

## **Regional Meetings**

No regional meetings this month

## **Federation Meeting: Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order at 3:36 PM. XX clubs were in attendance.

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

Thank for attending the meeting. The social hour and banquet will immediately follow the meeting.

The Northwest Sports Show is coming up at the end of March. We are looking for donations of old Bass magazines to give out at the sports show.

On the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> of March, there is a casting kids at Cabela's. Cabela's has signed on as a title sponsor to the state Federation.

April 20<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup>, the Bass Expo will take place at the Blaine Sports Center. We are looking for volunteers to do seminars and help at the booth. Contact Mark Gomez, Steve Hurlburt or Doug Pirilla to volunteer.

One of the biggest issues for our organization and bass fishermen is access to waters. The federation has been approached by the Anoka County Parks Department for help with financing a dock for the landing on the Rum River. The board has agreed to help raise funds and will be soliciting donations. The goal is to raise \$2500 of the \$4100 cost.

## **Tournament Director – Tim Allen**

Club lakes schedules are due. There are only two conflicts this year.

There is a proposal to define the guaranteed boater run in the tournament rules.

We will be voting for the 2013 TOC waters in new business. We received a proposal today for Leech Lake.

## **Secretary – Jim Battin**

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](mailto: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](http://www.mnbn.org/connect.html) and register.

## **Conservation Director – Mickey Goetting**

On March 1 in Winona a commercial fisherman netted a 28# bighead carp, 7# silver (jumping) carp, and a grass carp. According to the Minnesota DNR website, three silver carp (two in Pool 8, and one in Pool 9) have been caught between 2008 and 2011 on the Mississippi River. Thus, this is the farthest north the silver carp has been caught.

We will be starting a soft plastic bait recycling program: ReBaits®. A plastic collection bag will be given to each JR TOC boat and each adult TOC participant. These bags can be returned to Mickey Goetting or Larry Roland.

At the next meeting your club will receive one Stewardship Kit from Recycled Fish ([recycledfish.org](http://recycledfish.org)). This kit contains a shoreline cleanup bag and a booklet on how to live as a steward every day.

Glory bags ([www.glorybag.com](http://www.glorybag.com)) are an alternative to using culling clips. These bags do not damage the bass, promote faster culling, and less fish handling. All of these factors reduce stress on the bass and thus decrease mortality.

Fishing license fee and boat license fee increase proposals are in process and expected to be similar to last year's proposals. Details will be posted on the website. Without a fishing license increase, the game and fish fund will go in the red next summer. Since they are required to balance their budget, this will cause substantial cuts.

Keep America Fishing ([keepamericafishing.org](http://keepamericafishing.org)) is any easy way to keep track of fishing regulation across the country and makes it easy to contact your legislators.

Vanishing Paradise ([vanishingparadise.org](http://vanishingparadise.org)) gave a presentation at the B.A.S.S. Conservation Director Summit. The Mississippi Delta is disappearing at the rate of 1 football field every hour. This means over the past 80 years, the Mississippi River Delta has lost wetlands almost as large as Delaware. This is a concern because the Delta is a winter home for 70% of the waterfowl in the Central and Mississippi flyways, transports 200 million gallons of oil from the Gulf of Mexico, and serves as storm surge buffer. Contact Congress to Direct BP (Clean Water Act and other environmental rule) fines for restoring the Gulf Coast instead of these fines going into the general fund.

## **Youth Director – Jeff Gilmer**

The Jr State TOC lake in the St. Cloud area has been chosen. An announcement will be made as soon as the DNR permit is approved. The pre-tournament meeting will probably be at Cabela's. Any junior angler that volunteers to help out in the upcoming casting kids will be put into the first flight for the Jr State TOC. All others anglers will take off in second flight.

## **New Business – Peter Perovich**

Voting for 2013 state TOC will be today. We received a proposal for Leech Lake today so voting will be between the Mississippi River Pool 5A/6/7 and Leech Lake.

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Pat Hagen from West Metro gave a brief presentation on the Leech Lake proposal. Brent Haimes from Zumbro Valley gave a brief presentation on the Mississippi River (Pool 5A/6/7) proposal. The Mississippi River was voted in as the location for the 2013 TOC.

For those clubs fishing at Duluth for 2012 TOC, it is recommended that you make your lodging reservations immediately. Lodging is in short supply in the area and it is filling up quickly.

Meeting adjourned at 4:26 PM