

Regional Meetings

Regional meetings were held from 11:15 AM to 12:00 PM

Federation Meeting: Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 12:02 PM. 31 clubs were in attendance.

President's Report – Peter Perovich

Peter is looking for feedback from members of Cabela's as a meeting location.

Mike McInerney of the Minnesota DNR gave a brief presentation on how the DNR uses the Minnesota BASS Federation creel survey data www.mnbfm.org/creelsurvey.html. The DNR finds this data very valuable and appreciates the BASS Federation for collecting it. However, the number of people participating has been dropping in recent years.

Elections for Youth and South Region directors will be in old business today.

Please turn in correct and complete information on your club rosters. We are having problems contacting clubs because phone numbers and E-Mail addresses on the club rosters are incorrect.

Peter traveled to Orlando Florida to meet with the new B.A.S.S. owners and there will be a Q&A session during new business.

Vice-President – Mark Gomez

The board has reviewed a design for a new display for the Sports Show. The current plan is to have the new display at this year's show.

Mark gave a presentation on changes for the State Team. Feedback from previous year's teams show that team members are disappointed in the showing Minnesota has had at divisionals. Team members are looking for changes to improve performance at this event.

Tournament Director – Tim Allen

Club schedules for this year's tournaments are posted on the web. 22 clubs have turned in their tournament schedules.

For 2012 TOC, we have two proposals turned in. UAC proposes Island Lake Reservoir and Zumbro Valley proposes Mississippi River Pool 5A/6/7. Voting will be in old business.

Update on the 2011 TOC at White Fish. The alternate's tournament will be the Mississippi River in Brainerd, between the dam downstream and Highway 6 upstream. The local Lions Club will be performing our live fish release on Whitefish. Upper Hay is off-limits for the TOC. Al's Marine will give priority status for anyone needing repairs.

Secretary – Jim Battin

We have 278 members in 31 clubs. There are 3 clubs that have not turned in a roster for this year. State TOC percentage is based on club membership as of May 1st.

If you have club members that are not getting E-Mails from the Federation, have them go to the web (www.mnbfn.org) and register their e-mail address. If you have problems, please contact Mickey.

Membership requirements for state TOC:

- Membership in state Federation (\$50 dues)
- Membership in national Federation (\$30 dues on website)
- B.A.S.S. membership (individual magazine subscription)

The board voted on a data privacy policy. The policy is to treat registration data on the club membership form as private and that information will not be given out to other members or other organizations.

Conservation Director – Mickey Goetting

Club that has tournaments on waters invested with invasive species has a letter in their club folder. This letter contains information on the invasive species in your tournament waters and points you to information on how to handle cleaning boats after your tournament. It is important that tournament anglers deal with invasive species before the DNR and legislature passes regulations that will seriously impact tournaments.

The MOHA banquet had record attendance this year, including Gov Dayton and the new head of the DNR. The Minnesota BASS Federation had a table of 8 representatives.

Legislative update:

- There is a recommendation to repair the Coon Rapids dam. This dam has no lock and is a good physical barrier to the Asian Carp. There is \$16 million in the proposed state budget for this repair.
- License fee increases are being proposed by the DNR. The proposal calls for angling licenses to increase by \$7, from \$17 to \$24. There are several proposals for limited licenses at a reduced price. The purpose of the limited license is to capture additional Federal revenue. Each license the state sells gets approximately \$5 of Federal money.
- The two-line fishing regulation change is in the House but does not have a sponsor in the Senate at this time.
- Several groups, including the BASS Federation, sent a letter to the DNR to look at the shoreline development rules.
- There is a proposal to increase the surcharge on boat licenses to get money for AIS.

The Woodland Cove LLC development on Halstead Bay, Lake Minnetonka, calls for about 125 docks. The BASS Federation feels that fewer boat docks would be better. Halstead Bay is on the impaired waters list. The LMCD voted to allow 121 docks.

The LMCD voted to no longer require an LMCD permit for fishing tournaments. A Sheriff's permit is still required.

There is a bill in the Wisconsin legislature to remove the culling limitation for bass tournaments.

On the website, there is a new event calendar. Any club that wishes to post an event, use the link on the site to send the information to Mickey.

The Skeeter boat auction is underway. The boat is a ZX-200 with a 200 HP Yamaha. See the web page for details.

There is a new website called conservationsportsman.org designed to inform hunters and anglers about current issues.

Please see the product survey on the Minnesota website, www.mnbnf.org. This information is very important to the state organization for sponsorships.

Old Business – Peter Perovich

Thanks to Mark Gomez for his work this year on updating the display at the sports show.

See the web for the sports show schedule, March 30 – April 3. Contact Steve Hurlburt if you want to work the sports show. Steve's number is 651-231-9538.

Nominations are open for youth director. Jeff Gilmer was nominated.

Nominations are open for south region director. Brent Haimes was nominated.

Jeff Gilmer was elected as the new Youth Director. Brent Haimes was elected as the south region director.

The bylaws proposal voting will continue for the April meeting. Clubs that have not turned in their voting forms need to get them turned into the secretary or bring them to the April meeting.

New Business – Peter Perovich

Island Lake Reservoir won the vote for 2012 State TOC.

We will be selling hats, shirts and sweatshirts with the Minnesota Federation logo. Profits from the sale of merchandise will be donated to the youth program.

Peter attended a meeting in January with the new owners of B.A.S.S.

- The new owner's goal is a return to an emphasis on the state Federations as the backbone of the organization.
- Bass Pro Shops has joined B.A.S.S. as a premier sponsor and we will forward details of any deal for the Federation with Bass Pro.
- The new B.A.S.S. is looking at longer term sponsorships and sponsorships that will benefit the Federation members, not just B.A.S.S.

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- B.A.S.S. is restarting the Casting Kids program.
- ESPN had cancelled the Federation Nationals tournament before the sale, but the new B.A.S.S. owners brought the tournament back and B.A.S.S. would like to televise the Federation Nationals tournament. The details for 2011 Nationals are being worked out at this time.
- B.A.S.S. is also looking at the issue of youth on the divisional team.

Bring your excess tackle next meeting to donate to the kids.

Meeting adjourned at 2:58 PM.