

A.B.A.T.E. of ILLINOIS-OFFICE
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KAT CONNER-SECRETARY
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Executive Board present

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| 1. State Coordinator- Ryan Hubbard | |
| 2. Asst. State Coordinator- Jim "Legs" Korte | 11. Safety & Ed- Mike Koester |
| 3. Secretary- Kat Conner | 12. NE Region- John Bloch |
| 4. Treasurer- Julie Bacon | 13. NE Region- Ray Heck |
| 5. Legislature- Bob Myers | 14. NW Region- Dennis "Cleaver" Yeager |
| 6. Products- Julee Thurman | 15. EC Region- Scott Carter |
| 7. Newsletter- Carla Enburg | 16. SE Region- Mick Eddington |
| 8. Office Manager-Pauli Ward | 17. WC Region- Kevin "Cap" Goudschaal |
| 9. Activities- Barb & Roger Leach | 18. SW Region-Wayne Cornick |
| 10. Bike Raffle- Howard Nation | |

Executive Board absent:

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| 1. Public Relations- Shirley "Swirl" Lacock- excused | 2. SE Region- Ted Zackro- excused |
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Chapters present:

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| 1. Backroads | 13. Freedom Valley | 25. Piasa-Gateway | 37. Will County |
| 2. Black Diamond | 14. Freeport | 26. River Valley | |
| 3. Blackhawk | 15. Great River | 27. Shoal Creek | |
| 4. Central | 16. Heart of Illinois | 28. South Suburban | |
| 5. Chicago | 17. Heartland | 29. Southern Dupage | |
| 6. Crooked Creek | 18. Kaskaskia Valley | 30. Southern Illinois Chapter 27 | |
| 7. Dukane | 19. Kishwaukee Valley | 31. Spoon River Riders | |
| 8. Eastern Illinois | 20. Lincolnland | 32. St. Clair County | |
| 9. Embarras Valley | 21. Lost Creek | 33. Starved Rock | |
| 10. Freebird | 22. Midstate | 34. Thunder Rock | |
| 11. Freedom by Choice | 23. Open Roads | 35. Tri County | |
| 12. Freedom Riders | 24. Peo-Taz | 36. Twin Rivers | |

Chapters Absent:

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| 1. Apple Creek | 9. Franklin County | 17. Old River |
| 2. Beaucoups Bottom | 10. Heritage Trail | 18. Pathfinders |
| 3. Big River | 11. Hubbard Trail | 19. Richland County |
| 4. Children of the Corn | 12. Iron Riders | 20. Salt Creek |
| 5. Crawford County | 13. Jasper County | 21. Shawnee Hills |
| 6. Crossroads | 14. Lamoine Valley | 22. Southern Freedom |
| 7. Flatlanders | 15. Liberty | 23. Union Jack |
| 8. Ford County | 16. Northern Illinois | 24. Windy City |

Guests present:

- | | |
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| 1. Nora Kleckner- Starved Rock | 7. Martha Patterson- Piasa-Gateway |
| 2. Gus Miller- Heart of Illinois | 8. Julie Pratt-Heartland |
| 3. Felecia Herron- River Valley | 9. Bridget Norton-Tri County |
| 4. Tracey Eddington- Southern Illinois | 10. Barb Amling-Midstate |
| 5. Dawn Winterfeldt- River Valley | 11. Emily Gomez-Chicago |
| 6. Kathy Wellman-Great River | 12. Juanita Triplett-Kishwaukee Valley |

Meeting was called to order at 1 pm with Ryan Hubbard leading the Pledge of Allegiance and asking for a moment of silence for members who have passed away.

Approval of the December 13, 2014, secretary notes: Motion by Freeport, Thunder Rock 2nd, to approve the minutes as written, motion carried.

Officer Reports:

State Coordinator:

Ryan would like to see a membership committee made up of chapter members from throughout the state to work with Jim "Legs" Korte. This committee would be putting together ideas for ways to recruit and retain membership. They could explain what works in their areas and get ideas from others to then tell all the chapters. We need to make some big changes in what we are doing in order to gain members. Ryan suggested the possibility of having a state wide event to let people know what ABATE of Illinois, Inc. has done successfully. We have a good reputation in some areas, but need to work on our image in others. We do get things done very well legislatively and in Safety and Education. We are known for our success with motorcycle issues. We need to work on communication now and avoid and/or manage conflicts of interests. This should also help with membership. He also mentioned that the executive board and BOD representatives should also work on training their replacements, show them how do things & what is involved in your position. This will also help build the organization.

Assistant State Coordinator:

Julie Bacon reported that 13 chapters will not be able to vote today because their 990's were either not correct or not turned in by the deadline. Three chapters on the list; Heart of Illinois, Flatlanders, and Windy City did turn in their paperwork correctly today, but according to the bylaw they will still not be able to vote today. The end of the year report is in today's packet. She is concerned about our budget and explained the status of our savings account. Julie thanked all who came to her seminar session.

Legislative:

Bob Myers received new poker language yesterday and says he got everything he had asked for. This bill has not been filed yet, so he did not have a number. He is very pleased that the paragraph concerning the need for a bond manager had been struck. HB1410 is from Rep. Tom Bennett and concerns motorcycle awareness training in Drivers Ed classes, but will probably stall out in rules as it is an unfunded mandate. Todd Vandermyde & Bob have thanked him and provided him with a bill that they feel would be more successful. Rep. Bennett would like to come to some chapter meetings and see more of what we are about. Rich Brauer has just resigned as State Rep to go to IDOT. Bob would like to

invite him to be a speaker at the seminar next year. He has worked very hard for us. There will be a meeting with the new governor on March 5th. Bob expects Todd Vandermyde, Amanda Reising, John "Hunter John" Harris to join him in that meeting. On the 27th of March he will meet with the IDNR Director who is also new to that position.

SB1948 is an ethanol bill that we are watching. SB70 is a bill from the state police who want to see lights on all electric bicycles, etc. Ryan, Todd, and Bob have talked and feel they should stay neutral on this bill. SB99 introduced by Pamela Altoff is requesting a three dollar increase in motorcycle license plate fees. Money would go to the Homeland Security Preparedness Fund. There is a bill proposed in the Senate about smoking with a passenger. It has been introduced before and motorcycles were exempted. Bob is worried about the state cycle rider training program and the land grant fund being raided again. John "Hunter John" Harris sent his report to Bob as he is at a meeting trying to get another group of off road riders to become ABATE members. It has been brought to Bob's attention that the Quincy Herald has printed some negative publicity about the proposed Brown Co. off road park and he will address it. We are not going to fight the off road riders' battles, but we are interested in getting the park for off road riders, which in turn should help us get new members. A question was asked by Freedom by Choice as to who will replace Rich Brauer. Bob said the republican's will appoint a replacement for the rest of the term. Bob asked the BOD where they felt we should stand on the idea of legislating lane splitting. It is common in other countries. Several chapters expressed concern that we are trying to get our fatalities down and don't feel that it would work in the U.S.

At the Federal level: HR21 is a bill requiring comprehensive, independent testing of E-15. SB127 would forbid federal funding of motorcycle only checkpoints. We are for both these bills.

Legislative Day is March 4th, 9a.m. at the State House Inn in Springfield. Bob would like to see two members from each chapter at this. Will County received a plaque today for the most members attending last year's legislative day. **Awareness Rally is April 26th** at the IDOT parking lot. Piasa-Gateway gave a donation for Legislative Day expenses.

Activities:

Roger Leach went over the details for tomorrow's Swap Meet at the Orr building. Vendors will be coming in tonight and tomorrow morning and he could use some help after today's meeting.

The **Awareness Rally has been changed to April 26th** because of the re-enactment of Lincoln's funeral which will be bringing in huge crowds and possibly the President. Lincolnland has also changed their pre-party to April 25th. The State Party will open at noon on June 25th thru June 28th at noon. Gus Miller is looking for an outhouse for the field events. He is also asking for any ideas for new field events. Roger has met with the fair board and they are working on fixing some of the problems from last year. "Cap" will be doing security again. The sign up for shifts for chapters will be out soon. Roger's contact numbers were listed incorrectly, but he thinks they have been fixed.

Newsletter:

Carla states the next newsletter deadline is March 14th.

Public Relations:

Shirley was unable to be here today, so Kat read her report. Shirley thanked chapters for doing their PR work. She has changed the Proclamation forms so it is easier for chapters to put their names on them, which will help her keep them straight! She requested that if you have any type of media coverage to please provide a copy of that as well. You can email, mail, or turn these in to her. Please do not text or facebook them as it does not print or track well. Supplies have been ordered for Motorcycle Awareness month and will be at the April meeting. Be sure to let her know the name of the person who is going to pick them up at that meeting.

Safety & Education:

Mike Koester introduced himself and thanked the seminar attendees. Work is being done to get a new video made. If you have any suggestions on content, please let him know. Chapters are still planning on donating to cover the cost. Mike feels as a leading SMRO we should not use another state's, but make our own. He has some ideas and is gathering information on costs, production companies, etc. Mike feels we need to take responsibility to keep ourselves safe and has plans to include some basic first aid in one of his seminar sessions next year. He has products with him today and has yard signs that members ordered.

Products:

Julee has special Legislative Day long sleeves shirts today for twenty dollars that she will sell after the meeting or at the swap meet tomorrow. The mediums are on backorder. She would like to see them worn on Legislative day.

Motion by Thunder Rock, River Valley 2nd to accept officer reports.

Unfinished Business:

1. **Hupy meeting:** Ryan has been in contact with Hupy and many people who have had interaction with him. The executive board will meet about it in March and give a recommendation at the April BOD meeting as to whether or not to remove him from the NonPreferred Vendors List.

New Business:

2. **Meeting date: Motion by Thunder Rock, Freeport 2nd to change the April BOD meeting to coincide with the Awareness Rally, no discussion, motion carried. BOD2015-01**

Motion by River Valley, Midstate 2nd, to close all business, no discussion, motion carried.

Region Reports:

ABATE PAC: Jeff Marsh gave totals of income, expenditures, and balance. Freebird has a donation that came from their chapter, Peo-Taz, Freedom Valley, and Spoon River Riders.

MRF: Jim "Legs" Korte is standing in for the Lange's today. HR21 Ethanol bill has no sponsors from IL and the same with SB127. You need to call your congressmen about signing on to support these bills. May 14th will be Bikers in the Beltway. Heartland STEAM will be May 8-10 in North Dakota. "Legs" talked about the Young Activist Scholarship which will send a young person to the MOTM. **Motion by Piasa-**

Board of Directors Meeting April 25, 2015 A.B.A.T.E. of ILLINOIS, INC
Brookens Library, UIS, Springfield
Secretary Minutes approved with corrections April 25, 2015

Gateway, St. Clair County 2nd to appoint Paulette Korte to be the southern Illinois MRF assistant, no discussion, motion carried. BOD2015-02

Bylaw review proposal: Kat Conner read the proposed bylaw change sent by Judy Kaenel of Dukane. It will be published in the paper, the committee will then make a recommendation to the BOD.

Northeast Region: The International Motorcycle Show was last weekend. They sold over 2000 bike raffle tickets, got new and renewed memberships. The four chapters who helped with this were: Dukane, Southern Dupage, Chicago, and Will County.

Northwest Region: Dennis "Cleaver" Yeager reported on the recent Chili Cookoff which raised money for FED PAC. Trippin' Molly band will be in Chicago this Saturday and part of the proceeds money goes to Safety & Education.

Southwest Region: The Marble Run books are distributed. Region meeting dates have changed. April 18th will be the Midwest Motorcycle Exposition. Mike Myers is going to do his Ride Smart presentation. Other things discussed will be the history of ABATE in different states, an MRF update, doing Safety & Education presentations for adults. Ryan will be on Channel 2 Fox out of St. Louis.

West Central: Fulton County is closing down and Central is going to take over their Safety & Education classes for them. Freebird and Peo-Taz are going to keep an eye on any issues that come up for this area. West Central's region meeting was today. They are going to host a motorcycle rally/ATV ride probably in September. There will be no breakfast meeting tomorrow- meet at the Orr building instead.

East Central: Scott reports nothing going on at this time.

Ryan thanked all chapter reps who came in spite of the bad weather.

Motion to adjourn by Freedom Riders, Starved Rock 2nd, no discussion, motion carried.

Time: 2:47 pm

Submitted by Kat Conner, State Secretary