

The Missouri B.A.S.S Nation was called to order by President Jim Zieger on January 1, 2026, at the American Legion in Columbia, Missouri. Roll call was made by John Blankenkemper with 18 clubs present. Motion was made by Mark Twain with a second by Rod Benders to approve the minutes. Motion passed. Treasurer Greg Voss presented the financial report. A motion was made by Team Bass with a second by KC Area to approve the report. Motion passed.

Kathy Blankenkemper discussed membership, adding new members, rosters, attendance, and the waiver required by B.A.S.S. If someone needs to get a membership straightened out, they can contact B.A.S.S. at bn@bassmaster.com. Mark Cowart discussed state sponsors and that it is becoming harder to get sponsors. He is putting together a list of current sponsors and will email it when complete. Jim Zieger discussed the revised calendar, the MoBass website, and Facebook page. Spring Fling will be at Truman and Summer Sizzler and Fall Classic will be at Pomme.

Bill Lewis, tournament director, discussed the 2025 state tournament. The tournament went well. The State Tournament will be back at Lake of the Ozarks in 2026 on October 17 to 18 going out of PB2. They do have a release boat. In 2026 all money raised from Spring Fling, Summer Sizzler and Fall Classic will go to the MoBass Federation. Entry fee for the three extra tournaments will be \$150 with \$10 going to big bass and a 70 - 30 pay back on the remainder.

Election was held based on previous nominations of President Jim Zieger, Vice President John Blankenkemper, Secretary Kathy Blankenkemper and Conservation Logan Hermanson. All were elected. There was one application for Treasurer from Greg Oehring. Motion was made by Eldon with a second by Bassaholics to nominate Greg Oehring for treasurer. Election will be at the April meeting. Motion passed. He was appointed to temporarily fill the position until then. Mark Cowart was appointed Marketing Director, Bill Lewis as Tournament Director, Ron Hauser as Scholarship director and Dawnisa Avery as Youth Director. All appointed positions were accepted.

Jim Zieger did a BASS presentation. Cast 4 Kids is back. This presentation included National Sponsors and the Alliance. Motorguide is no longer a sponsor. Codes need to be used and they will be sent out again. He still needs leads for those wanting to buy a boat. 1 to 5 leads with purchase is \$1000. 6 to 10 is \$2000. This is for Nitro, Ranger or Triton boats. Also B.A.S.S. is requesting articles. He advised we will be down to five boaters and five coanglers for 2026 Nationals. In 2027 we will be down to one boater and one nonboater at Nationals, however we could earn an additional spot for each if our membership goes back up to 425 or more. Also, five regionals will be back in 2027.

Greg Voss presented the 2026 budget. Motion made by Leavenworth with a second by St Louis Area to accept the budget. Motion passed. Bill Lewis presented the current raffle fund raiser. 500 tickets will be sold over the next six months.

Ron Hauser, Scholarship chairman, advised there were seven applicants in 2025 which received \$500 per semester. These seven averaged a 3.7 grade point. Motion was made by Rod Benders and second by Lost Creek to fund \$3500 to cover the \$500 each for Spring semester for the seven applicants. Motion passed. He asks that everyone try to get sponsors to help fund the scholarship program. A flyer was handed out that can be used to get sponsors.

Bill Lewis did a presentation on purchasing a new trailer from West Virginia BASS Nation. This is a 20' by 8.5' trailer with a release trailer inside and contents such as scales, generator, tanks, etc. Cost of the

trailer is \$10500. MoBass trailer will be sold and Bill's trailer is for sale and money will be donated to MoBass. Motion made by Team Bass with a second by KC Area to purchase trailer. Motion passed. Motion made by KC Area and second by Leavenworth for expense money up to \$1000 to go pick up the trailer or to have it brought back to Missouri.

Youth director, Dawnisa Avery, advised they have 29 high school and 13 youth. Youth have 3 berths and they need one more high school to get two berths. At the last high school tournament, they paid \$80 for big bass, 1st paid \$800, 2nd \$480 and 3rd \$320. Entry was \$80 for high school for team.

Environmental Director, Logan Hermanson, stated we won \$1000 in Seaguard products in their recycling project. Products have been ordered. March 13 to 15 will be conservation meetings at the Classic.

DOMS - Department of MoBass Efficiency Committee proposed four different ways to run the state tournament in the future. At the September meeting a motion was made by SOMO and second by Lost Creek to take the proposals back to the clubs and vote on it at the January meeting and if none of the proposals pass the tournament will continue in its current format. Proposals are as follows: 1. Each club will send as many boaters and non-boaters as they want. They will be randomly paired both days and if there are not enough non boaters, some boaters will fish by themselves one or both days. 2. Do it like the WON series. Boaters and non-boaters will be paired equally. There will be a five fish limit per boat. The boat weight is the weight for the boater and non-boater to carry over for the next day. They will pair with different partners for the second day and again boat weight is given to both partners. 3. Equal number of boaters and non-boaters however they would be randomly paired within their clubs each day. 4. Unequal number of boaters and non-boaters per club and paired within their club as far as possible each day. Again, some boaters may fish by themselves one or both days. Motion 1 received 12 votes, Motion 4 received 5 votes and there was one vote to leave as is. Motion 1 passed. Motion was made by Mark Twain and second by Rod Benders to do this as long as there are more boaters than nonboaters. Motion was withdrawn.

Motion made by Rod Benders with a second by Heartland to adjourn. Motion passed.