

## **Regional Meetings**

Regional meetings were held from 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM

### **Federation Meeting: Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order at 12:05 PM. 33 clubs were in attendance.

### **Opening Remarks – Peter Perovich**

Welcome to the meeting and thanks for the support for the office of President.

We have a new club in the West Region, Renegade Bassers.

UAC Bassmasters is looking for new members and is targeting 24 members this year. They are picking up previous federation members in the Duluth area.

### **President's Report – Peter Perovich**

Peter Perovich and Vern Wagner attended the annual DNR Round Table conference. The conference was a two day meeting that covered issues for hunting and fishing.

Vern Wagner gave a presentation on issues covered at the round table.

- Ron Payer has retired. There are four candidates for the position of Head Fisheries Manager.
- Walleye fishing research shows that walleye catch and release is difficult. Walleyes are sensitive to temperature, leading to increased mortality in the summer months.
- The DNR is starting to stock muskies in four lakes.
- Tournament best management practices, required by the recent tournament legislation, are being developed by the DNR with input from the Minnesota BASS Federation and other fishing organizations. The target for completion of the management practices is by the 2011 season. The goal is to have some standardized guidelines that are used by tournament directors to decrease fish mortality in catch and release tournaments. An on-line course with a workshop is being looked at as part of the management practices. The program will be voluntary to begin.
- Guide fees, administrated by the Coast Guard, are being looked at in Minnesota.
- The DNR is looking at increasing the fishing license fee. There has not been a license fee in the past 10 years. The number of licenses is not decreasing, but the average age of anglers is increasing. Younger people are not purchasing fishing licenses.
- Lake Superior salmon stocking. The DNR has stopped stocking salmon and anglers believe the fishing quality has dropped.
- Other issues discussed are: shoreline rules, etc.

We have a number of special guests at the meeting; several JR members are present.

Two of our members are out sick and in the hospital: Mark Gomez and Pat Hagen. Our best wishes go out to Mark and Pat and their families.

The board is looking at forming several committees to help with issues important to the Federation and fishing.

### **Vice-President – Mark Gomez (Steve Hurlburt)**

The Reserve Elite is available for new members or previous members that are looking for a club to join. You can be a member of Reserve Elite for one year. Contact Mark Gomez or Steve Hurlburt for details.

The Sports Show is coming up March 24-28. Signup sheets are at the front of the room. Please take a look and volunteer to help at the show.

### **Tournament Director – Peter Perovich**

Club tournament schedules are due. Two lakes are already full, Waconia and Clearwater.

The tournament committee for Lake Minnetonka is looking for help. Anyone interested in helping, please contact Steve Hurlburt.

There are two lake proposals. Clubs Ranger and Baxter have submitted the Whitefish Chain. The River Rats club has submitted the Mississippi River, Pools 5A, 6, 7. Voting will be at the next meeting in March.

At the DNR round table there was discussion about problems last fall on Pelican Lake. That lake is a big duck hunting lake and there was conflict between hunters and fishermen. Another issue is power loading at the access because there is no concrete ramp. There is a large prop wash hole that makes loading and unloading boats difficult.

### **Secretary – Jim Battin**

Club rosters are due. We have 22 clubs registered and 167 members.

### **Treasurer – Kent Mittelstaedt**

2010 budget

Federation cash:

Total cash:	\$56,307.33
Divisional fund:	\$3,200.00
Trailer fund:	\$4,722.00
Capital Equipment:	\$2,554.04
Conservation:	\$0.00
General:	\$45,831.85

## **Conservation Director – Mickey Goetting**

Asian carp problems are high profile and Minnesota and other states are looking at forcing the Illinois channel between the river and Lake Michigan be closed. If the carp get into the Great Lakes, they could seriously affect the ecology of the lakes.

There are meetings for water sustainability coming up. Look at the web site to see the dates and locations.

The DNR has reached agreement with US Steel to purchase 3000 acres on Lake Vermilion. The lake will be used as a park. The deal is not final at this time.

At the next meeting, a DNR fisheries biologist will give a presentation on how they are using our creel survey data.

## **Youth Director – Paul Perovich**

The JR Toc will be on upper/lower Mission lake in Brainerd. The TOC will be Sunday June 27<sup>th</sup>.

The youth program has kids that need tackle. Please have your club members look through their tackle boxes and rods for extra equipment the kids can use.

There will be Casting Kids coming up at Cabela's in Rogers, Saturday/Sunday March 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup>. There will be a morning and afternoon session both days. State Casting Kids will probably be in July. The Happy Hookers club is running a big competition the second Saturday in June as part of Buffalo Days.

Thanks to the JR members that attended the meeting today. Expect to see more kids at subsequent meetings.

## **Marketing report – Paul Perovich**

The Minnesota BASS Federation board voted to run the Camp Confidence tournament this year. 10 volunteers are needed to help run the tournament.

See Paul to order rod blanks.

Contact Paul for details on ordering oil from Bristow Marine.

If you work at Cabela's during the Casting Kids, you will get the employee discount on purchases.

Two new sponsors, Fish Electronics out of Anoka and George's Boat repair. Fish Electronics will have a representative at the March meeting to discuss electronics, trolling motors, and batteries. George's Boat repair, a Ranger warrantee repair dealer, is an excellent place for fiberglass repair.

## **Old Business**

Nominations for Officers are still open. Sports Smith was nominated for Second VP/Tournament Director. Doug Pirila was nominated for North Region Director. No additional nominations were made and nominations were closed.

## MNBFN Meeting Minutes 01/16/2010

Elected to office:

- Second Vice-President/Tournament Director – Tim Allen
- North Region – Doug Pirila

### **New Business**

Two 2011 TOC proposals were submitted, Mississippi River Pools 5A, 6, 7, and the Whitefish chain. Voting will be at the March meeting.

Next meeting is Saturday March 6<sup>th</sup>, at Medina Ballroom.

Meeting adjourned at 1:45 PM