore establishing a boat channel in the center of the north end of the lake by mechanical removal of weeds in the channel.
 8. Integrate the existing resources available to Hayden Lake like the State Dept of Ag on noxious weed management, the Highway District on runoff control projects, the Panhandle Health District and the Hayden Lake Recreational Water and Sewer District on runoff water management, and the County on appropriate land use regulations.
 - iv. Next steps include outreach to the property owners in the district to educate them of the value of this District and propose a ballot measure for May 2013 to elect board members to replace the appointed board members.
 - v. Clarification from Cecil Hathaway that in order to vote on this district you must be a property owner AND an Idaho resident to vote.
 - f. Marine Sheriff's Patrol Activity - Sergeant Ryan Higgins
 - i. Marine patrols are funded with user fees and state grants, not by general fund taxpayer dollars.
 - ii. Sgt Higgins has been a part of the marine program for 8 years
 - iii. Boating program is responsible for 18 lakes and 56 miles of river and must be covered by 5 marine teams. One team is now responsible for Hayden and spends 95% of their time here.
 - iv. Plans are to put a boathouse and a permanent boat on the lake.
 - v. Marine Division does not receive any taxpayer dollars, it is 100% paid for by user dollars through licenses, registrations and fees.
 - vi. Kathy Goodwin is responsible for safety inspections at Honeysuckle Beach and has written over 2000 inspections this year.

- vii. Activity on Hayden Lake this year:
 - 1. High water wake complaints – Sgt Higgins recommends making the whole lake a no-wake zone rather than a select buffer from the shore (eg 500’).
 - 2. Officers are now on PWC’s (personal watercraft, like a Jet-Ski) instead of a single patrol boat in an effort to be less detectable.
 - 3. Exploration underway to try to earmark property tax revenues from waterfront owners to help support additional marine patrol crews on the lake.
 - 4. No wake buoys are permitted through the waterway advisory board of the Idaho Department of Lands commissioners. They can only be issued to county or governmental agencies. So far the enforcement of illegally placed buoys is not a high priority for the County. Some are farther than 200’ from shore which are then addressed by the Marine Patrol but others are generally not enforced.
 - 5. Boating Safety Classes are offered the 3rd Saturday of the Month. More information can be found here:
<https://idpr.idaho.gov/forms/recreation/boating/education-form.aspx>
More information on boating safety rules and regulations can be found on the state website here:
<http://parksandrecreation.idaho.gov/activities/boating>

V. Final Comments

- a. **Please pay your dues and any additional contributions are greatly appreciated! We can’t do what we do without your support!**

VI. Motion to adjourn by Neal, second by Meyer. Meeting adjourned at 8:28pm.