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Minutes of the November 23, 2024 business meeting of the Kansas BASS Nation.

On November 23, 2024 the fall business meeting of the KBN was held at the Holiday Inn Wichita East I-35 in Wichita Kansas...

At 10:30am the meeting was called to order by KBN President Mike Turner; Brad VanRiette was the recording Secretary. A roll call was taken and the following clubs were represented: 316 Elite, Cherryvale Bassmasters, East Kansas Bassmasters, Flint Hills Bass Assoc Inc, Hays Bass Anglers Assoc, Heartland Bass Club, KC Bass, Kansas-at-Large, Kansas Bassmasters, KBN Team Trail, LastCast Bassmasters, Ozawkie Bass Club, Salina Bassmasters, Sandhill Bassmasters, Twin Rivers Bass Club, Western Kansas Bassmasters. A quorum being present, the meeting continued.

The meeting moved into general discussion with Mike Turner presiding. Mike extended thanks to Tim Merkh for his service as Tournament Director.

1. Board member nominations, Mike Turner. The following positions and candidates were listed for election. Motion by Tim Merkh, second; to elect the candidates to their respective positions.
Passed by voice vote.
 - a. President, Mike Turner incumbent.
 - b. Treasurer, Rick Muhl incumbent.
 - c. Tournament Director, Travis Burch nominated.
 - d. Kayak Director, Todd Segraves incumbent.
 - e. Conservation Director, Clayton Rudman incumbent.
 - f. Media Director, Josh Pilades nominated.
 - g. Sponsor Director, Danny Barrett nominated to serve remainder of empty position.
2. Minutes of the February 24, 2024 business meeting were approved by voice vote.
3. BASS President's Meeting Report by Danny Barrett. Handout provided.
 - a. 2025 BNC will be a Lacrosse WI, October 22-25.
 - i. Probably a four day event with cuts after days two and three.
 - ii. In the future KBN is expected to advance three boaters and three non-boaters directly to the BNC.
 - b. Registration for the Regional Open Qualifiers will begin in January.
 - i. 10% of the field will now advance to the BNC, with a maximum of 20.
 - c. For BASS events, linking of boaters/non-boaters will be required beginning 2025.
 - d. Off limits periods will go to 10 days.
 - e. BASS will have an Alliance package available for 2025. Expect the "state team" allocations to now go to the BNC qualifying anglers.
 - i. Mike Turner has signed and returned the contract.
 - f. Beginning 2025 all boaters entering a BASS event must submit proof of completion of an approved Boater Safety course.
 - i. <https://www.bassmaster.com/b-a-s-s-nation/news/boater-safety-courses-now-required-for-b-a-s-s-tournaments/>.
 - g. It is possible that BASS will go to a shared weight format.
 - h. States must send a copy of their bylaws and any future changes to BASS by January 1, 2025. States must also send a copy of their tournament schedule to BASS by January 1, 2025.
 - i. Mike Turner will send these.

- i. BASS will have an Alliance package available for 2025. Expect the “state team” allocations to now go to the BNC qualifying anglers. TBA.
 - i. Mike Turner has signed and returned the contract.
 - j. Skeeter, Yamaha, Garmin, and Humminbird will also be sponsors in some manner, but are not in the Alliance.
- 4. Treasurer report, Rick Muhl. Handout provided. Report approved by voice vote.
 - a. Twin Rivers Club donated \$500 to the scholarship fund, and challenged all other clubs to donate \$100 during the next year.
 - b. Rick noted the bank was charging the KBN a fee for receiving paper statements. After discussion Rick Muhl motion, second; the KBN authorize the bank to stop sending paper statements and to use online statements. Passed unanimously by voice vote.
- 5. Qualifier format selection, Mike Turner. Handout provided.
 - a. 1 was the existing format from 2024, submitted per the bylaws.
 - b. 2 was submitted by Sandhills. Danny Barrett explained it followed by discussion.
 - c. 3 was submitted by Travis Burch. He explained it followed by discussion.
 - d. 4 was submitted by Brad VanRietten. He explained it followed by discussion.
 - e. Mike Turner then asked Brad VanRietten to inform the Representatives of the voting format to be used, as it was a new bylaw for this meeting.
 - f. Motion by Jeff Nolte, second; to accept all proposed formats as written. Passed by voice vote.
 - i. The four format proposals were then voted on individually with each Representative voting only one for the proposal of their choice.
 - 1. 1 received one vote.
 - 2. 2 received 0 votes.
 - 3. 3 received 13 votes.
 - 4. 4 received one vote.
 - ii. The top three format proposals were then voted on by the club Representatives with each Representative only receiving one vote.
 - 1. 1 received one vote.
 - 2. 3 received 13 votes.
 - 3. 4 received one vote.
 - iii. Travis Burch’s format proposal was selected for 2025 and 2026.
- 6. Tournament report, Tim Merkh.
 - a. Danny Barrett ran the KBN Team Series and reported.
 - i. D J Henderson and Blake Streck won the points and advance to the Bassmaster Team Championship.
 - b. Travis Burch ran the KBN BNC Qualifier and reported.
 - i. Boaters advancing to the BNC were; Hunter Baird, Alex Torkleson, Justin Harris, Tate Herrman, Nick Luna, Derek Dultmeier.
 - ii. Non-boaters were; Devin Pino, Kyle Klein, Kyle Herrman, Ray Cates, Larry Fralick, Nicholas Herrman.

At 11:55am the meeting adjourned for lunch.

At 12:30am the meeting reconvened.

- 7. Kayak report, Todd Segraves.
 - a. The state championship was held at Melvern. Clayton Westgate advanced to the National championship.
 - b. Numbers were down in 2024, still sent one angler to the classic.
 - c. In 2025 the KBN will have two events and a championship.
 - d. KBN and Kansas Kayak Anglers are working towards combining in some form.
- 8. Youth report, Tate Herrman.

- a. Thanks to Travis Burch for helping with the transition to Youth Director.
 - b. High school numbers are about 80, Juniors about 40.
 - i. Still expect three High School teams as well as three Junior teams to the National championship.
 - c. Boater Safety course is mandatory.
 - d. Trailer floor has been replaced and new tires installed.
 - e. One college team, from K-State, advanced to the National championship.
 - f. There is a need for boaters, if you can volunteer please contact Tate.
 - i. A list of KBN clubs, location, and contact person will be sent to Tate.
9. Conservation report, Clayton Rudman.
- a. Using grant money 50 pallet structures have been sunk, 200 concrete anchors poured, and five MossBack structures bought.
 - i. Please contact him for project ideas and/or help.
 - b. State has bought a couple dump barges, retrofitted another.
 - c. He has submitted for a couple grants.
 - d. The state has stopped the green house project. Grant money had to be refunded.
 - e. Stocking numbers were just short of their goal. Most went to eastern lakes.
 - f. KDWPT is reviewing bass length limits.
 - g. He has received clarification concerning the Basspass and culling of fish issue.
 - h. All tournaments, regardless of size, need to be permitted.
 - i. State and COE are using helicopters to spray lake shorelines for phragmites. This is killing all vegetation and has a three year residual effect.
 - j. BASS is partnering with MossBack, their product is microplastic fee.
 - i. There is a discount available through the KBN.
 - k. Clayton will continue to post legislative information when possible.
10. Media report, Danny Barrett. Handout provided.
- a. Josh Pilades is new Media Director, reach out to him for needs/ideas etc.
11. Sponsor report, Danny Barrett.
- a. Thanks to those who have helped in the past year; Express Tire, Russell Marine Products, Lake Lodge at Grand Lake O' the Cherokees, Albers Marine.
 - b. In 2025 Danny wants to focus on sponsors for each activity.
12. Unfinished business, Mike Turner. There was none.
13. New business, Mike Turner.
- a. Next scheduled meeting February 15, Russell Marine Products has tentatively volunteered to host,
 - b. The idea of a Banquet committee was discussed, with possible venue sponsor, sponsor exhibits, etc. More discussion at the February meeting.
 - c. If you, a club, or group of clubs want to submit a KBN BNC Qualifier venue site proposal please contact Travis Burch.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:44pm.

Submitted by Brad VanRietten, KBN Secretary.