**Arkansas B.A.S.S. State Federation Nation**

**Board of Directors Meeting**

**December 2, 2018**

**“Draft for Review”**

**To: Federation Board of Directors**

1. **Call to Order:** Ron Plate called the meeting to order at 10:05 am., Ron Plate led the pledge of allegiance. Jim Alexander led the opening prayer.
2. **Roll Call:** Ron Plate conducted roll call, there were 16 clubs in attendance, constituting a quorum.
3. **Introduction of Officers Present:** All Officers were present with the exception of Robbie McDonald who was absent with notice.
4. **Guest:** Julie Passmore with 316 Active Performance Wear, Clinton, Arkansas. She was invited by Luci Johnson. She presented a collection of products that they offer, such as: custom weigh bag, hoodie’s, both regular and water prof, jersey’s both in crew neck and ¼ zip, buffs, gloves, shorts, and T-shirts. They offer Package deals that include regular hoodie, jersey, buff, gloves. Julie furnished handouts depicting their jersey styles and color patterns to take back to your club. You may contact them on Facebook page 316 Active and send them your message. Group discounts are available.
5. **Minutes:** Chuck Rexford gave an overview of the minutes from the August 26, 2018 meeting. Printed copies of the August Minutes were furnished to the membership present. Motion to accept the minutes as read was made by Central Arkansas Bassmasters second by Johnson County Bass Club, motion carried.
6. **Treasures Report:** Roy Brunson furnished printed copies of the 2018 financial report for Arkansas Bass Nation as well as Arkansas Bass Nation’s 2019 proposed budget. Roy went over line items for 2018. Explaining line item areas where we were under, along with areas we were over cost. Roy explained some line items need to be readjusted or combined into a different line item. Roy advised 2018 ending balance of $57,663.04. Boat raffle ticket sales produced $40,038.00 a super year.

Roy went over the 2019 proposed budget line items and the proposed expenditures of $48,100.00.

Roy explained extra payouts to the tournament anglers and to the top three clubs on Raffle Ticket Sales. Roy explained these extra payouts were taken out of the extra entry fee money. Roy advised none of the Boat Raffle Ticket money used with the payouts. A motion was called for 2018 Budget Report, Central Arkansas made the motion and Bear Creek seconded to motion, motion carried. A motion was called for the 2019 proposed budget, motion made by Dardanelle Bass Club, seconded by Bear Creek, motion carried.

1. **Conservation Director:** No Report.

1. **Tournament Director:** Ray Webb advised there were 122 boats entered the 2018 Arkansas Bass Nation Championship Tournament. There were two boats dropped out leaving 120 boats for the two-day tournament.

There were a couple of weather issues, on day one due to the wind and rollers it was deemed unsafe to preform the kill switch drill at the take-off, so it was shifted to the individual teams to make sure their kill switch was in working order. Then on day two the take off was delayed by fog and the tournament was fogged in until about 10 am, with this the weigh-in was moved back 1 hour.

There were a couple changes during check in with a few team rosters. An emergency arose to where we had no alternate and Dardanelle Bass Club furnished an alternate from there club. The interesting thing was the alternate from Dardanelle Bass Club was the winner of the Raffle Boat.

There were six polygraphs given. The polygraphs were administered during the weigh-in in progress, which eliminating waiting until the end of the weigh-in.

Ray ask for input for ideas for ways to better the tournaments in the future and any information on things that did not work for a smooth tournament. All input is welcome so the executive board may better serve and run the future championship tournaments.

Ray related he has received two proposals for the 2019 Arkansas Bass Nation Championship Tournament. One proposal from Union County Bass Club and one from NEA Bass Nation.

Terry Webb with Union County Bass Club presented their proposal, they would like to host the 2019 State Tournament with their fishery at normal pool. This would make for a safer tournament and allow the anglers to fish waters that are non-fishable during low water. If they have to wait until 2020 for the State Tournament then the anglers will be fishing in low water as they did in 2017. The Union County Bass Club has pledge sponsorship money in the amount of $12,500.00 and the Executive Board motel room furnished. Terry advised if they have to wait until 2020 there is no guarantee the pledged money will still be available. They know it is up to the board to decide at the February Meeting.

Allen Stewart with NEA Bass Nation gave their presentation for the 2019 State Tournament to be held on Bull Shoals Lake out of the Bull Shoals boat dock. We have five clubs coming together in an effort to bring back to the North, they are NEA Bass Nation, Norfork Bass Club, United Bass Club, Harrison Bass Club, and Green Forest Bass Club. There are several merchants/businesses pledging sponsorship money, as well as, several of the Bass Clubs pledging their own money towards the tournament. The pledged money is $9,500.00 to bring it to Bull Shoals for 2019.

Ray reported on the survey he sent out to the clubs for data concerning their expenditures during the 2018 Arkansas Bass Nation Championship Tournament, he related he has received from all but six of the clubs and he will get with them for their data. This data is what is presented to the A&P Commission to help promote grant money for sponsorships.

Ray related for the clubs to take the two proposals back to their clubs and discuss them and be ready at the February Meeting to decide where the 2019 Arkansas Bass Nation Championship will be held.

1. **State Youth Director:** Luci Johnson reported on the Youth Directors Meeting at the B.A.S.S. Nationals at Florence, Alabama. B.A.S.S. has made a change with the youths couching rule. They have done away with the mandatory three, five minutes time outs. They still have a mandatory fifteen, minute time out for lunch/ hydration period for the young anglers.

Luci related notifications relating to the youth side will be shared on Facebook, as well as, Instagram and Snap Chat in order to reach a greater number of followers. This will help with the growth of nation and the Youth angles.

Luci advised the youth side is looking at generating additional fundraisers to improve cash prizes and other prizes for the youth during their tournaments.

The junior/high school trails have four tournaments we have had the September, October, and November tournaments and the next one will be March 3rd on the Arkansas River, Dumas@ Pendleton Ramp. If the river is not fishable due to the water conditions we would shift to Lake Chicot. This rounds out the tournaments in each of the four quadrants of the state.

B.A.S.S. Mosey Oak High School Tournament will be held on Lake Norfork, April 28th 2019. B.A.S.S. has now opened the open tournament to the Junior side as well, they are taking only fifty teams with the 1st place winner earning a birth at the Nationals. B.A.S.S. Juniors range from 2nd graders through 8th graders.

The Junior/High School Championship will be held on Bull Shoals Lake out of Lead Hill, on April 5th & 6th. The Colligate Championship will also be held on Bull Shoals lake out of Lead Hill, on May 5th & 6th.

1. **Administration/Public Relations:** Mike Estes reported on the Boat Raffle Ticket Sale was great this year, selling 5338 tickets bringing in $40,038.00.

The boat winner was Bruce Blihoude with the Dardanelle Bass Club. Second place winner for $1000.00 was Charles Cornelius, third place winner for $500.00 was Phillip Holt. Both second and third place winning ticket were sold team Ark Outdoors.

The top three selling club were, Ark Outdoors 1st place, NEA Bass Nation 2nd place, and Northwest Arkansas Bassmasters 3rd place. Johnson County was 4th place.

1. **Election of Officers:** Ray Webb, advised the following positions are up for election, Treasure, Tournament Director, and Youth Director. He gave report from the nominating committee, after some telephone calls to some of the clubs and several e-mails sent, there was no recommendation.

Ray advised the three positions up for election held by Roy Brunson (Treasure), Ray Webb (Tournament Director), and Luci Johnson (Youth Director) have agreed to continue in their position.

Ray open opened nominations up to the floor, having none, a motion to close nominations was completed. A motion to reelect the existing officers to their positions by acclamation. Motion made Dardanelle and second by Ark Outdoors, motion carried.

Jim Alexander advised Rick York contacted him for tournament director but backed out. He did advise he was willing to help the tournament committee where ever he maybe needed.

1. **President Comments:** Ron Plate, expressed support for all the sponsors, Bass Cat, Humminbird, Minn Kota, H2O, Pro Craft Batteries, Favorite Rods, Big Bite Baits.

Ron advised, Robbie related that Favorite Rods is continuing to sponsor the nation and the 30% discount. The discount code is, ABN30 for all Bass Nations members to receive their discount.

Ron related that Humminbird and Minn Kota are one of the Nation’s sponsor, with their primary priority is geared for the State Team. Mercury supplies the motor for the raffle boat allowing the nation to submit for a rebate on the price of the motor.

Ron advised that Aftco Clothing, Sun Line, and Big Bite Baits will be the sponsors for the Arkansas State Team at the Regional Tournament @ Lake Guntersville, Guntersville, Alabama. The Arkansas Bass Nation is covering the State Team lodging from April 13th - 19th.

Ron ask any club that has a member on the state team to have their national and state dues paid by the February meeting, so he can make the March deadline with B.A.S.S.

Ron related during the Presidents Meeting, B.A.S.S. related we would be seeing some changes; one of the changes is the cut line this year dropping from three to two boaters and two co-anglers from each state.

2019 B.A.S.S. is dropping the boat packages from the prizes. The boat manufactures will be donating cash prizes to replace the boat. Their looking at paying more teams. The B.A.S.S. Nation Championship is going to cash prizes.

2020 B.A.S.S. will change from three regions back to six regions. The Central Region will go from 19 states to 8-10 states, still to be determined.

B.A.S.S. is looking at possibly requiring the team trails to be a B.A.S.S. Member in order to fish in the Bassmaster Classics.

Ron ask that we drop a thank you line or call to the sponsors letting them know their support is appreciated.

Ron, as well as, the Executive Board extends everyone a very Merry Christmas and Super Happy New Year.

Roll Call

Ron called for motion to adjourn, motion made by Jim Alexander, Central Arkansas Bassmasters and second by Rosco Moore, Johnson County Bass Club, Motion carried.

Next Board Meeting will be February 10, 2018 @ 10:00 am, Howard Johnson, Conway. The Audit committee will meet @ 9:00 am to examine the books.