**Virginia Bass Chapter Federation Board Meeting Minutes**

**Microtel Inn & Suites, South Hill, Va**

**March 25, 2022**

**Board Members**

President…………. Scott Whitmore

Vice President……. Steve Hajdasz

Region 1 Director…. Bill Haire

Region 4 Director…. Chuck Hart

Region 6 Director…. Ronnie Brewer

Region 8 Director… John Flicek

Region 10 Director… Jason Keene - absent

Tournament Director… Alton Vaughn - absent

Assistant Tournament Director/Youth Director…Becky Conley

Conservation Director…. John Flicek

Secretary……. Tammy Caldwell - absent

Treasurer……... Stephanie Brewer

The board meeting was called to order at 9:00am by the President.

The board observed a moment of silence to pray for our country.

**Meeting Minutes**

The meeting minutes from the January 9, 2022 board meeting were distributed. The Region 4 Director made the motion to accept the minutes and the Region 8 Director seconded the motion. The board voted unanimously to accept the minutes as presented.

**Treasurer’s Report**

Treasurer presented the treasurer’s report. The Region 8 Director made the motion to accept the treasurer’s report as presented and the Region 1 Director seconded the motion.

**Conservation Report**

The Biennial VA DWR Regulatory Review of the Fishing and Boating Regulations is currently underway.  The public solicitation period ended in February.  All inputs are currently being evaluated and any resulting proposed regulation changes will be reviewed by the DWR Board then drafted for public comment which should be available in May.  Following the public comment period, they will meet to formalize change proposals for final approval by the DWR Board in August.  All approved regulatory changes will be effective January 1 2023.

One issue we’ve been in discussion about is the implementation of “Clean, Drain, Dry” regulatory guidance.  There is an agreement that the new regulations need to be reasonably achievable and enforceable.  The purpose of a “Clean, Drain, Dry” policy is intended to help curb the migration of invasive species (micro-organisms, plants, animals, etc.) that “hitchhike” on our boats, trailer, bilges, live wells, etc. through Virginia waters.

DWR Fisheries Biologists are contributing articles for each edition of Tightlines. Please pass along to your members that these articles cover subjects of interest by the bass fishing community.

 **Youth Report**

Scott has talked with several people that have expressed interest in the youth program.

The state is trying to set up a central youth club for pre- 9th grade youth anglers.  If we can get six members, we will have a youth state championship and send one team to the TBF National Youth Championship. Youth anglers would have to have access to a boat and boat captain.

SAF: The TBF Student Angler Federation (SAF) is for high school age anglers in 9th grade or above. They do not have to belong to a high school team to participate. They just have to join SAF and fish any of the SAF tournaments. They can go to the TBF website for further information and to join.

**Budget Report**

The Vice President presented an update of the 2022 budget.

**Old Business**

**PayPal for Clothing/Raffle (increase in fees)**

The online registration will be adjusted for the State Championship and will reflect the PayPal fee increase.

Scott and Stephanie are still working on the ability to take credit card payment to utilize credit card sales at tournaments for clothing/raffle tickets.

**Ranger Boat purchases**

Remind members that purchases a Ranger boat to fill out the paperwork. It not only benefits the Ranger boat purchaser but also the state.

**Trailer Improvements**

Moving forward with having the trailer wrapped.

**2023 Tournament Schedule**

Tentative dates and locations:

South Regional- Kerr, 10/22/22

North Regional- Anna, 4/22/23

West Regional- TBD

East Regional- TBD

State Championship- TBD

**2021 National Championship**

Virginia anglers had a great time. Please encourage your members that go to the National Semi-finals to register as a competitor prior to fishing in order to fish in the BFL All American should they qualify.

**New Member requirements**

Make sure your region and clubs have something in bylaws to addressing suspension of a member for the current year.

**Clothing**

Scott is working with All Star Sports on new clothing.

**Membership growth**

Membership has grown across the state. Continue recruiting members. If anyone needs flyers, please let John know and he will get them to you.

**Richmond Fishing Expo**

Purchased trophies for kids prior to the 2022 Richmond Fishing Expo being cancelled due to inclement weather, will be used them for 2023 and will have new plates made for them.

January 20-22, 2023 is the scheduled dates.

**New Business**

 **Tightlines**

Articles and Pictures from Clubs and Regions are due now.

**2022 State Raffles**

We are currently conducting two raffles. One is for a $1000 VISA gift card and the other is for a MinnKota trolling motor. This is what is allowing us to pay back all entry fees for state tournaments. We are encouraging all federation members to buy a least one ticket to help support our state team tournament trail.

**2022 National Semifinal**

The 2022 National Semifinals will be held Sept 16-18 on Chickahominy River. Potential to be a large field. Fort McGruder will be the host hotel.

**Sponsor Update**

Continue seeking out state sponsorships. Sponsorships can be either in cash or product. They will be advertised in our Tight Lines magazine which is a quarterly online publication published on the state website, [www.vabass.com](http://www.vabass.com)

**Ranger Bonus Money/Ranger Cup**

Remind membership that purchases a Ranger boat to fill out the paperwork. It not only benefits the Ranger boat purchaser but also the state.

**Pictures**

Make sure any pictures you take and publish do not contradict with TBF or our sponsors.

**Youth State Championship**

Work on getting teams for the Youth Championship.

**2022 West Regional SML**

West Regional went well.

**2022 MD/DE/NJ SAF-April 16th Potomac River**

 Need help for this tournament.

**2022 State Championship**

The State Team Trail Championship will be held June 4-5 on Kerr Lake.

**National Board meeting**

Scott will be attending the National Board Meeting.

**Next Board meeting June 3 South Hill**

**Motion to close meeting**

Region 4 made the motion to adjourn the meeting, Region 1 seconded the motion.