

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 12:04 PM. 30 clubs were in attendance.

President's Report – Peter Perovich

Elections for officers will be held in old business.

The first state team meeting for 2012 will be January 21 at 11:00 at Cabelas.

We are in need for volunteers to help out with committees. The immediate need is for special events and the banquet committee.

At the board meeting today, the 501 C3 youth organization was finalized with the attorney. We expect the paper work to be finished and filed in the next month. Contact Peter if you are willing to help.

The Bass Expo will be at the Swan's Center at the Blaine Sports Center on Jan 20-22. The BASS federation is looking for members to give seminars and man the booth. Contact Peter if you are willing to help.

Planning is beginning for hosting the Governors' Bass opener. The location has not been determined at this time. We will need 40-50 boats to act as guides.

Membership is becoming an issue with the BASS Federation. The majority of our income comes from membership dues, however the overall federation membership has been dropping. The board is looking at budget for next year for places to cut and the 2012 budget is smaller than the 2011 budget. The national BASS organization is seeing an increase in membership from other states since the sale of BASS by ESPN. The new ownership is dedicated to growing membership and giving more benefits to BASS members.

Tournament Director – Tim Allen

Please turn in your club tournament schedules for 2012. 9 clubs have already turned in schedules.

Any club that has a 2013 TOC proposal, please turn them in. Proposals are due by the January meeting.

There are two proposals coming at a future meeting concerning alternates that advance to TOC from the alternates' tournament and defining guaranteed boaters.

The 2012 TOC permit was filed with the DNR. We are waiting to hear back from the DNR for the permit.

Fish Lake will be the alternates tournament lake.

Secretary – Jim Battin

December is the beginning of our membership year. Thank you to the clubs that have turned in their roster and dues. If your club has not turned in a roster yet, get the form off the website and fill it out to e-mail to jbattin@mnbfn.org. The check should be sent to:

Minnesota BASS Federation
2332 Laport Drive
Mounds View, MN 55112

Remind your club members that want to get the federation e-mails to go to www.mnbn.org/connect.html and register.

Conservation Director – Mickey Goetting

Please provide any conservation issues/activities you have as an individual or as a club has participated in the last year. Be sure to include meetings and legislative activity such as attending the DNR Roundtable or MOHA Legislative Banquet. We pass on this information to the Board and B.A.S.S to include as part of the Annual Report. I would like email of activities from each club by the next Fed meeting sent to mgoetting@mnbfn.org.

In the news, Asian carp eDNA testing is being done to locate the carp in water. This testing will show the presence of Asian carp in the area even though Asian carp have not been caught by commercial fisherman. All the Asian carp caught in the Mississippi River have been Lake City and south.

There are two more lakes where zebra mussels have been found. These two lakes had zebra mussels on boat docks and it is believed that they were spread when the docks were relocated from bodies of water infested via zebra mussels. Local copper sulfate treatment in those lakes was done in hopes of killing the population before they get established as a breeding population in the lakes.

There is a DNR Bass workshop being planned for this month. The DNR is looking at having a bass angler survey to see what bass anglers feel is important.

Jay Green, Vern Wagner, Dan Johnson, Denny Nelson, and I had a productive meeting with the DNR regarding tournaments and AIS. The DNR will help promote at least 5 events next year to show how tournament organizers and participants are helping to prevent the spread of AIS. There may also be a brief presentation at January's DNR Roundtable.

On November 20th, the Monticello power plant had to shut down a reactor and there was a reported 190 fish killed because of the water temperature change.

There is a conservation director summit at the Classic this year. All the state fishery chiefs will be invited to attend this 2 1/2 day summit on wide variety of topics such as aquatic vegetation management and tournament mortality.

The DNR issued a special permit to Lutsen Mountains Ski Hill to take water from the Poplar River for snow-making. In the last legislative session, a law passed to allow withdrawal of 150 million gallons if

the river stayed above a certain flow rate. The permit requires Lutsen to find an alternative source of snow-making water by 2014.

The fishing license fee increase will be back this year.

In education, spiny water flea (<http://www.mnbnf.org/conservation/spinywaterflea.pdf>) is an invasive species that was introduced to Minnesota via ship ballast water in Lake Superior. It is slowly spreading to Minnesota and includes Island Reservoir. Unlike other AIS, spiny water flea is more typically spread by attaching to fishing line, lures, anchor ropes, and downriggers.

Youth Director – Jeff Gilmer

The Minnesota BASS Federation is forming a 501 C3 non-profit for the youth program. Having a non-profit will allow for more options to fund the youth program. We are looking for volunteers for the youth board of directors. Anyone interested in getting involved in the youth organization, contact Jeff Gilmer at jgilmer@mnbnf.org.

For 2012, all youth members will be at the January and March meeting. All award winners from last year will be recognized at the banquet in March.

The youth will be participating in the BASS Expo and at CastingKids events. We have found that kids respond better getting help from other kids than from adults.

Need boaters for the June 29 JR TOC. The tournament will probably be in the St. Cloud area.

National BASS has decided to not re-start the Casting Kids program. We are still continuing.

Old Business – Peter Perovich

Nominations are still open for officers. No additional nominations were made and nominations were closed.

Elections results:

- President – Peter Perovich
- Vice-President – Mark Gomez
- Treasurer – Kent Mittlestaedt
- Conservation Director – Mickey Goetting
- North Region Director – Doug Pirila
- South Region Director – Brent Haimes

Kent Mittlestaedt went over the final numbers for the 2011 budget and presented the proposed 2012 budget. In the 2012 budget, the board is allocating \$3100 from the youth budget to the youth organization as seed money to get the youth organization going. The board is also looking at the divisional budget to see what can be done to simplify the budget and accounting. Motion and second to approve the 2012 budget. Motion passed.

New Business – Peter Perovich

The March 3rd meeting will combine the general meeting and a banquet. There will be a short general meeting, followed by a social hour and a banquet. All federation members and their families are encouraged to attend. The banquet will be open to non-federation members. There will be silent auction as a fund raiser and we are looking for a keynote speaker.

Sportsmen Bassmasters approached the Coast Guard Auxiliary to teach the Coast Guard safety course. This is a day long course on boater safety and proper navigation on water ways, in particular the river. Most insurance companies recognize the value of this course and upon completion, boaters will receive a discount on their boat insurance. The course will be \$30-\$35. An e-mail blast will be sent out once the details on the course are final.

The Lamiglas rod agreement has been renewed for two more years. Each federation member can order two rods per year. The new order process is to call Lamiglas directly and identify yourself as a Minnesota BASS Federation member and you can place your order.

Meeting adjourned at 1:58 PM