

# **Pennsylvania Bass Federation, Inc.**

## **November 11, 2007 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

- Meeting called to order by Mike Pierro at 8:05 AM
- 17 clubs necessary for quorum. Roll Call:
  - Dist 1 – 4 of 12 clubs present
    - Delaware River Bass Masters
    - Backlash of PA
    - Schuylkill County Bass Anglers
    - Berks Bassmasters
  - Dist 2 – 5 of 8 clubs present
    - Washberry Bass Club
    - Susquehanna Valley Bass Club
    - Williamsport Bass Masters
    - Hunters Run Bassmasters
    - Mountain Valley Bass Masters
  - Dist 3 – 9 of 10 clubs present
    - Chester County Bass Masters
    - Lancaster County Bass Masters
    - River Hills Bass Masters
    - South Central PA Basscasters
    - Lebanon County Bassmasters
    - Brandywine Bass Masters
    - Penn Central Bassmasters
    - Borderline Bassmasters
    - Lancaster County Hawg Hunters
  - Dist 4 – 4 of 10 clubs present
    - Standing Stone Bass Masters
    - Blair Bassmasters
    - Shy Beaver
    - Allegheny Mountain Bass Anglers
  - Dist 5 – 0 of 1 clubs present
  - Dist 6 – 4 of 4 clubs present
    - Clarion County Bass-Masters
    - Bass Buddies
    - North West Bassers
    - Bass Masters of Crawford County
  - Dist 7 – 2 of 6 clubs present
    - Northeastern Bassmasters
    - Lunker Landers Bass Club
- Quorum Established, Clubs Present: 28
- Motion to accept minutes from August 2007 BOD meeting made by Borderline
  - Seconded by Susquehanna Valley
  - Unanimous vote in favor
  - Minutes from August 2007 BOD meeting accepted as presented.
- Motion to accept the agenda for the current meeting made by Borderline

- Seconded by Crawford Co
  - Unanimous vote in favor
  - Agenda for the November 2007 BOD meeting accepted as presented
- Presidents report:
  - Legal update, settlement is very close. Lawyers for both sides have negotiated a settlement which we and our insurance carrier are willing to accept. Waiting for word of acceptance from the Fed Nation.
  - Bylaws have been corrected as necessary by BOD vote or lawyer recommendation for vote at this meeting. Members are encouraged to accept these and changes can be presented and voted on at a later BOD. The Federation needs to have valid bylaws in place.
  - Motion to accept the bylaws as presented made by North West
    - Seconded by Lebanon County
    - Vote For: 27, Against: 0, Abstain: 1
    - Motion carried.
  - Bylaws accepted and now in force for the Federation
  - Policies and Procedures will be addressed in the coming months.
  - Updates to all state documents will be emailed to the club officers or email contacts designated by the clubs with the return of 2008 rosters.
  - Mid Atlantic Divisional Tournament:
    - 9 questionnaires mailed
    - only replies from Pittsburgh, Huntington, Erie, Syracuse
    - Executive committee recommends Erie
    - Show of hands, 27 clubs in agreement for Erie, 1 opposed
    - Tournament will be the third week of September 2007
  - Castrol AOY – Joe Booker, Classic Champion
  - Working to get Ranger Bucks extended for 2008
  - Money back from TBF only for members in on time for 2008, mid December cutoff
  - Lowrance product used to raise money
  - Working with Minn Kota for a deal for the state
  - Remember to use your Lowrance state discount for select Lowrance products! Contact Mike Pierro for details.
  - 2008 Meeting dates:
    - February 10
    - June 8
    - August 10
    - November 9
  - Preliminary budget numbers for the various departments given to membership. Funds will need to be raised by the entire membership to cover the expected deficit.
- Treasurer's report
  - Operational account balance: \$216.16
  - Money Market account balance: \$45,874.73
  - Only outstanding 2007 expenses are the November 2007 BOD meeting expenses
- Membership

- Final 2007 Membership Totals
  - Adult:
    - 51 clubs
    - 758 members
  - Jr:
    - 7 clubs
    - 72 members
- Members who are 16 or 17 years of age on Jan 1, 2008 do not pay \$40 state dues for an adult club membership. If they turn 18 on January 1<sup>st</sup> or before, state dues are owed.
- Motion to waive \$5 initiation fee for new members made by North West
  - Seconded by Brandywine
  - Unanimous vote for.
  - Motion carried
- The \$5 initiation fee for new members of the federation is abolished.
- Conservation
  - Went to divisional tournament. Commended the team for working together even though they were also fishing against each other.
  - TBF Conservation Meeting: Lowrance purchases with great prices through Mike Pierro.
  - Promotional product is given to states to get the sponsors names out.
  - Nationals has presidents meeting: Will have a vote on if divisional will be true boater/co-angler sent on to nationals. Issue: what to do with co-angler that has to become a boater for part of the tournament.
  - 2008: Waivers must be returned with tournament entries. Clubs are encouraged to have waivers for all membership for the year and individually for all open tournaments.
  - Clubs are encouraged to pull kill switches to check for correct operation at all club and open tournaments. State will do this from now on.
  - YBACS July 12-17, 2008 Penn State Stone Valley
  - Fish and Boat Commission work along with Mike Burton
    - Susquehanna has lost large numbers young of the year in 2005, 2006, and 2007 due to various issues in the river. No one is sure what the combination of factors is that is causing the problem.
    - At the September 14 F&BC meeting a motion was made to make the entire Susquehanna watershed which would include the Juniata, total catch and IMMEDIATE release, no measuring, weighing, or taking photos. This motion was not passed. This was attempted mostly as a measure to get the attention of the state government and legislature to get funding to figure things out. If you hear rumors contact Mike Burton or Bill Reichert and they will give you the most up to date and accurate information.
- Youth
  - Youth premium package through TBF/FLW. TBF would like to raise to \$7 to cover insurance cost for 2009. For a youth premium package price of \$25 they

will become FLW members as well and get a package of some combination of lures, hats, plastics, shirts etc.

- Jr. Tournament at Anchor Marine. Thanks to Bob, Steve Koch and Doc Irv for invaluable assistance. Thanks to District 3 for supplying all the boats necessary for the tournament with boaters who are familiar with the waters. Thanks to Mike Sabbi for going along to ride after a boat broke down on the first day to provide local knowledge of the water. Reel kids will have the finals in the eastern part of the state because a very high percentage of participation is from the east. Looking for a site such as Cabelas to hold this event next year.
- Tournament: 19 kids participated, 9 caught fish.
- 6 kids will participate in nationals in 2 age brackets
- Lancaster Co. Jr. Hawg Hunters is the team champion.
- 2008 State Tournament will be moved from Labor Day weekend to the previous weekend, Friday/Saturday tournament will be in Erie.
- Start planning reel kids for 2009 now. The kits must be ordered in September of the previous year. States must submit requests for kits by September 1, 2008 for the 2009 season.
- Kits will be distributed at the February 2008 BOD meeting.
- Half of the Youth budget goes back to the adult organization for various programs. Rest is spent directly on the kids. There will be 2 fund raisers, PLEASE support the fund raiser events. Youth would like to raise half budget through these fund raisers.
- T-shirts \$12, Sweat shirts with hoods \$25, regular sweat shirts \$20, Towels \$8
- Youth and conservation will be selling these items with various themes on the front.
- Tournament Director
  - 2007 Classic hurdles: Harmerville pulled docks 3 days before the tournament. Upper pool above launch was 18”.
  - New app for tournaments will have 2nd page waiver and will be available on the web site. Make checks payable to the Pennsylvania Bass Federation, not the tournament director. Mail state applications to state tournament, district applications to district tournament director.
  - For 2008: District and state Tournament Directors have rewritten rules and regulations to work with the pro/am format. Rule updates include:
    - Boaters and riders rendering aid to a stranded boat at the end of the fishing day will not be penalized any time penalty. Get information from the stranded boater for verification.
    - Co-anglers *must* fish from the back of the boat. If the angler asks the co-angler to take the trolling motor and the co-angler agrees for whatever reason, the co-angler may take control but may NOT fish from the front of the boat. Angler *must* fish from the front of the boat.
    - Lunker tie breaker has been removed from district tournaments since lunkers are not sponsored by the state.
    - \$20 minimum fee changed to half days expenses.
  - Motion for 2008 tournament rule changes to be accepted made by North West
    - Seconded by Northeast

- Vote For: 25, Against: 2, Abstain: 1
    - Motion passed
  - 2008 tournament rules accepted as proposed
  - Mr. Bass April 18 & 19, Smallwood State Park. Meeting Thursday Charles Co. Government Building La Platta 7pm doors open 6:30.
  - Classic Oct 3 & 4, Northeast out of Anchor Marine. Meeting VFW club Thursday 7pm.
  - Regionals
    - West, Chautauqua June 21 – 22.
    - East, Oneida Saturday, Sunday 21 – 22.
    - Central not set.
  - Day after Mr. Bass is the first District 1, 3, 7 “regional” district tournament also at Smallwood. East is in a pilot year to see how this works out.
- TBF
  - In school program started. Trying to design a school club format. TBF will target mainly Jr. High Schools to get students interested early in tournament fishing.
- Unfinished Business:
  - Should we keep the scholarship program. \$1000 of budget for Youth is for two \$500 scholarships.
  - Chris Wilson Lunker Landers motion to maintain the scholarship program
    - Mike Burgess second: Allegheny Mountain
    - Vote: For: 27, Against: 1, Abstain: 1
  - Motion passes. The scholarship program will remain part of the state organization.
  - Left as unfinished business:
    - Projector purchase
    - Clubs in bad standing due to not attending BOD
  - Extend contract with Anthony Dephue for another year. Dave Ciarletta will be point man for web site issues and questions for the state and district officers and directors who have access to post information. Anthony will continue to improve the web site usage interface for this purpose.
- New Business:
  - Election of officers
    - President: Mike Pierro running unopposed
    - Treasurer: Ron Rook
    - Secretary/Membership: Dave Ciarletta
    - Vice President: Tammy Johnston, Chris Wilson
  - One paper vote from each club
  - Tammy Johnston elected vice president for 2008
- Mike stated that he is accessible to whoever needs to talk to him, officers, directors, clubs, districts. Anyone who has issues or needs information please contact him.
- Meeting Adjourned at 12:05pm