

ABATE of Illinois E Board Meeting – April 30, 2005

These minutes approved on June 11, 2005

State Office - ABATE of Illinois

311 E. Main Street - Suite 418
Galesburg, Illinois 61401

State Secretary – Linda Pasetti

1922 Bradley Dr.
Montgomery, Illinois 60538

Executive Board of Directors - Regular Business Meeting – (for) May 2004

Meeting Location – Ramada Limited
Northfield Dr.
Springfield, Illinois 62702

Executive Board Members Present

1. State Coord.-Greg 'Sidecar' Wagner
2. Secretary-Linda Pasetti
3. Treasurer-Julie Bacon
4. Office Manager-Pauli Ward
5. Legislative Coord - Cheryl Pearre
6. Activities Coord.-Carl Shamhart
7. Newsletter Coord.-Ray Heck
8. Products Coord.-Renee Rumble
9. Public Relations Coord (acting)-Deb King
10. NE Region Coord.-Ed Domine
11. NW Region Co-Coord.-Todd 'Turk' Nichols & Roger Larson
12. EC Region Co-Coord.- Sharilyn Kibler-Russell
13. WC Region Coord.-Mike Straker
14. SW Region Coord Bob Meyers

Executive Board Members Absent

1. Ass't State Coord. Jim 'Legs' Korte
2. Safety & Ed Coord-Paulette Pinkham
3. Bike Raffle Coord-Gus Miller
4. SE Region Co-Coord.- Rick 'Doc' Jones

Others Present

1. Crystal Reed – Ass't Activities
2. Rick Olson – So DuPage
3. Dan Harper – Ass't Leg. Coord.
4. John Hagstrom – Ass't Activities
5. BJ Wagner – Brothers of Grundy
6. Denny Turner – Heart of Illinois
7. Penny Turner – Heart of Illinois
8. Patti Meyer – Heart of Illinois
9. Terry Hopkins – Dukane
10. George Tinkham - Lincolnland

Note - All references to the Executive Board herein, will be as 'E Board', and all references to the State Board of Directors will be as 'BOD'.

Motions to accept minutes, reports and adjournment are not numbered.

Call to Order

State Coord. 'Sidecar' Wagner opened the meeting to order at 1:02 PM.

Approval of April 16, 2005 minutes

Todd 'Turk' Nichols motioned to approve the April 16th minutes as written.

Carl Shamhart seconded, and the motion carried without opposition.

Deb King was welcomed to the E Board as the new acting Public Relations Coord.

Old Business

Website

Terry Hopkins is listed on the state website to assist chapters with their websites. Monthly website reports from Ernie Wheeler were discussed. **Todd 'Turk' Nichols motioned to require a bimonthly progress report/summary, from the state webmaster, to keep the boards informed on website developments.**

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Carl Shamhart seconded, and the motion was carried without opposition.
E2005-029

Hupy Issues

Response to the complaint filed against Michael Hupy was received and forwarded on to the E Board this month. Per a telephone conversation, the State Coordinator was told that after the complaint was received, Hupy responded, and ABATE is now being given time to responded to him. After that, the paperwork would be checked over again, and a decision would be reached on the appropriateness of Hupy's behavior.

Question was raised as to how much control the E Board and BOD has over chapter decisions and policies. Three chapters have already responded favorably to donations from Hupy or his law firm, in direct violation to Board decisions. A binding contract was entered into, between ABATE Legal Services via Rod Taylor, and ABATE of Illinois, Inc. around 1992. In return for exclusive advertising in ABATE publications, Rod Taylor provides legal consult and representation for the organization without charge, and some member services, such as free drawing up of wills, referrals, and reduced rates for accident representation, etc. A few chapters have chosen to ignore this contract and accept advertisements or sponsorship from Michael Hupy's law firm. Clarification was made that private donations can be made to, and acknowledged by chapters, but references to personal injury attorneys or their firms, conflict with current ABATE policy.

Suggestion was made to bring the contract with ABATE Legal Services up for a current vote from the BOD, thereby giving chapters a chance to reaffirm Rod Taylor, or to select another attorney of their choice. Contract copies will be supplied to all E Board members, and a recommendation will be made to the BOD. **Ed Domine motioned to ask the BOD to vote annually on the choice of Rod Taylor as the approved attorney to administer ABATE Legal Services for ABATE of Illinois, Inc. Cheryl Pearre seconded and the motion was carried without opposition. # E2005-030**

Using the state newsletter to provide chapter members with information on state policy was discussed as one way to unify board decisions with chapter actions. In order for the ABATE of Illinois, Inc. 'organization' to survive, chapters need to work together and follow the decisions of the majority, instead of a few chapters setting their own policies, which may serve them, but does not work for the good of the whole body.

Discussion occurred about an e-mail Hupy included with his rebuttal against the ABATE complaint filed last month. Three pages of discussion by a Central chapter member concerning ownership of the ABATE name, history of the organization, etc. etc. was covered. While the writer later recanted some of his statements, it was stated that E Board members needed to be aware of the entire e-mail, and not just earlier presented sections.

Mike Straker moved to close Old Business. Ed Domine seconded and a unanimous vote carried the motion.

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Break 2:00 – 2:20 PM

New Business

2006 Proposed Budget Recommendations

Some request packets to be filled out were not received by the panels, due to various issues. All E Board Coord. received one, but not all were returned. State Treasurer noted that budget expenses were more than budgeted income for 2006. E Board members and panels/committees chairs are asked annually to complete anticipated budget needs. After a lengthy discussion, proposals and projections were adjusted until the budgeted income matched expenses, and was agreed upon by the E Board. Revised budget request will be included with these minutes and presented to the BOD in June. After consideration by the chapters, it will be voted on at the August BOD meeting.

Safety & Ed Recognitions

With the Safety & Ed Coord. absent, it was agreed that this item was removed from the agenda and addressed next month.

Renee Rumble moved to close New Business. Mike Straker seconded and a unanimous vote carried the motion.

Break 3:55 – 4:07 PM

Officer Reports

Legislative

Cheryl Pearre reported that a lawsuit protesting raids on Cycle Rider Training funds is being prepared. ABATE intends to join another group with a case already in process against the governor concerning his practice of combining dedicated funds with general state revenue. ABATE Legal Services will represent ABATE of Illinois, Inc without charge, but filing fees and other projected costs are expected to be less than \$5,000. This cost will be covered by donations already in a fund ABATE maintains for legal actions.

PAC Reports

Dan Harper reported that the 'I Vote Motorcycles' patch sales are going well, and an order for additional patches has been placed. He noted that corporate sponsorship of the PAC with Nextel is being investigated, and discussion is underway to add PAC trustees to State PAC

Safety & Education

Paulette Pinkham was absent and sent no report.

Products Coord

Coord. Renee Rumble responded to discussion on the accounting reports she turns in monthly. State Treasurer noted that totals still do not balance on the items under consideration. State Coord asked that a meeting be scheduled for that discussion and the Treasurer and the Products Coord agreed to work on the problem.

Assistant State Coordinator

Ass't State Coord. Jim 'Legs' Korte was absent and sent no report.

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State Secretary

Secretary Linda Pasetti had nothing report.

Treasurer

Treasurer Julie Bacon had nothing further to report.

Activities

Coordinator Carl Shamhart reported that due to the air show, an honor guard was not available for the Freedom Rally on May 1. He asked which E Board members needed golf carts for the state party. In response to question raised last month on early admission to the state party by band members, Carl state that one member only had been given on okay to come in early to tend to band equipment. Confederate Railroad will be the headline band this year.

Public Relations

Acting PR Coord. Deb King had no report.

State Newsletter Coord.

Editor Ray Heck reported that paper costs were up and the label were being watched closer this month.

Bike Raffle Coord.

Coordinator Gus Miller was absent and sent no report.

State Office

Office Manager Pauli Ward reported that she had discussed current policy deductions again with the insurance agent. She clarified that her earlier statements about policy deductibles were in error. Liquor liability currently has no deduction, but the general liability policy has a \$5,000 deductible. The liquor liability deductible from 2003 was under a different insurance policy. Discussion ensued on notifying chapters in writing of the deductible when events are held. Office Manager will bring up the deductibles at the next BOD meeting and agreed to send a letter out to each chapter.

‘Bears for Little Buddies’ trademark is expiring and needs to be renewed. Per discussion, Lincoln Land is using the slogan for their program and it will be asked for examples of it’s use to be sent into the Illinois office for renewed.

Regional Reports

NE Region – Coord. Ed had nothing to report..

NW Region – Co-Coord. Rodger Larson stated that he had continued talking with Thunder Rock and Kishwaukee about service areas. Currently meetings will continue to be held where they are. He also suggested to them that poker runs be located south and east to attract more potential members

EC Region – Coord. Sharilyn Kibler-Russell had nothing to report.

WC Region – Coord. Mike Straker had nothing to report.

SE Region –Coord. Rick ‘Doc’ Jones was absent and sent no report.

SW Region – Coord. Bob Myers had nothing to report.

Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 4:39 PM on a motion made by Sharilyn Kibler-Russell. Bob Meyer seconded and a unanimous vote carried the motion.

Attachments (distributed at meeting)

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May E Board agenda
Revised 2006 Proposed Budget
Products Accounting Report
Treasurer's Report (please contact State Treasurer)