

ABATE of Illinois Board of Directors Meeting – Feb 18, 2006

These minutes approved on Apr 15, 2006

ABATE of Illinois - Office

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State Secretary - Linda Pasetti-Olson

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Board of Directors - Regular Bi-Monthly Business Meeting – Jan. 2006

Meeting Location – Brookens Auditorium, U of I at Springfield,

One University Plaza
Springfield, Illinois 62703

Executive Board Members Present

1. State Coord.- Jim 'Legs' Korte
2. Secretary-Linda Pasetti-Olson
3. Treasurer-Julie Bacon
4. Office Manager-Pauli Ward
5. Legislative Coord – Dan Harper
6. Safety & Ed Coord-Paulette Pinkham
7. Activities Coord.-Carl Shamhart
8. Products Coord.- Laura Mayer
9. Public Relations Coord-Deb King
10. Bike Raffle Coord-Gus Miller
11. NE Reg. Co-Coord-Rick 'RO'Olson
12. NW Reg Co-Coord-Todd 'Turk' Nichols

13. EC Region Co-Coord.- Jeff Marsh
14. WC Reg Coord- Steve 'Rat' Surratt & Rodney Stage-Arrived at 3:30 PM
15. SE Reg Co-Coord.- Rick 'Doc' Jones
16. SW Region Coord Bob Myers

Executive Board Members Absent

1. Ass't State Coord.- Ed Domine
2. Newsletter Coord.-Ray Heck
3. NE Region Co-Coord.- Mike Ryan
4. NW Reg Co-Coord.-Roger Larson
5. EC Region Co-Coord.- Sharilyn Kibler-Russell

Chapters Present

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Apple Creek | 17. Freedom by Choice | 33. Open Roads |
| 2. Arrowhead Valley | 18. Freedom Riders | 34. Peo-Taz |
| 3. Backroads | 19. Freedom Valley | 35. Piasa-Gateway |
| 4. Black Diamond | 20. Freeport | 36. Prairieland |
| 5. BOG | 21. Fulton Co. | 37. Salt Creek |
| 6. Central | 22. Great River | 38. Shawnee Hills |
| 7. Chicago | 23. Heart of Illinois | 39. Shoal Creek |
| 8. Children of the Corn | 24. Heartland | 40. So. Suburban |
| 9. Crossroads | 25. Heritage Trail | 41. So. DuPage - Left at 2:30 PM |
| 10. Dukane | 26. Hubbard Trail | 42. So. Illinois |
| 11. Eastern Illinois. | 27. Kishwaukee Valley | 43. St. Clair Co. |
| 12. Embarras Valley | 28. Liberty | 44. Starved Rock |
| 13. Flatlanders | 29. Lincoln Land | 45. Tri-County |
| 14. Ford Co. | 30. Midstate | 46. ThunderRock |
| 15. Franklin Co | 31. Northern | 47. Twin Rivers |
| 16. Freebird | 32. NW Suburban | 48. Wabash Valley |
| 50. Will County-Left at 2:30 PM | | 49. Westgate |

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Chapters Absent

- | | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|----------------|
| 1. Blackhawk | 4. Jasper Co. | 7. So. Freedom |
| 2. Crawford Co. | 5. Lamoine Valley | 8. Union Jack |
| 3. Iron Riders | 6. Old River | |

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 Coordinator Jim ‘Legs’ Korte opened the meeting at 1:09 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance and announced that cell phones must be turned off or set on vibrate. Secretary Linda Pasetti-Olson announced that the meeting was being recorded for accuracy in preparation of the minutes.

Approval Dec 2005 Minutes

No changes to the Dec BOD minutes were offered.
Spelling and grammatical errors were corrected

Lincoln Land moved to approve the Dec minutes as written. Dukane seconded, and the motion was carried with no opposition.

Old Business

MRF Donation

Vote on any further state donations to the MRF was postponed from Dec BOD meeting. No further action was taken today.

Ways & Means Committee

Discussion was postponed at Dec BOD meeting on reforming the Ways and Means Committee. No further discussion was held today.

AMA Dist #17 Seat

No information has been received from Dist 17 on board duties and Dick ‘Heavy’ Carr was not present today. No further action was taken.

Changes to Aug 2005 Minutes

Peo-Taz moved that the sentence, “An effigy had been created and was hung outside a camper by the state Treasurer”, be stricken from the approved Aug 2005 BOD minutes. Freedom by Choice seconded. Motion was carried, with opposition by Thunder Rock, Northern Illinois, Dukane, Kishwaukee Valley, Franklin Co, Brothers of Grundy and Ford Co. # B2006-001 Secretary’s Note - Upon investigation, it was found that the sentence had already been struck from the minutes in October 2005.

Brothers of Grundy moved to close Old Business. Freeport seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously.

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New Business

Bylaw Change Proposal

Bylaw Review Chair was absent, but it was announced that the change to remove Article 9 – Open Board Meetings, as submitted by Rodney Stage, had been withdrawn from consideration by him. No reasons had been included as to why this change was originally submitted.

ABATE Logo

Permission was asked by a member from Kishwaukee Valley chapter to display the ABATE logo on his racecar. Discussion ensued that no sponsorship by ABATE of Illinois, Inc. was to be assumed or included. **Heart of Illinois moved to allow the ABATE of Illinois logo and 800 number to be displayed as advertisement on a racecar. Lincoln Land seconded. Motion was carried without opposition. # B2006-002**

PSA Statements

Thunder Rock moved to check into and have a PSA currently airing by the ‘Partnership for a Drug-Free Illinois’ removed, as it refers to bikers and pot smoking. Kishwaukee seconded. Motion was carried without opposition. # B2006-003

State Website

Questions ensued on reopening an area on the state website for meeting cancellations and archived minutes. It was stated that the site still exists, but the link has been removed. The site can easily be reopened with password protection as was previously done. Current procedure when a board meeting is cancelled is to have the office phone message updated by 5 AM anytime weather or other cancellation issues develop.

In response to a question from the board, it was stated that the PSAs presented at the seminar are available on the state ABATE website in the ‘Public Relations’ section under ‘Awareness’. The four PSAs are downloadable and can be used for radio spots during May, which is Motorcycle Awareness month.

Chapter Anniversary Shirts

Heart of Illinois moved for permission to create a 20th anniversary ABATE shirt for their chapter. Open Roads seconded. Motion carried without opposition. # B2006-004

ABATE Memberships

In order to increase state membership, suggestion was made to give free ABATE memberships to anyone completing the state Cycle Riders Training. Safety & Ed Coord. will talk to IDOT officials about distributing membership forms, but no other action was agreed upon.

Piasa-Gateway motioned to close New Business. Crossroads seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

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E Board Officer Reports

Legislative Coordinator

Dan Harper distributed a packet of information to BOD members, containing local, state, federal details, etc. (included with attachments).

Locally – Winnabago Co, Rockford zoning board voted against an amendment that would limit ATV riding and lawn cutting hours. A meeting with Dupage States Attorney Joe Birkett has not been forthcoming. In Pekin, Chuck Williams was given approval for an Off Road Riding park, but after he purchased land, the local zoning board withdrew it's approval. Anyone who has received a ticket for riding on their own property in E Peoria should contact Dan Harper.

Statewide – HB934, prohibiting motorcycle seizures for muffler violations is supported by ABATE.

HB2776 – An Anti-Discrimination bill based on barring discrimination because of motorcycle use and SB 2759, introduced last year to put a \$25,000 penalty on municipality when they disregard state statues were both left in committee.

SB 2439-Allowing lane splitting, but requiring helmet use, being opposed by ABATE was pulled by sponsor John Cullerton.

SB2747-Allowing ATV use on county roads was not introduced by ABATE, but it also died in committee.

Federally – SB577 / HR2793 - The AMA driven HIPAA insurance bill still needs Illinois Congressmen to sign on as sponsors.

HR2048 – The 'Right to Repair Act' requires manufacturers to share vehicle repair info with independent repair shops. ABATE supports this bill.

'Team Oregon' rider training is being piloted in Illinois again this year.

ABATE voters guides are available today and should be distributed to members and bike shops statewide. Chapters should be checking in with political candidates in their areas now and offering campaign help.

March 1 is Legislative Day in Springfield, all members are invited to attend and talk to their representatives.

In response to questions about bikes turned away from the state fair this year, Dan stated that a meeting with Secretary of Agriculture Chuck Hart is being planned.

State ABATE PAC

Mary Burgett noted that PAC Treasurer Neal Toepfer was not present, so PAC handouts were not available and would be mailed out. State PAC donations at the State Seminar were generous and appreciated.

Cost of ABATE voter guides this year was almost \$5,000, and another guide will be produced for the fall elections.

ABATE is not sending members to fundraisers in Springfield this year, but will continue to support home district events. Invitations to the March 1 Legislative Day Reception have been sent out, but some Congressmen may need to be reminded about attending.

'I Vote Motorcycles' patches will be available for \$5 each as a PAC fundraiser. The PAC Treasury has about \$20,000 left after paying for the Voter's Guides.

Per Dan Harper, chapters can invite any candidates to speak at their meetings, but 'A' rated candidates should be preferred.

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Questions were also raised about distributing the ABATE voters guides in chapters with no meeting scheduled before the election. Suggestions included putting local candidate info in the chapter newsletters.

FED PAC

Mike 'Boz' Kerr spoke for FEDPAC and reports will be submitted with these board minutes.

Current PAC balance is about \$33,000, after a net of almost \$9,000 from the State Seminar. Per a national PAC rating system, ABATE of Illinois FEDPAC is rated about in the middle of the 'misc. transportation' category.

Cindy Lannom will be heading up the ABATE Washington DC trip in February. Motorcycle friendly Illinois Congressman John Shimkus, will be on the committee reviewing the 'Right to Repair Act' and the HIPAA bills ABATE supports.

Chapters were asked to especially support campaigns of Bob Churchill and Peter Roskum.

A weekend package in Springfield is being raffled as a fundraiser for FEDPAC. Shawnee Hills chapter was recognized for their support of FEDPAC.

Break at 2:29 PM – 3:51 PM

Safety and Education

Paulette Pinkham presented NHTSA statistics on motorcycle accidents that illustrate the lack of accuracy in NHTSA's reporting methods.

Bumper stickers are no longer in the Safety & Ed budget, as some students were putting them on lockers etc. She has some leftover stickers, and pays about \$2 each for them in lots of 1,000, but has no money in this year's budget for more.

Paulette will attend the Life Saver's Conf, along with volunteers from Open Roads and Tri-Co chapters.

Questions were raised about fixing errors in the safety & ed training tape created by ABATE and currently being used in the high schools. No current plans to fix the errors are being considered. Suggestions were offered, and chapters should voice additional concerns on the subject.

Reports from a motorcycle safety conference Paulette attended last fall are still pending.

Products

Laura Mayer presented a check for \$7,750 from seminar sales of products to go into the general fund.

Treasurer

State Treasurer Julie Bacon reported that eight chapters had not turned in their correctly completed 990 info by last Friday and were not allowed to vote today. Chapters were Apple Creek, Heartland, Jasper Co, Salt Creek, NW Suburban, St Clair Co and Hubbard Trail.

Five certificates of deposit were purchased this month with maturity date from 3 months to 1 year. Four CDs are in the amount of \$15,000 each and one is for \$12,000. An additional CD is also held in the amount of \$24,000 to cover ABATE's lobbyist contract. The new CD's will be held for 2 years with the interest accruing to the accounts.

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Julie detailed some items listed on the monthly budget reports. From the **Treasurer's Report - Profit & Loss by Class – Income**

All income to the organization is listed this section, broken down by the Coord or Panel that brings it in.

Membership Dues – Dues paid to belong to the organization

Donations – Chapter donations to the state

Product Sales – Sales of state products by the Products Coord.

Ticket Sales – State party advance tickets and bike raffle tickets

Entrance Fees – State party and swap meet entrance fees

Vendor Fees – Swap meet and state party vendor fees

Advertising – State newsletter advertising income

Sponsors – Seminar and state party sponsors

Program Fees – Swap meets, bike shows and donations to programs such as safety and education

Interest Income – Interest earned on money the organization has in savings

Reimbursed Expenses – Liquor liability reimbursements the state receives from chapters who sell liquor at their events.

Ass't State Coord

Ed Domine was absent. A thank you for the opportunity to speak at our state seminar was received from Imre Szauter, of the AMA.

Jan 19, 20 and 21, 2007 has been reserved for the next state seminar.

PR Coord

Coord. Deb King asked chapters to pick up leftover seminar packets and deliver them to chapter PR people. CDs with PSAs (Public Service Announcements) were included for possible radio airing during May, Motorcycle Awareness month. The PSA are also available on the state website.

Proclamations are available on the state website and are good opportunities for chapters to interact with mayors.

Chapters participating IDOT windshield-washing program will be distributing ABATE emery boards.

Several ABATE ads have been run in bike publications. Elgin Community College has donated billboard artwork, and free billboards are being sought throughout the state. Please contact Deb if you know of available billboards.

Campaign press releases have been prepared and will be going out.

Invitations to the Legislative Day reception have been sent out, and a state proclamation for Motorcycle Awareness month will be sent to Gov. Blagojevich.

A great flyer from Westgate in the last state paper met all the media guidelines.

May 7th is the date of the ABATE Freedom Rally in Springfield.

Office Manager

Pauli Ward reported that yearly membership totals were distributed today and asked for feedback on the new report.

Chapters can make their own state membership applications, but all pertinent information needs to be included, such as space for credit card information.

New chapter officer information should be sent to the state office.

Newsletter

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Ray Heck was absent but sent a report that the state paper would be printed on either Feb 17 or 21, and sent out from Calumet City again. Chapters should e-mail the dates they receive their March papers to Ray.

State Website

A link to JP Cycles was recommended to be put on the state website. Sales generated from this link will result in a 4% rebate to ABATE. **Brothers of Grundy moved to approve use of the J&P Affiliates program, and allow a link to J&P Cycles to be put on the state website. Crossroads seconded. Motion was carried with no opposition. # B2006-005**

Secretary

State Secretary Linda Pasetti-Olson reported about a 10% return rate on notices she included with the Dec draft BOD minutes. Delivery method will not be changed, as the notice was only being used to track which minutes are being read.

Three ABATE chapters have folded as of today, bringing the total number of chapters down to 58. Wayne Co had their last meeting in Dec, Illinois River closed in Jan, and Pike Co was announced as folded today at the E Board meeting.

Activities Coord.

Coord. Carl Shamhart announced coming state events. The Springfield swap meet is on Feb19, and the Collinsville Swap will be April 2. The Freedom Rally is Sun May 7. Three bands have been hired for the State Party on June 23, 24, & 25. Volunteer state party sign up sheets are available. Gate signups can be postmarked on, or after March 1. Advance party tickets are available from Pauli Ward. Sled rentals costs were reviewed. Carl can be e-mailed or called for further information.

Bike Raffle Coordinator

Coord. Gus Miller reported that Pauli Ward has bike raffle tickets for chapters to check out and sell.

Regional Reports

NE Region

Co-Coord Rick 'RO' Olson reported that the Rosemont bike show sold over \$5,300 in bike raffle tickets and 87 memberships, including 47 new memberships.

NW Region

Co-Coord Todd 'Turk; Nichols had a region FEDPAC chili party last month with about 60 members attending.

EC Region

Co-Coord Jeff Marsh announced region events.

WC Region

Co-Coord Steve Surratt & Rodney Stage announced the region would meet after the BOD meeting today. Four WC chapters are having a chili cook-off on March 25 in Pekin

SE Region

Coord Rick 'Doc' Jones noted that some SE region chapters are donating their membership money back to the state. He is checking chapters 990s and asking his chapters to donate their money to motorcycle rights. SE region meeting will be in Mt Vernon at 1 PM on March 26, to plan the 'Bean Farm' event.

He requested the Apr BOD agenda include under 21 attendance at ABATE events.

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SW Region

Coord Bob Myers reported chapter event. St Clair and Back Roads chapters are doing well in rebuilding their chapters.

Panel & Committee Reports

MRF Rep

Jim 'Legs' Korte reported that the Transportation Research Board has a new chair, Steve Garrison of Team Oregon. Impaired riding will need to be addressed by all motorcycle rights organizations. Ideas/programs are needed. Major aftermarket dealers are concerned about EPA and noise issues, and will be discontinuing much of their loud exhaust equipment soon.

Impaired drivers, speeders and unlicensed riders are statistically more at risk for accidents.

AMA Dist #17 Rep.

Dick 'Heavy' Carr was not present and sent no report.

DNR

Terry Hopkins has obtained some minutes from past meetings.

The panel will have its first 2007 meeting on March 24.

Off Road Panel

Chair Jim Viverito was not present and sent no report

ByLaw Review

Chair Ed Domine was not present. Committee member Terry Hopkins stated that he received two proposed bylaw changes today.

Strategic Planning

Chair Kristin Koller reported that issues members noted on the planning survey s they returned included legislative issues, land purchases, increasing and retaining members, increasing funds, more organized education and participation by members, an office in Springfield, and more brotherhood. BOD input and approval will be requested before addressing these member concerns.

Kristen can be reached at – northof80@msn.com or 815.742.1012.

Brian 'Hopsing' Oliver has resigned from the panel and Mike May has volunteered as 'interim' panel member until other participants are available.

Heartland Steam

Event will be held April 28 & 29 in Peoria. Sponsors and donations are still needed.

Politicians and other speakers and workshops are being scheduled.

Motion to accept all reports was made, seconded, and carried without opposition.

4:02 PM - The meeting was motioned and seconded to adjourn, and a unanimous vote carried the motion.

Feb Attachments (distributed at BOD meeting)

Feb BOD Agenda

Legislative Packet

FEDPAC Reports

State Membership Count

Treasurer report (enclosed with hard copies)

Next BOD meeting is scheduled for April 15, 2006 at 1 PM – Brookins Auditorium

Next E Board meeting scheduled for March 18 at 10 AM - Prairieland Building, Decatur

BOD Reps are advised to call the state office answering machine for information on meeting cancellations. Weather disturbances anywhere in the state could impact the meetings. Message will be updated by 5 AM on the day of the meeting, anytime a board meeting is being cancelled.

Note – All 2006 BOD meetings will be held at Brookens Auditorium, U of I campus in Springfield, with the E Board meeting preceding at 10 AM.

Approved-4/15/05

Attested-Linda Pasetti-Olson - State Secretary