

BASS Nation of WV General Meeting

October 11, 2024

Holiday Inn, Moundsville, WV

BOD Members in Attendance: Ken Hackworth, Ed Powell, Randy Huffman, Tony Keller, Dustin Hollen, Matt Myers, Dana Brown, Ben Nowalk, Kevin Postalwait

1. Welcome

President Ken Hackworth opened the meeting with discussion of upcoming agenda items.

2. Acceptance of previous Minutes

Motion made by Orville Blackmore to dispense with reading of previous Minutes. Seconded by Dion Bright. Motion Carried.

3. Board of Directors Election

Elections having been held for the Board of Directors open positions, the following winners were announced:

Vice President: Randy Huffman (elected)

Tournament Director: Lyle Adkins (elected)

Youth Director: Dana Brown (re-elected)

Southeast Delegate: Tyler Webb (re-elected)

Western Delegate: John Cooper (elected)

4. Off-Limits Period Vote

A ballot was held for the off-limit period to continue as adopted over the tournament season. Out of 35 teams: 7 clubs did not vote, 20 clubs voted for the off-limits period to remain in effect, 8 clubs voted against having an off-limit period.

Dion Bright asked that the membership and Board of Directors consider not applying an off-limits to the open tournaments because of trying to get new members into clubs and the problem of policing the off-limits on an open tournament. No action was taken but the Board stated it would be considered.

5. State Qualifying Tournaments (SQT) Locations

Regions voted on where to have their SQT with the following results:

Northern: Stonewall Jackson Lake

Western: East Lynn Lake

Southeastern: Bluestone Lake

6. State Championship Location

Because of safety conditions requiring the need to change 2024 location from the Kanawha River to the Ohio River, the Western Region retained the choice of the 2025 State Championship. 2025 SC location will be the Kanawha River.

7. Meeting Dates

Meeting Dates were approved as follows:

January 11, 2025 (changed to February 8, 2025 due to weather) - BOD

March 15, 2025 – BOD & General

TBD – BOD & General

8. Financials

Secretary/Treasurer Kevin Postalwait gave an update on the financial condition of the organization.

9. Ken Hackworth announced that early-entry codes received from B.A.S.S. and issued by him for B.A.S.S. Nation Regional Qualifiers would be on a first-come first-served basis. Ken also discussed scheduled ongoing meetings with WVDNR leadership that he, Tournament Director Randy Huffman, and representatives from other WV tournament trails have had to foster an open dialogue in discussing issues and concerns. Youth Director Dana Brown discussed informing WVDNR that both in-state and out-of-state clubs/trails are conducting tournament events without a WVDNR-issued permit. Discussion was had concerning possible changes to our Team Trail Series and State Championship dates to align with B.A.S.S. Nation Regional Qualifier and B.A.S.S. Nation Championship dates. Ken also announced that 2025 would be his 17th year on our BOD and, at the conclusion of his current 4th 2-year term as President, he was retiring from our BOD.

10. Conservation

Conservation Director Matt Myers gave a report on Conservation efforts including the establishment of a Conservation Award. He gave updates on the Burnsville clean-up project done this year, informed about a possible Bass Pro Shops raffle for next season, and the idea for potential Youth scholarship funding.

11. Youth

Youth Director Dana Brown discussed the elimination dinner set for February 2025. He informed the membership about donations from Hope Gas and asked that other members contact him about companies he can contact for possible donations. Dana also discussed the rod award prizes for winners of this year's Fantasy Fishing contest.

12. Items from the Floor

Dion Bright thanked the Board for agreeing to move the General Meeting off the State Championship dates. Marty McClanahan suggested the Team Trail Series Championship require a more strenuous qualifying format that the Board agreed to entertain at the next BOD meeting.

13. Adjournment

Ken Hackworth asked if there was a motion to adjourn the meeting. Orville Blackmore made a motion to adjourn. Brad West seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.