

**A.B.A.T.E. OF IL, INC.-Board of Directors Meeting April 16, 2011**

**These minutes approved June 18, 2011**

**Secretary Minutes**

**A.B.A.T.E. OF ILLINOIS-OFFICE**

**311 E. MAIN-SUITE 418**

**GALESBURG, IL 61401**

[abate@galesburg.net](mailto:abate@galesburg.net)

**STATE SECRETARY-KAT CONNER**

**PO BOX 53**

**OHIO, IL 61349**

[connerkat@yahoo.com](mailto:connerkat@yahoo.com)

Board of Directors meeting April 16, 2011  
Meeting Location-Brookens Auditorium  
University of Illinois at Springfield, One Plaza  
Springfield, IL 62703

**EXECUTIVE BOARD PRESENT**

- |                                     |                                      |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. State Coord.-Mike Myers          | 9. Activities-Carl Shamhart          |
| 2. Secretary-Kat Conner             | 10. Office Manager-Pauli Ward        |
| 3. Treasurer-Julie Bacon            | 11. NE Region-Mike Ryan              |
| 4. Legislative-Bob Myers            | 12. NW Region-Scott Gerke            |
| 5. Newsletter- Ronie "RJ" Scroggins | 13. EC Region-Stacey Rigsby          |
| 6. Public Relations- Carleen Grant  | 14. WC Region- Don Boland            |
| 7. Safety & Ed.-Laura Mayer         | 15. WC Region-Kevin "Cap" Goudschaal |
| 8. Activities-Crystal Shamhart      | 16. SE Region-Rick "Doc" Jones       |
|                                     | 17. SW Region-Rich KinKade           |

**EXECUTIVE BOARD ABSENT**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Products-Terrie Van Huss-family event | 2. Assist. State Coord.-Roger Leach- family event |
|  | 3. Bike Raffle- Gus Miller                        |

**CHAPTERS PRESENT**

- |                         |                       |                          |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Apple Creek          | 15. Embarras Valley   | 30. Midstate             |
| 2. Arrowhead Valley     | 16. Flatlanders       | 31. Northwest Suburban   |
| 3. Beaucoup Bottoms     | 17. Freebird          | 32. Old River            |
| 4. Big River            | 18. Freedom by Choice | 33. Open Roads           |
| 5. Black Diamond        | 19. Freedom Riders    | 34. Pathfinders          |
| 6. Blackhawk            | 20. Freedom Valley    | 35. Peo-Taz              |
| 7. Central Illinois     | 21. Freeport          | 36. Piasa-Gateway        |
| 8. Chicago              | 22. Fulton County     | 37. Prairieland          |
| 9. Children of the Corn | 23. Heart of Illinois | 38. Shoal Creek          |
| 10. Crawford County     | 24. Heartland         | 39. South Suburban       |
| 11. Crooked Creek       | 25. Heritage Trail    | 40. Southern Dupage      |
| 12. Crossroads          | 26. Hubbard Trail     | 41. Southern Freedom     |
| 13. Dukane              | 27. Kaskaskia Valley  | 42. Southern Illinois 27 |
| 14. Eastern Illinois    | 28. Kishwaukee Valley | 43. St. Clair            |
|                         | 29. Lincolnland       | 44. Starved Rock         |

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45. Thunder Rock  
48. Wabash Valley

46. Tri County  
49. Windy City

47. Twin Rivers

**CHAPTERS ABSENT**

1. Backroads  
2. Ford County  
3. Franklin County  
4. Great River  
5. Iron Riders  
6. Jasper County  
7. Lamoine Valley

8. Liberty  
9. Lost Creek  
10. Northern Illinois  
11. Salt Creek  
12. Shawnee Hills  
13. Union Jack  
14. Will County

**BOD Guests:**

1. Nora Phelan  
2. Gary Wallace  
3. Tracey Eddington  
4. Kathleen. Skelton  
5. Doug VannHow  
6. Dale Runia  
7. Emily Gomez  
8. Dawn Winterfeldt  
9. Julie Thurman  
10. Denny Lange  
11. Roz Lange  
12. Dan Harper

13. John Kuppin  
14. Olga Jones  
15. Pam Boland  
16. Sherwyn Smith  
17. Mark Bethell  
18. Lacey Rebnour  
19. Linda Sloan  
20. Karen Johnson  
21. Luis Cardona  
22. Brian Stimmit  
23. Robb Morecraft

The Board of Directors meeting was called to order at 1:00pm with the State Coordinator Mike Myers leading in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of the minutes:**

**Motion made by Southern Dupage to approve minutes with the secretary's corrections, Flatlanders 2<sup>nd</sup>, no discussion, motion passed.**

**Unfinished Business:**

**Products Trailer:** Mick Eddington discussed the trailer that he and Terrie VanHuss have been looking at for carrying ABATE of Illinois, Inc products. It is a 2011 commercial grade, single axle trailer with a three year guarantee. The price is \$3703 + tax and license fees.

**Motion made by Southern Illinois 27, Blackhawk 2<sup>nd</sup>, to purchase the products trailer recommended by Mick Eddington, discussion, opposed: Heart of Illinois, Open Roads, Peo-Taz, Southern Dupage, motion carried.**

**BOD2011- 9** Discussion included past problems with single axle trailers, maintenance issues.

**Bylaw Proposal:** Motion made by Piasa-Gateway, Kaskaskia 2<sup>nd</sup> to not accept the proposed attendance bylaw as written, discussion. Motion by Freedom by Choice, Southern Dupage to call the question, motion carried. Those opposed to not accept the proposal: Freeport, Blackhawk, Crawford County, Prairieland, St. Clair, Southern Freedom 27, Midstate, motion carried. **BOD2011-10**

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Discussion included that the matter has been brought up several times before, that it is a chapter matter, not BOD.

**Motion made by South Suburban to close Unfinished Business, Freedom Riders 2<sup>nd</sup>, no discussion, motion passed.**

**Legislative Report:**

HB2860 has been amended to include bicycles.

HB1291 is in committee, if it makes it out, it will probably pass, but there are too many specialty plates in use now.

HB1979 is the process E-15 must go through in order to be taxed.

HB930 will eliminate motorcycle only check points. Bob discussed some of the points that were given and stressed that ABATE has the facts whereas our opposition does not.

Bob would like to see two members from each chapter at future Legislative Day events. He explained the cost involved. Kishwaukee Valley gave a donation for the Legal Defense fund.

(The handout given is at the end of these notes)

**Safety & Education:**

Laura attended the Life Savers conference. **Motion by Open Roads, Kaskaskia Valley 2<sup>nd</sup> to have Laura Mayer and Mike Myers attend the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Enhanced Safety and Vehicle Conference in Washington, D.C. in June, discussion. Southern Illinois 27 called the question, Peo-Taz 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion carried. Motion to attend the conference carried, none opposed. BOD2011-11**

Discussion included the fact that the National Council invited us and it will be a great opportunity for us to discuss motorcycle safety, registration is \$949.00 each and there will be hotel and other expenses. Mike Myers does have money in his budget for this.

Laura also reports that ABATE of Georgia is filing a class action suit to recover their cycle rider training program money. They are also using our classroom program in their schools.

Susan Price has been transferred out of IDOT's Traffic and Safety section and was replaced by Julie Copley who is not very ABATE friendly.

**Activities:**

May 1<sup>st</sup> is the Awareness Rally. Meet at the IDOT parking lot at 1 pm, proceed to the state capitol building. The rally will be held near the Firemen's Memorial.

State Party- Carl went over the shifts, there are 4 still open. He does not want anyone to park at the high school as there are now cameras, he has been working on getting adjacent roads to line up on.

**State Office:**

Pauli brought up that there are two chapters that have overdue charges for advertising in the state paper.

**Motion by Southern Dupage, Blackhawk 2<sup>nd</sup> to take the overdue advertising late fees out of that chapter's membership reimbursement, none opposed, motion carried. BOD2011-12**

Plaques- In the past chapters have been given plaques for perfect attendance to BOD meetings, they are getting expensive, but she does have about 60 on hand.

**Motion by Kishwaukee Valley, Freedom by Choice 2<sup>nd</sup>, to withdraw the use of plaques as awards for chapters, opposed: Starved Rock, motion carried. BOD2011-13**

**The question was called by Freedom by Choice with a 2<sup>nd</sup> by Southern Dupage, motion carried.**

**Break from 2:30-2:50 p.m.**

**Public Relations:**

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Carleen encouraged all BOD reps to take placemats and coasters back to their chapters for Motorcycle Awareness month and to get proclamations signed. IDOT had three press conferences in March which were attended by Dan Harper, Bob Myers, and Carleen Grant. Dan Harper, Rick "Doc" Jones, and Carleen will be speaking at conferences this month also. Billboards will be up on May 1<sup>st</sup>. May 14<sup>th</sup> is the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Awareness Ride in Alton, May 7<sup>th</sup> is the Quad Cities Awareness Ride. A concern was raised over the expense of putting on this event, Carl Shamhart explained that the Illinois ride also has similar, though less, costs. The possibility of having motorcyclists trained to block traffic for these parades was raised. Mike Myers said ABATE should meet with the state police and discuss how they would feel about this as they are paid for this. Others brought up that it is a law that only police officers may block intersections in Illinois.

**Motion by Southern Illinois 27, Embarras Valley 2<sup>nd</sup> to allow Bob Myers to explore the issue of having motorcyclists block traffic for parade purposes, opposed: Midstate, motion carried. BOD2011-14**

**Newsletter:**

Starved Rock said they did not get their paper until the 14<sup>th</sup> of this month. If this happens, you should talk to your local post office. It was asked that the BOD meetings and times be put in the monthly newspaper calendar. Prairieland asked about sending the newspaper via e-mail, but RJ explained it is too large.

**Treasurer:**

Julie still does not have Ford County's 990 and the filing deadline is approaching. She explained that once a chapter does not file with the corporation, you can not in the future.

**Motion by Blackhawk, Freedom by Choice 2<sup>nd</sup> to proceed at the treasurer's discretion and file with or without Ford County's 990, none opposed, motion carried. BOD2011-15**

**ABATEPAC:**

"Hunter" John encouraged all to register to vote and to get their members all registered. He thanked those who have given donations.

**FEDPAC:**

Ray Heck gave the fund balances, discussed the Washington, D.C. trip. He brought up HR412 about the Lead ban and urges all to call your congressman if he/she isn't on the list of sponsors. He wants you to do the same for the motorcycle only stops. The group met with Sen. Ray LaHood and Dan Strickland from NHSTA to discuss issues and asked them to renew the Motorcycle Advisory Council. They also requested the Transportation Secretary to send a letter to Governor Quinn to quit taking our Cycle Rider Training funds.

**Bylaw Proposal:** Kat introduced Ryan Hubbard's membership proposal.

**New Business:**

**New Chapter:**

Dan Harper was recognized and introduced the tentative officers of the proposed new chapter named Windy City. They have 37 new members. Dan explained where their service area would be, the requirements have been met.

**Motion by Chicago, Embarras Valley 2<sup>nd</sup> to accept Windy City as a chapter of ABATE of Illinois, Inc, discussion, opposed: none, motion carried. BOD2011-16**

**Motion by Southern Illinois 27, South Suburban to call the question, motion carried.** Discussion included service area, neighboring chapters.

**Legal Defense Fund:**

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Freedom by Choice asked about the last Legal Defense fund motions. Kat read the December 2009 and December 2010 motions. This is in reference to a bill that Bob Myers has to turn in for lawyer fees for the CRT fund lawsuit.

**Motion by Freedom by Choice, Freeport 2<sup>nd</sup> to release \$1800.00 from the Legal Defense Fund to pay fees for CRT legal fees, discussion. Freedom by Choice amended the motion, Freeport 2<sup>nd</sup> to pay the current bill in full from the Legal Defense fund for CRT legal fees, none opposed, motion carried. BOD2011-17**

Discussion over the exact amount of the bill, this lawsuit has made national news. Laura Mayer suggested sending a letter to Legal Services informing the fund is out of money.

**Member Recognition:**

Dave Kruger recognized Mike Sprecher and his 25 years of service to ABATE of Illinois, Inc.

**Legal Services Plan:**

**Motion by Southern Dupage, Dukane 2<sup>nd</sup> to accept the executive board recommendation that we open the Legal Services plan and to advertise in our state paper for any qualified lawyer who is an ABATE member in good standing to apply to administer our Legal Service plan for 2012, discussion, Heart of Illinois motion, Freedom by Choice 2<sup>nd</sup> to call the question, motion carried.**

**Motion to open the Legal Services plan failed.** Discussion included cost of another firm to carry this out, positive impact of opening it up to others in the state.

**Legal Service Plan Review:**

The plan is annually reviewed in April, but Roger is absent and the synopsis of what Legal Services did in 2010 has not been received. Roger will present this at the June meeting. Roger Leach, Mike Myers, and Stacey Rigsby will be doing the review.

**AD&D Insurance:**

Twin Rivers brought up that he was contacted by the insurance company. Mike Myers said again that you need to get the name and phone number in order for him to do anything about it. Any claims go through the state office and Pauli Ward.

**Publishing motions:**

**Motion by Piasa-Gateway, Kaskaskia Valley 2<sup>nd</sup> motion to include all BOD motions in the state newspaper, carried,BOD2011-18**

**Motion made by Peo-Taz to close New Business, Southern Illinois 2<sup>nd</sup>, no discussion, opposed: Heart of Illinois, Freedom by Choice, motion carried.**

**Region Reports:**

**EC:**

5/19-5/21 East Central Region party. Includes bike night, bands, rodeo, lots more.

Membership Drive and fundraiser in Decatur on 5/14.

Stacey Rigsby has asked for a co-coordinator due to health reasons.

**AMA:**

Off Road Grant board- the funds are still frozen and have been now for two years.

Racing season is starting and that group has been very supportive of working on legislation.

Embarras Valley and Heritage Trail have moved their meeting places.

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The question was raised as to where is the source of grant money that isn't being paid. Stacey says it comes from sales of non-licensed vehicles such as ATV's and there is also a Federal fuel tax formula for sales of gasoline from those same vehicles. He has a Greenways meeting next week and should find out more at this meeting.

**MRF:**

Jim "Legs" Korte read a thank you from the Washington, DC trip. NHSTA has proposals on budgets concerning rider training and motorist awareness that have morphed into motorcycle helmet use. The MRF is compiling a Legislation Library from different states concerning motorcycles. He encourages all chapters to become Sustaining Members in the MRF and to sign up to get the MRF email alerts.

**NE:**

2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Spoke Run is July 30 in St. Charles. Money goes to ABATEPAC, you can get tickets from any northeast ABATE member.

October 1 is PACTOBERFEST in Romeoville. Money goes to FEDPAC.

Mike Ryan will give you a copy of the region calendar or you can get them from any chapter.

**SE:**

Doc Jones read a thank you from ABATE of Minnesota for doing a workshop at HEARTLAND STEAM. There were about 100 people in attendance and next year's conference will be in Nebraska. He would like to challenge each region to send someone to this.

While there is no Southeast Region party scheduled, there is Biker Farm put on by Southern Freedom.

**SW:**

It is Kaskaskia Valley's fifth year and has been a chapter for twenty-five.

May 21 is the Anniversary party at Bellville. The Marble Run has 48 stops this year and the Awareness Ride counts as bonus points. Piasa-Gateway's Top Gun event is April 23. Shoal Creek is having a hog roast. May 5 is the region meeting in Trenton.

**NW:**

All 8 chapters are here today- two BOD meetings in a row!

The TTF bar in Byron burnt down, the town will probably take over the event.

Hawg Nuts is in Polo on May 21. The Big River Tri State Rendevous has 75 stops.

Scott has the region calendar you can have via email.

**WC:**

Lincolnland is having a Pre Rally party at the VFW on April 30. They will also be serving breakfast the Sunday of the Awareness Rally. Great River's Awareness Ride is May 21 & 22. May 27-29 will be the Peo-taz Cornbelt Shuffle. Region party is August 8-10.

Chicago chapter recognized Dan Harper- He has Southern Wisconsin/Northern Illinois Biker Guides for those who would like to take one.

**Motion by ? 2<sup>nd</sup> ? to adjourn the meeting at 5 pm.**

**Submitted by,  
Kat Conner  
State Secretary**