

The Missouri B.A.S.S Nation was called to order by President Jim Zieger on September 12, 2026, at the Pomme United Methodist Church in Hermitage, Missouri. Roll call was made by Vice President John Blankenkaker with 16 clubs present. Minutes presented by Secretary Kathy Blankenkaker with motion made by Mark Twain with a second by Lost Creek to approve the minutes. Motion passed. Treasurer Greg Oehring presented the financial report. A motion was made by MoKan with a second by St Louis Area to approve the report. Motion passed.

Secretary Kathy Blankenkaker 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.

Marketing Director, Mark Cowart was unable to attend. Scholarship Chairman, Ron Hauser, was unable to attend. Future scholarships were discussed at length but no final decision was made. President Jim Zieger discussed the MoBass website and Facebook page. He appointed Alan Daniels as the web hosting director to set up gmail accounts for MoBass and look into alternatives for the website. Bill Lewis discussed the gun raffle. Greg Cooper was able to get tickets printed for \$155.00. There are 500 tickets for \$10 each. This will be a \$600 value gun thru a gun shop in Monroe City or cash.

Bill Lewis, tournament director, discussed the 2026 state tournament. The State Tournament will be back at Lake of the Ozarks in 2026 on October 17 to 18 going out of Pb2. Meeting Friday will be at 5 m at Margaritaville and all participants should be there. Please car pool if possible and do NOT bring boats as parking will be limited. Captain's meeting on Thursday will be at Robin's Resort from 5pm to 6:30 pm. Schedule of events was presented. President Jim Zieger stated everyone will get a bag of Culprit. He also has \$1500 of Frog Togg products, and four Denali rods – two of which will be used at the Fall Classic. Bassaholics made a motion with a second by St Louis Bass Busters to purchase \$1000 each of Mercury, Lowrance and Denali products to be used as door prizes at the state tournament. Motion passed.

The B.A.S.S. Nation championship will be held at Lake Hartwell November 17 to 20, 2026. John and Kathy Blankenkaker will be attending the meetings which are held at the championship.

President Jim Zieger presented the calendar of events for 2027 as follows: meetings January 9 at American Legion in Columbia at 10 am with a state team meeting at 9 am, April 10, June 5, and September 11 with those locations to be decided at a later time. Spring Fling will be April 11, Summer Sizzler on June 6 and Fall Classic on September 12. Bill Lewis stated the fees for these tournaments will be lowered to \$120 to try to get more participation. Greg Cooper with Mark Twan Bassmasters made a motion that each club send at least one team to each event starting in 2027. This motion died for lack of a second.

Youth director, Dawnisa Avery, stated 2 teams went to the High School Nationals and 3 to the Jr Nationals in July in Kentucky. She attended the B.A.S.S. youth meeting in July and stated they need 60 teams at the state championship to get two births next year and a possibility of another birth with a trail of 25. There is an open on September 19 for the youth and a team tournament for high school and juniors on the 20th. Future tournaments are October 25 on Lake of the Ozarks, March 7 on Pomme and the Championship on Table Rock on April 4. It was decided that the youth need their own checking account to be able to do their payouts and accounting. This will be taken care of as soon as possible.

Environmental Director, Logan Hermanson, was also unable to attend the meeting. He has sent in for Conservation grants.

A motion was made by Leavenworth with a second by White River Elite to randomly pair boaters and nonboaters in their own club for the state tournament next year. Pairings would be random for both days and any extras would be randomly paired with other clubs if necessary. This will be voted on at the January meeting. There may need to be a vote on nonboater fishing front or back of boat if this is approved.

Ron Bently brought up a possible change to the form for the Captain's signature on the club entry for the state tournament, a question about the date showing on the B.A.S.S. waiver and a question about a reference in the late penalty. These will be looked at before next year with possible revisions in some of the wording.

President Jim Zieger brought up about one of the participants in the regional not attending and owes money back to MoBass. Since a contract was signed he will not be able to fish MoBass or B.A.S.S. functions until the amount has been repaid. Many calls, texts and emails have been sent and a letter from an attorney will be the next step.

Motion made by St Louis Bass Busters with a second by Leavenworth to adjourn. Motion passed.