

BOARD OF MASON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS

FEBRUARY 15, 2001

Commissioner Mary Jo Cady called the special meeting to order at 6:07 p.m. at the YMCA Camp Bishop, W 1476 Lost Lake Road. Commissioners Herb Baze and Wes Johnson were in attendance.

BUSINESS

HEARING – SPECIAL REGULATIONS – LOST LAKE

Chairperson Cady explained the reason for the hearing is to consider the petition, which was signed by 38 property owners, asking the County to establish a speed limit of not more than six miles per hour for all motor vessels before the hours of 10:00 a.m. and the hours after 7:00 p.m. on Lost Lake.

Brian Major, Petitioner, stated the petition to establish a speed limit was an attempt to accommodate all the water activities and reduce the risk of injury.

Gary Sandgren, Lost Lake Country Club, voiced his opposition to the proposal. He suggested an alternate proposal for establishing a speed limit on certain days (odd or even days) and on off days there would be no speed limit.

Phil Burbidge explained he has been raised on the lake and has respected those that use Lost Lake. He voiced his opposition to the proposal.

Paul Koski also noted his family has lived on Lost Lake for 35 years. He has two lots and has owned a ski boat. He felt that the biggest problem is the large number of loud, high-speed watercraft from dawn to dusk. He supported the proposal which gives everyone some chance of quiet time and all the boaters to do what they want the majority of the time. He also suggested every other day. He believed the rules need to be as simple as possible to enforce.

Bill Aho also voiced support for the proposal to regulate the high speed, noisy power craft. He offered that there could be a compromise by restricting the use of motor vessels before 10 a.m. and after 8 p.m.

Greg Smith explained he is an owner of a jet ski and canoe and also had a ski boat. He noted that his main concern is to protect his jet ski. He supported the alternate suggestion of regulating on every other day. He also likes the quietness in the morning and is sympathetic to the water-skiers in the evening. He asked that the time be extended past 7:00 p.m.

Mark Fenske stated that he is a property owner on the lake and will be building and eventually living as a permanent resident on Lost Lake. He stated he is not for government intervention on this type of level. He stated he has seen lakes go this way where they are totally shut down to the public. He stated people are taking away thinking it will stop; however, it will not stop. He questioned if this is a problem within the community or a problem from the public. He referred to Lake Wilderness and Lake Tapps. There is a lot of congestion between the time frames of regulations.

Robert Snow is an owner of a ski boat and personal watercraft, floaters and paddleboats and noted his opposition to the regulations. By the time he gets off work and comes home it will be close to 7:00 p.m. He would suggest the time frame be made later in the evening.

Clark Barney believed that evening and early morning is the best times to ski on the lake and he is opposed to the proposed regulations.

Donald Barton asked how the rules would be enforced on the lake if imposed. He also did not want government on the lake if possible. He suggested that the four main factors on the lake: YMCA Camp Bishop, Lost Lake Community Club, Elma Community Club, and the private sector get together to resolve the issues.

Richard Barney also supported no regulations on the lake. There seems to be no consensus among the group and he urged the community groups to get together with common courtesy and thoughtfulness.

Matt Riffe voiced his opposition to the proposal. He felt that enforcement of rules is an issue as well as the public

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of the meeting.

The Board responded that notices were sent to 174 parcel owners in the plat of Lost Lake as shown on the records in the Assessor's office. If an individual pays their property taxes to a mortgage company the notice would have been sent to the mortgage company.

Bud Nauman spoke in opposition to the proposal.

Kathy Benedict, attorney, explained she has been using the lake since the 1950's. She was in opposition to the petition because she likes to ski before 10 am and after 7 pm. She looked up the law and a new Supreme Court case on this particular issue banning watercraft. The level of noise that irritates the neighbors may not rise to the standard for regulation and asked the Commissioners to take a serious look at it. There is a two-part test. Whether the regulation will promote health, safety, peace, education or welfare of the people and whether it will serve a legitimate purpose and examine whether the means are reasonably necessary to achieve that.

Tim Nauman stated he lives two miles off the lake and is opposed to the proposed regulations.

Linda Charlton expressed that many of the points she was going to address have been stated. She is an early riser and likes using the lake early or late in the day. Since they are working people they only get to go to the lake 25 days a year.

Lawrence Weaver noted he has owned property on the lake for 35 years and is strongly opposed to the proposed regulations.

Greg Maneman has been a property owner for 16 years and his children grew up on the lake. He felt that the best way to serve the community would be to enforce the motorboat ordinance. He asked that the County prioritize money for the Sheriff to patrol the lake. He was in opposition to the proposed regulations.

Carl Lovgren stated his father, Richard Lovgren, owns property in the Lost Lake Country Club and could not be present because he is out of town. His family is against the proposed ordinance.

Mickey Newman commented she represents her four children and in-laws and nine grandchildren. She has enjoyed the lake since 1968 and she is now a full-time resident. They believe the proposed regulation is too much limitation. They said 7 a.m. in the summer is the like the middle of the afternoon.

Don Hilleary owns property at the Lost Lake Country Club and went on record opposing the regulations suggested.

Ritva Kivinen has been on the lake since 1968 and is trying to sell their home. They are opposed to the regulations.

Kim Nauman lives at Lost Lake as full-time residents. She too spoke against the petition. Her two sons also spoke and asked that the lake could be kept open so they could ski with their father when he gets off work.

Bill Morris property owner at Lost Lake questioned how the proposed ordinance would be enforced and strongly opposed the proposal.

The Board responded the Sheriff would be the enforcing department.

Lois Keller voiced opposition to the petition being considered.

Tom Harrington was against the suggested hours being proposed.

Don McDonald spoke up against the restricted hours. He noted that he is someone that goes on the lake early in the morning when the water is smooth. He has told his children to park their boat when there is a lot of activity on the lake. It appears there will be more people on the lake by limiting the hours and it could make it worse.

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In response to the issue of Milfoil, it was noted they have ribbon leaf pondweed in the lake at this time.

The Board noted they would invite someone from the Sheriff's office Washington State Department of Fish & Wildlife to address the other issues.

Cmmr. Johnson/Baze moved and seconded to continue the hearing for further input to Sunday, April 1, 2001; 3:00 p.m. at the YMCA Camp Bishop (if available). Motion carried unanimously. B-aye; C-aye; J-aye.

ADJOURNED

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:20 p.m.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MASON COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Mary Jo Cady, Chairperson

Herb Baze, Commissioner

Wesley E. Johnson, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Rebecca S. Rogers
Clerk of the Board