

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
NOVEMBERS 2ST 2014
MINUTES**

President Chris Wilson brought the meeting to order at 8:05 am and the Pledge of Allegiance was performed with a Moment of Silence for Roy Daviny. Roll Call was taken and there were 28 out of 40 clubs present. The proposed agenda for the meeting was accepted.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT
Chris Wilson**

Chris sent out the minutes prior to the meeting to the Chairmen and Presidents and then took a vote to skip the regular reading of the June 2nd minutes as they were sent to everyone – BuxMont Bassmasters 1st and Boarder Line 2nd with approval.

Events in 2015 are as follows; North East Sports and Outdoors Show which will be over 2 weekends with a large Reel Kids booth and space to promote PA Bass. Barry Potteiger from Capital City has 20 guys and 10 lanes of kids. Membership and clothing sales will be on hand to support the PA Bass Federation High School Championship. District 3 will be helping at the show which the dates are February 7th to the 15th in Harrisburg. We are getting a free 10x10 booth space which typically runs about \$1,400.

District Chairmen – please get the word out about our November meetings and the food and prizes we have. We have a smaller menu this year because we did not get the responses we needed. The 2015 cut off for the championship application deadline is SEPTEMBER 18th. The applications must be in the tournament director hands. There will be a check box on application for those that are participating in State Tournaments or District Tournaments but ARE NOT competing to make it to the Championship. The check box is important; once you check the box you will not be put on the Championship Qualification list. It does not affect Angler of the Year standings for the Districts and the District TD's must send a list to the STD of who participated in their event who checked the box. Another important thing to remember since it almost happened at the 2014 Championship, is that if the field needs to be balanced, it is Last In First Out.

Lottery Program is helping us drive programs like the live release boat. If you have any leads, contact Conversation Director Robert Blake.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mike Sabbi

Mike thanked everyone for their support of all the sponsors in 2014 and all the help the membership gave to the Federation to meet our goals with hotels. Our new jerseys were full of sponsors that supported the Federation. We were able to obtain and give away over \$15,000.00 in prizes and products over the 2014 season.

Please welcome and thank some new sponsors and some returning ones: Adams customer lures, Flip Clips, Boat US – for boat ½ price on memberships, Bass Slyer, \$25 off of culling right system, Frabill and Plano tackle boxes and rain suits with field staff pricing! We are proud to offer up an HDS8 and HDS5 for a total of \$3,500 for today's meeting.

Canopies are needed to be purchased to further market our sponsors. We need to get commercial grad canopies that allow for replaceable parts for normal wear and tear. They will be used at events in good and bad weather so they need to be high quality. Mike is researching for the right solution.

Mike came up with a way to raise money this year to support the high school championship. The hats and 2 tee shirts were sold as a fundraiser. All the profits went the high school event that supported 17 teams last year and 23 teams this year from PA. The funds also paid for all the food and drinks. The sponsorship hunt continues in 2015 with a Ranger boat dealer sponsorship with possible kick back funding with usage. Please let Mike know of any ideas or suggestions to benefit the organization.

Congratulations and Thanks go out to the Fantasy Fishing winners; Bill Barlow – 1st place get a new fishing rod, Tony Dorn won 2nd with a new Ardent reel and Travis came in 3rd with a new spinning rod, Terry Homestead placed 4th and won an Ardent culling system. Mike thanked Sue Blake for the help in finding the Clarion at Lake Erie. We were able to negotiate a \$70 room rate for the membership and the hotel had a good power supply and parking lots for 50 boats. We have also secured this hotel for the 2015 Mid Atlantic Divisional.

TREASURER REPORT

Robert Miller

The Treasurer reported the balances as of November 2014 that does not include Mr. Bass checks and Tournament expenses. The Treasurer Report was 1st by Lancaster County and 2nd by Hawg Hunters. The President then advised the members present that Federation finances are not to be disclosed to anyone who is not in the Federation. If it continues, the balances will not be reported on and will instead be shown to anyone who wants to look at them; we prefer NOT to do it this way.

SECRETARY REPORT

Scott Carlisle

Scott went over the Wounded Warrior that he and several others attended in September and what a rewarding experience it was for them and the veterans. Scott encouraged boaters to keep the first week in September 2015 open to volunteer their time to take out the vet for the day bass or cat fishing. Scott also reminded membership to let us know about any web sites additions we need to make to the web site.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Sue Blake

There are 629 adult PA Bass members as of June. We had 76 new members this year along with 53 Junior and 13 new junior members.

YOUTH REPORT

Mike Burgess / Greg Smith

Greg Smith reported on the Forrest Wood Cup event he attend representing the youth. The presentations at the event were done by Hank Parker and Forrest Wood. The event was well run and a great time for all the kids. Greg wants to expand our youth membership and we really need work in districts 1 and 3. The Jr World Championship results will be posted on the web site shortly. There were 33 teams with 2 kids form our area. Greg will be targeting Athletic Directors at high school to promote the sport and its expansion. The Reel Kids contests are on deck for 2015, please call Greg for kits to hold events and send kids to the Cabela's championship. In 2014 we had 18 kids make it this year. For the Jr State Championships there will only be 1 age group going forward.

Mike and Greg spoke about how the High school fishing program for Bass / FLW is a hard sell to the high schools. Here are some of the details; The programs cause very little expense or liability to the schools but the kids need help to organize the programs. In the south where the programs have seen success, prizes include boats and gear for the kids. These programs can also feed the college program as seen in District 2 – Jim – Hunter Run & Penn State Bass Fishing Team. Bret in District 2 got \$275 per kids donated. If anyone wants to sponsor a student in your club its only \$55 per student. The Penn State Bass Fishing.com and the club is growing and now has 50 kids in club. The biggest challenge they have on growing more is boats.

CONSERVATION REPORT

Robert Blake

Robert provided an update on the search for an affordable Release Boat for Lakes like Oneida. The search continues for the right size pontoon boat and appropriate power. If you see any for sale that might be a fit for the cause please contact Robert. The topic of invasive species was discussed and proper way to transport your boat and trailer between bodies of water. Clean, drain and dry off all water from boat, bilge and live wells between outings. In other news there are structure projects underway on Beltzville. Tim McNicholas gave an update the operations of the commercial charter service and has noticed the complaints are not coming in as much as they were earlier in the year. In closing, Robert indicated that during the Black Bass Seminar they indicated that the rules and regulation changes in the works for 2015.

TOURNAMENT REPORT

Bruce Bramer

Mid Atlantic Team Captain Report - The event was a great Team effort, everyone tried hard each day and the co-anglers did well. Thanks to the State and the dinners and overall support – great group effort. 2015 qualifiers – Ryan Anderson and Tom Prowant are off to Federation National Championship Wolf Creek State Park on Grand Lake of the Cherokees. Ryan said Senkos were the key to his co-angler victory. He drew a Delaware Team member and stayed in Broad Creek all week. Tom Prowant was day 1 day 2 leader fishing wood with a jig but missed some key bites on day 3. Some anglers caught some 5 to 7 pounders and things were interesting with new partners every day. Chris's support at the event and the overall state support was really nice – it was an honor to fish for PA!

2014 State Championship on Erie was lots of fun with all the crazy weather thrown at the anglers. Day 2 weather conditions were really bad but by only fishing the Bay we kept the tournament running. Chris Graft was the winner as he was able to get his limit both days. Co-angler winner – Ron Williams said his boater Frank Malek was great and he had 18 pounds for the day.

Tournament dates for next year were presented as follows: MR Bass Kick Off will be at the Potomac out of Smallwood on 4/24-25. State Team Regional One is on the Northeast River out of Elk Neck 6/19-20. The Mid Atlantic Divisional Tournament on Lake Erie 9/20 to 9/25 followed by Mr Bass Last Chance 9/26-27. The Championship will be held in State on 10/2-3.

TBF UPDATE

Chris Wilson

The Presidents council is a meeting of the Presidents of the all the states. This year it will be held during The Cup and not the Federation National Championship. PA and 2 other states voted no to this change so majority rules.

OLD BUSINESS

Chris Wilson

The 2015 Our Wish will be held May 1st thru 3rd. We need some more boats to take the kids out and their families. Please show up with your boat at Raystown and all your meals are included. It's been run for 3 years and is supported by the PA Fish Commission with a special event permit. Several members gave some testimonials on the event and what a great event it is.

NEW BUSINESS

Chris Wilson

Motion made by Leggett's Creek - For members of the State Tournament Committee that make the PA State Championship and works the event, the tournament fee is waived; seconded by Outcast Bass Masters. On the discussion, The President asked for an additional requirement that those same members must have worked the other State Tournaments unless excused in order to qualify. Leggett's Creek and Outcast Bass Masters agreed with the addition. The vote was 27 For, 0 Against, 1 Abstention.

Ray Bradshaw suggested a motion: To give the same \$3.00 per application that we give to the Districts Tournament Directors to the State Tournament Director for each event run by the State. Motion made by Lebanon County and seconded by Borderline. The vote was Unanimous

We are working on ideas for the order of the tournaments. More information will be forthcoming.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

The lotto ticket program was discussed with various payout methods. The final discussion was having the payout 4 times a year, March 15, June 15, September 15 and December 15. The vote was 27 For, 0 Against, 1 Abstention. The Federation will purchase the tickets left over. Each member is responsible for one ticket; purchase or sell. The tickets will be sent to the Districts. The Districts will collect them and mail one check for the tickets that were sent to them.

Motion to adjourn 1st Leggett's Creek and 2nd Lunger landers@ 12:00