



November 16 2019
New Mexico B.A.S.S. Nation
Director's Meeting
Location/Time: CPR2U 9:00 AM

MINUTES

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|------|--|--------|
| I. | Call to order, introduction of guests, and roll call | 5 min |
| | a. Meeting started 9:07 | |
| | b. Randell Bell (Cedar Cove), Tawny Bell, Ron Gilworth (Socorro Valley Bass Club), John Clayman (ABQ Hawg Hunters, proxy for Keith Johnston when he leaves), Dave Smith, Keith Johnston (Albuquerque Hawg Hunters), Rick White, Johnny Johnson (Four Corners Bassmasters), Brian Stangel (proxy for Mark Williams High Country Bass Anglers) | |
| | c. Not in attendance Cortez Bassmasters, Elephant Butte Bass Anglers, Pecos Valley Bassmasters | |
| | d. 5 of 8 total clubs were present. For the purpose of a quorum, 5 of 7 clubs that participated in the last year were in attendance. | |
| | e. NM BASS Nation wants to thank Vic Segura for use of his facility and the coffee and donuts. | |
| II. | Reading of previous minutes | 5 min |
| | a. Motion to approve Billy Dunson | |
| | b. Second Ron Gilworth | |
| | c. Accepted by acclamation | |
| III. | Treasurers Report – Billy Dunson | 10 min |
| | a. \$8,981.72 balance in account as of 11/16/19 | |
| | b. Steve Ragsdale purchased boat for Mercury rebate through Alliance package | |
| | c. Minor outstanding expenses for nationals travel for Vic Segura and anglers | |
| | d. Approximate balance as of today with AP/AR ~\$11k | |
| | i. Ron raised the question of audit. | |
| | ii. Billy will be doing taxes this year. | |
| | iii. Vic and Earl had to track all the money that was taken from from NMBN account at Wells Fargo. All was returned to account. | |
| | e. Motion to approve financials by Billy Dunson | |
| | f. Second Keith Johnston | |
| | g. Accepted by acclamation. | |
| IV. | Conservation Director's Report – (Brian Stangel proxy for Earl) | 10 min |
| | a. Reading of Conservation Report (attached) | |

- b. Ron wants to understand why proposed SC club needs to be affiliated with NMBN if SC is going to be a separate entity.
 - c. Earl called in to explain.
 - i. Lot of people that want to have a conservation and not tournament oriented club.
 - ii. Motion to revive Canadian River Bass (Logan) by Vic Segura
 - iii. Second Keith Johnson
 - iv. Accepted by acclamation
- V. High School Director's Report – Vic Segura 10 min
- a. Five region format, only active is SW (Los Lunas HS center of activity)
 - b. Justin Allen doing a lot for the program
 - c. New club out in Logan (High School)
 - d. Vic would like ideas for more programs
 - e. Sent one team to HS Nationals (Karl Bernie Jr. and Dakotah McDaniel)
 - f. Vic and Earl will accept donated tackle
 - g. Cedar Cove (Randell and Tawny Bell) and Four Corners (Billy Dunson) have been very supportive for events.
 - h. NM BASS Team Trail supplying boat captains for Youth program again in 2020.
 - i. Ron mentioned NM Tech might be an audience for a college team.
- VI. Nationals update (Vic Segura)
- a. Vic gave 5 Carhartt cards away
 - b. Billy still has two Carhartt codes for anyone that would like THEY NEED TO BE USED
 - c. More sponsors than ever
 - d. MLF did not go as well as promised for BPT, BASS will welcome back Elite series anglers that left
 - e. TNT is willing to partner for fund raising at the club level.
 - f. All anglers using the Alliance offers MUST use the product, if an angler shows up running another brand AND purchased Alliance product, the State may be sanctioned by sponsor
- VII. Vote on format change for 2020 10 min
- a. Discussion: HH proposed 3 2-day events, HCBA proposed 4 2-day events, and Soccoro discussed a single event format.
 - b. Motion from Billy to keep format the same.
 - i. Second from Ron Gilworth
 - ii. Accepted by acclamation
- VIII. Randell wants to vote on TD having full discretion on lakes and dates
- i. Motion by Ron Gilworth to amend Article XII Section I of the 2018 NMBN Bylaws to remove Director approval of dates and lakes for NMBN tournaments, format still determined by a vote of the Directors. Tournament Director will have discretion for lake selection and dates with approval from the appointed tournament committee consisting of the President, VP, and TD to prevent any major conflicts.
 - ii. Second John Clayman.
 - iii. Accepted by acclamation.
 - 1. Discussion.
 - a. Randell doesn't want any outside influences like what happened in 2019.
 - b. Ron doesn't think a single person should have all the authority.
 - 2. Ron mentioned a single tournament format.

3. John Clayman proposed a 3 weekend format.
4. High Country proposes a 4 weekend format.
 - a. Lots of discussion

IX. State Team (Johnny Johnson)

- a. Johnny would like a NMBN cc to secure rooms
- b. State Team participation form and W9 will be required
 - i. Jersey will be required to be worn
 - ii. Team Captain will enlist President or Tournament Director for rules infractions according to the Bylaws
 - iii. State Team members will be paid at the conclusion of the pictures at the regional after they've met their obligations under the signed participation
 - iv. Shirts need to be ordered after the team is established, mandatory deadline for forms return
 - v. There will only be one alternate for boater and nonboater
 - vi. December 31 deadline for state team participation

X. Election of 2020 Officers

10 min

- a. John Clayman nominates Earl Conway for Conservation Director and Vice President
 - i. Second Ron Gilworth
 - ii. Accepted by acclamation
- b. HCBA nominates Vic Segura for Youth Director
 - i. Second Randell Bell
 - ii. Accepted by acclamation
- c. Vic Segura nominates Jack Phelps for Treasurer
 - i. Second Ron Gilworth
 - ii. Accepted by acclamation
- d. Socorro nominates Randell Bell for Tournament Director
 - i. Second John Clayman
 - ii. Accepted by acclamation
- e. Cedar Cover nominates Billy Dunson President
 - i. Ron Gilworth Second
 - ii. Accepted by acclamation
 - iii.

XI. Meeting adjourned 11:36



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Meeting notes for November 16, 2019 NMBN Director's Meeting

Earl Conway Conservation Director, New Mexico Bass Nation

I am ill, so I hope I will everyone at the meeting. If not, read the report.

Overall, fishing is good, the lakes have more water and we are on excellent terms with the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, Bureau of Reclamation, US Army Corps of Engineers and the Bureau of Land Management. We are developing a stronger relationship with the communities of Carlsbad, Elephant Butte, Albuquerque and Fort Sumner.

NMBN is not just about tournament fishing - "**Dedicated to Conservation and the Bass Fishermen of New Mexico**"!

Organizational changes: **Sun Country Outdoors** is my new 501 (c) 3 non-profit chapter. I would like to bring it under the under the umbrellas of New Mexico BASS Nation a 501 (c) 7 social club. I have already made it an affiliate of Friends of Reservoirs, a national 501 (c) 3. I requested in August to create a new club that is focused on conservation, not just tournament angling. The latest grant for Carlsbad Lake was awarded to Sun Country Outdoors through Friends of Reservoirs. I need a motion and vote to approve today. The club, Sun Country Outdoors is even broader and has an intense focus on youth and young adults (including veterans) and advocacy for the big picture of sustainable outdoor recreation. You can check it out on Facebook. Currently the BLM awards were to NMBN. The Elephant Butte grant was to NMBN. The goal is to transition all fiscal activities (grants and sponsorship to Sun Country Outdoors and Friends of Reservoirs. I seriously recommend that NMBN become a 501 (c) 3.

Elephant Butte has risen so high that there is nothing really to do until it goes back down. We had a very long spawn and there are fry everywhere. Then there will be willow tree planting, Juniper brush piles and artificial habitat to put in the areas that make sense. There is still about \$6000 in grant funds to be spent on the remaining objectives . I got an extension so it has to be spent by the end of January, 2020. There is an annual report due to the BOR and COE at the end of the year. The draft is 50% done. A contract was just received permission from BOR to cut the tops off the Gooding's willows in Jet Boat Cove because they will be drowned soon. The cuttings will be used to replant next year. BOR is ready to renew the contract with NMBN for Elephant Butte. NMGF is finally stepping up in full. They stocked bass at Elephant Butte and several small lakes from the Santa Rosa hatchery. They bought a habitat boat and broke it in putting in several American Fish Trees with the help of



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some of our anglers. A letter of appreciation from our President would be a good gesture.

Bill Evans is going to get a lot of love and fish habitat from NMG&F. NMBN has been helping them get started on Bill Evans fish habitat with a \$5000 grant from AFTO. This also funded an intern for the summer, Savannah Rampy, Hawg Hunter Barry Rampy's daughter. She is a student in wildlife biology at WTAMU and was awarded one of 12 national Shimano scholarships (\$2000). We have built several prototypes and are preparing the procedures, design, and bill of materials. We also are delivering 3 tons of custom bricks and other materials for the project. NMG&F are planning a four-day event in February to install approximately 250 new fish habitat structures. Jake Miller is the lead biologist on the project for NMG&F.

Carlsbad Municipal Lake is funded from Friends of Reservoir to do a \$40,000 in fish habitat improvements, ADA access upgrades, and an early golden algae detection pilot. I met with NMGF on September 3 to discuss partnership plans for the future and to get their support for several potential projects in the lower Pecos Valley. The reception was not as warm as I would have hoped. I am still pushing harder than they would like. I am working with the City Manager and staff to get the COE permit for the project. I am also discussing an upcoming draw down they need to do to work on the dam. There are about 40 volunteers in the area ready to help go rescue and transport fish if it is needed. The latest work is that the drawdown will be in January.

Bosque Redondo Lake is the poster child for why we should control cattails. It is 90% overgrown. The mayor of Fort Sumner has asked for help with the Bosque Redondo "ponds" south of town.

Carlsbad XTO Lake is a new lake to be designed and built next year. Right now it is just an old gravel quarry that will have room for a 4-acre pond. There is a big team of people working on it and Shawn Denny, NMG&F and I are doing the full design of the lake.

BLM has also contracted with me (NMBN) to do several other tasks over the next two years at about \$65K per year. Unfortunately I have no way to pay myself except for expenses. This relationship is very important if we are going to ever do anything about sedimentation from the Rio Puerco and other watersheds that are impacting our lakes.



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I presented to the Friends of Reservoirs workshop in October on the sedimentation issues in New Mexico and a national white paper that I am pushing that will establish plans for all of the reservoirs in the U.S. It went very well.

Work towards a minimum and conservation pool for Elephant Butte is going well. I am supporting Sierra County in the effort, teamed with a Commissioner, the mayor of Elephant Butte and the local state representative. Mario Carreon and I will brief Ashley Beyer, Congresswoman Xochitl Torres-Small's field representative soon.

By helping Shady Lakes manage their ponds, Justin Allen and I secured free privileges for the youth and high school anglers in Albuquerque.

B.A.S.S. is seriously considering splitting off the conservation group as a separate Non-Profit organization. The state conservation directors have been asking for this for over ten years. This would allow them to also attract private, corporate and government funding.

I am interested in remaining your Conservation Director next year to complete current projects.

Earl Conway

Angler recruitment: We realize that if people do not have a quality experience while angling, they are not as likely to be an advocate for the sport or the waters. We can lead new anglers to water, but NMDGF can make or break the experience. Wherever possible, we want to partner with NMDGF to increase recruitment, especially when it comes to youth and young adults. The competition with the internet and school programs have definitely impacted the number of anglers and we are seeing a resurgence of interest and a period of opportunity. We have come to the reality that the more anglers there are and the more informed they are about sustainable fisheries, the more likely it is that the precious few resources we have will be supported by local, state and national agencies.

Urban recruitment: **Bus/bike to fish!** Kids don't have boats! We want to partner with NMDGF to increase the number of places people can fish for warm water



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species (and winter trout) in a ten-mile radius of their house. We have a youth group in Albuquerque KidshookedonfishingABQ that has huge potential, limited only by the adult leaders and places to fish. It is a totally different experience that the NMDGF Wild Program. We actually mentor the kids over the summer with week night gatherings at various venues with the goal of getting the kid and their parent to the position that they can venture out on their own and invite new kids. We had 21 kids and 9 disabled veterans at our last free fishing day at Shady Lakes.

We would like to continue to grow these local youth fishing clubs. But we need more places to fish and more fish to catch.

We would still like for NMDGF to seriously consider either buying Shady Lakes or building a similar warm water fishery near the new Albuquerque department offices. We are still talking to Bernalillo County and Albuquerque Open Space about Shady Lakes. The place needs a lot of love but it is still worth a second look. It could be the most profitable state park if the land south of the lakes could be converted to RV camping.

there is a disconnect between