**Arkansas B.A.S.S Nation**

**Board of Directors Meeting**

**May 2, 2021**

**To: Nation Board of Directors**

1. **Call to Order:** Ron Plate called the meeting to order at 10:07 am, Ron Plate led us prayer, then led the pledge of allegiance.
2. **Roll Call:** Ron Plate conducted roll call, there were 17 clubs in attendance, constituting a quorum.
3. **Introduction of Officers Present:** Roy Brunson- Treasure, Chuck Rexford- Secretary, Ray Webb- Tournament Director, Mike Estes- Administration, Luci Johnson- Youth Director, Robbie McDonald- Conservation was absent with notice, and Ron Plate- President.
4. **Minutes:** Chuck Rexford, furnished printed copies of February minutes and the agenda for the May meeting, motion by Tom Phillips and a second to accept minutes from February meeting as posted. Motion carried.
5. **Guest:** Vic DiCenzo Ph. D., Black Bass Program Coordinator of Fisheries with the Arkansas Game & Fish Commission. Gave a brief history of himself out lining out his education, fisheries projects worked on both governmental and private sector. He shared information on the Black Bass Program in Arkansas.

He gave a brief overview of his mission to visit with all the fisheries Biologist through-out the state in an effort to learn their concerns and ideas on improving the fisheries role.

He shared information on river flooding and the effects on the habitat and structure that has a direct impact on the fish populations.

He is looking forward to working with all the Bass Clubs trough out the state and welcomes their input and ideas on ways to better the Fisheries Programs.

1. **Treasures Report:** Roy Brunson, completed the financial Friday night and there was only one check cleared since the last meeting. Roy advised he did not have print outs, but due to the lack of activity there were no major change with the check book at $67,137.14. we have one outstanding check to Josh Ray for $400.00. Regional expenses of $9,578.23 from Ron and deposits of $941.80 from dues and Reimbursements from National’s our current balance is $59,098.94.

Tom Phillips made a motion to approve the financial report, the motion received a second and the motion carried.

1. **Conservation:** Robbie McDonald,

No Report (Absent with Notice)

1. **Youth Director Report**: Luci Johnson,

Luci thanked all the boat captains for helping at Greer’s Ferry, where they had 69 boats, being the largest turn out thus far.

Luci advised, the Arkansas State High School/ Junior Championship going on as we meet. Luci related she had anticipated having some 120 -150 boats but due some teams already qualified, rain and river conditions, as well as, a few drop outs, the championship tournament is hosting 94 boats. 55 High School teams and 39 junior Teams.

Luci related there will be six trails this year covering every area of the state, with the newer trail being the Southern Trail in the Union, Columbia county areas, she advised she will be needing boat captains to help out. The Central Trail is growing but at a slower rate due to other Trails operating there but our presence is there also.

Luci advised the youth side should have about 300 members this year and she challenged the adult clubs to start recutting new memberships too stay ahead.

Luci, ask everyone to stick around for the weigh-in so the kids can see the adult support that’s behind them…

1. **Administration and Public Relations:** Mike Estes,

Nomination Committee for the election of the following board Positions; President, Secretary, Conservation, and Administration and Public Relations.

The following shall be the Nomination committee, Tom Phillips – Dardanelle Bass Club, Joe Don Nix- Team Ark Outdoors.com, Jim Alexander- Central Arkansas Bassmasters.

1. **Tournament Director:** Ray Webb,

Ray talked about tournament director’s job and bragged on Luci’s handling of the High School/ Junior Championship Tournament during the adverse conditions from the weather, the high river water, the floating debris. Luci as well as the executive board together assessed the situation, and with safety being at the forefront for those young anglers, Luci made good call to keep them in the bayou on Saturday then reassessed Sunday allowing them up to Piney Bay. Safety is always the first concern!!!!

Ray advised he has been advised of interest for the 2022 ABN State Championship from Bull Shoals, Norfork, and Greer’s Ferry, these clubs can present their presentation at the August Meeting and have their written proposal to Ray thirty days prior to the December Meeting.

Ray talked about the 2021 ABN State Championship Tournament, with the following clubs co-hosting, Johnson County Bass Club, Dardanelle Bass Club, and Mill Creek Bass Club. They are still working on additional sponsorship money. The Executive Board will be staying at the A-Frame for the tournament.

1. **Old Business:** Ron Plate, None
2. **New Business:** Ron Plate, None
3. **Open to the floor,** no other business.
4. **President Comments:** Ron Plate,

Talked about our sponsors Bass Cat Boats, Favorite Rods, Mercury, Humminbird, Min Kota, H2O Sports, Sun Line, Lure Lock, Pro Guide Batteries, AFTCO Clothing, and TH Marine.

Ron briefed the board on the Regional on Milford Lake, Johnson City, Kansas. Chris Johnson took 1st place boater and Russell Vines took the Non-boater side for Arkansas. These two will be representing Arkansas at the National’s at Monroe, Louisiana in November.

Ron ask everyone that could hang around for the High School/Junior championship weigh-in and show support for our youth and further anglers.

1. Door Prize Drawing with the winners being, Mike Estes with Johnson County Bass Club, and Bill Feast with Bear Creek Bass Club
2. Ron Plate, ask for motion to adjourn, motion made and carried. Closing roll call completed.

The next Board of Directors Meeting is August 22, 2021, at Howard Johnson in Conway, Arkansas at 10:00 am…