

## **Minnesota BASS Federation Meeting**

Medina Entertainment Center

March 3, 2006

### **Regional Meetings**

Regional meetings were held from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

### **Roll Call**

The general meeting began at 12:00 p.m.

27 clubs were in attendance.

### **Opening Remarks –**

Minnesota Federation Nation honored in Bass Times. See Your March 07 Issue, Pg.41.

John Murphy brought home and presented the plaque to the Federation. Stop by the Booth at the Sportshow. We'll have it displayed.

### **Presidents Report – Paul Becka (952)888-3598 -**

Paul was on vacation and Peter filled in. See Tournament Director's Report

### **Vice-President's Report – Mark Gomez (763)315-4189 –**

Mark presented the 1<sup>st</sup> Weigh-Master program to Club Tournament Directors. He stressed that this program has valuable information for all Federation members. Please get your TD'S signed up for an upcoming Weigh-Master class. Emails will be sent out with all of the information. The submitted B.A.S.S. Grant applications are still in the approval process.

### **Secretary's Report – Kollen Parsons (952)873-6822 -**

29 clubs are current

284 total members as of 3/3/07

Please file your club rosters as soon as possible. The deadline is May 1<sup>st</sup>. Remember, your club is responsible for paying your national dues to B.A.S.S. Any clubs needing new members can contact me and/or fill out the "clubs accepting members" form at the Fed. Meetings.

### **Treasurers Report – Jim Battin (763) 780-9298**

- General Fund balance: \$55,528.67
- Equipment fund: \$2,200.00
- Trailer fund: \$2,928.00
- Divisional fund: \$800.00
- Total Cash: \$61,456.67

### **Youth Director's Report – Joe Barnett -**

Joe was fortunate to be traveling to Lake Amistad. He will have his update at the April meeting.

### **Tournament Director's Report – Peter Perovich -**

Classic 7 gave a TOC update. Plans are proceeding well. They asked if the membership is interested in having a dinner/buffet at TOC. Plans were made to research a menu and cost. An email will be sent out with the details so that we can get a head count. The new 07 TOC forms are on the website at mnbf.org. Also this year we are developing an angler profiles. These will be used to help add more appeal to the weigh-in process. The profile forms will be out soon. Peter has put together a survey for members. This will give the membership an opportunity to give input on the TOC. This will be emailed to the membership and can be returned to Peter or Kollen when completed.

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This is our chance to make some changes. Peter asked that anyone with pictures of the 2006 Gull Lake TOC send them to him or Kollen.

**Conservation Director's Report – Mickey Goetting –**

**DNR Shoreline Habitat Program** – volunteers needed for planting of trees, shrubs and grass in the brainard lakes area on May7-8 for the Whitefish Chain, Pokegama June 5-8, Upper Gull June11-13. Mickey has the contact info.

**New LMBV 07 Lake Studies** – Mickey will have the details at the April meeting.

**Lead Ban** – anglers may not use a lead sinker, lure or jig 1/2oz. or less in MN.

**Aquatic Vegetation Management** – removal of vegetation by landowners in an area 100ft. (shoreline) by 150ft. (lake ward) per property. Permit would allow for chemical or mechanical removal. Up to 15% of the littoral lake area would fall under this permit process. The permit must be granted if asked for by a landowner.

**Dedicated Funding Bill** – 3/8 of 1% of the state sales tax would be dedicated to outdoor programs. Percentages are 34% Fish and Wildlife, 25% Forest Legacy, 22% Clean Water and 22% to the Arts.

**Tournament Fees and Immediate Release Bill Language** – The DNR is trying to recoup its “administrative costs” for tournament permits. It is proposing fees for tournaments and tournament anglers. There is no structure for this bill yet but it is being worked on as we speak. Mickey will be lobbying to have the Immediate Release language clarified. It does not, “at this time”, affect culling tournaments.

All of these are in the legislative process. Mickey and the other Board members are working hard to present the Federation views at all of the Legislative meetings. They are attending the MOHA functions, Bass Advisory Meetings and the DNR roundtables. We need to contact our state legislative representatives. They need to hear what you think. A link to Minnesota Government Offices will be available at [mnbf.org](http://mnbf.org) We will be reminding the DNR what this Federation does for “FREE”.

**Old Business –**

**John Murphy's Federation Championship Report** – John expressed his gratification working with B.A.S.S. The B.A.S.S. web-staff was on hand to make sure anyone having trouble with the Bassmaster Federation-Nation website was heard. The Lake Erie Divisional is on schedule. Culling issues have been solved. B.A.S.S. has changed the pay-outs for this. 1<sup>st</sup> place is a boat-motor-trailer package that will be split in MN to payout the state team. The other places will be cash-payouts as usual. The New 6-man Bass Club World Championship should be held in late Oct. or early Nov. ABA/Bass Weekend Series note: Don't double pay member fees. As a B.A.S.S. member your registration for ABA/Weekend series is already paid. The new Weigh-Master Program is a big hit. B.A.S.S. is looking to use MN as a model for this program. Our casting kids finalists tied for 1<sup>st</sup> place in their event. The kids lost in the castoff but the families were thrilled with the whole experience. John finished by presenting the Federation of the Year Plaque to Peter.

**Sportshow Update** – The Booth will be in outer-hall. We have about \$300 to develop the booth and new signage. These will be added to draw more attention. Steve will be working with the booth volunteers to handle and evaluate the information collected. This year the show will run from March 27- April 1. It's held at the Minneapolis Convention Center. He still has openings available. Steve's contact information is available at [mnbf.org](http://mnbf.org).

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**2007 6-Man Bass Club World Championship** – This event will be held in Yankton, SD. The Divisional date is July 31-Aug 3. There is a link on Bassmaster for this Tournament. MN has 6 team slots. The 2006 Team TOC standings determine the 1st right of refusal. As of this meeting only 1 club has registered for this event. The entry fee is \$1500 per team. The Federation will not be funding the entries and clubs are responsible for costs associated with this. Clubs, not in the top six, stand a good chance of getting a slot. Other states not filling their slots can give them to MN. Talk to your clubs and let the Board know if you're interested.

### **New Business**

**Sponsorships** – The Lowrance contract is signed. For pricing information contact Rich Lindgren with the Model Number. Make sure to send all of the correct information. I.E. transducer codes etc. He will email you a form that you can send to Lowrance with a check or fax with credit card information. There are reasonable shipping charges. New models might be on backorder. Fig Rig discount rods are available. Forms are on the website. The price has increased a little but the discount is still great. You can order direct now instead of dealing through the Board. Minnkota has resigned this year. They will be providing motors again this year for the auction boat, TOC and a meeting silent auction. They are also providing a replacement hardware kit for TOC. Divisional Team pricing is available. Rich is still developing other sponsor relationships.

**Skeeter Real Money Program** - Steve Soukup gave a presentation of the program. Anyone registered in the Skeeter Real Money Program, that wins a Real Money **Listed** Tournament in any skeeter boat, wins \$1,000. You can add Tournaments to the Real Money the list but they must be listed by March 31<sup>st</sup>. It takes 60 **people** to qualify a tournament for the list. See your dealer or contact Steve to get the tournament on the list. More details are available on the skeeter website. The program costs \$20 to enter. A new 07 skeeter boat with 225hp or better ups the win to \$3000. A 07 with a 200hp will get \$2000.

**Skeeter Boat Auction** – see it and bid on it on the MNBF website. The boat is a SX190 single-console with Yamaha 150hp outboard, Trojan batteries, Lowrance Graph & Minnkota troller. You must send in a \$250 deposit, payable to MNBF, to bid. Minimum bid is \$14,000. Bidding dates are as follows: March 5<sup>th</sup>-April 1<sup>st</sup> at 9:00pm. Details available at [mnbf.org](http://mnbf.org).

**2008 TOC Nominations** – Mississippi River Pools 4 and 5 and the Horseshoe Lake Chain in Cold Spring were nominated. Whitefish was also nominated before the end of the meeting. Some disagreement was discussed about the dates and process of nomination. A TOC Nomination Date Change was brought up for a by-laws modification. This would allow for more discussion and research time before the lakes are brought to a vote.

**New Member/Transition Clubs** - An idea was presented by Paul and Kollen to help solve some of the low membership issues. They talked about placing new members that can't find a club or members of dissolved clubs into a Board Sponsored Club. The term of membership would be limited but allow those individuals time to blend into or form their own clubs. Guys displaced by dissolution of clubs would now have an option to stay in the Federation and find a new home. A TOC qualifying event would be held. The by-laws would follow B.A.S.S. guidelines or our own Federation Guidelines. Many concerns were

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discussed but nothing definite was decided. A more detailed proposal will be put together for this program. A mentoring option was also discussed.

**Adopt a Kid** - Darwin Sumner and the Red lake Club have a dedicated adult/youth club program. The youth of the club are in need of tackle and, if possible, dues assistance. The kids are passionate about fishing but cannot afford the costs associated with it. If your club would like to adopt a kid, pay for their dues, let us know. We will put you in contact with Darwin or contact him for you. If you have any extra tackle they could use it. Donations can be brought to the April meeting.

**Clubs in Attendance:**

Bass Rangers – Bass Wackers – Bass Wranglers – Baxter Bass Snatchers – Bay Lacroix – Central MN – Classic 7 – DH – Golden Hook – Gopher – Granite City – Happy Hookers – Lakes Area – Loon State – Metro Hawg Hunters – Minnetonka Classic – Northern Black Bass – Prior Lake Hooksetters – Red Lake – Sportsmen – Stellar – Sunrise – Upper Iowa – Viking – West Metro – Wright County - Zumbro

**The meeting was adjourned at 2:14 PM**

The next meeting will be April 21, at the Medina Entertainment Center.

Respectfully submitted:

Kollen Parsons, Secretary, MN BASS Federation