

A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois, Inc.  
Brookens Library, UIS, Springfield, IL  
Board of Directors meeting June 17, 2017  
Approved at August 19, 2017 meeting

A.B.A.T.E. of Illinois, Inc.  
**311 E. Main St. Suite 418**  
**Galesburg, IL 61401**

Cathy Brush-State Secretary  
**5138 Illinois St.**  
**Loves Park, IL 61111**

**Chapters present:**

Apple Creek (left at 3:12)	Lincolnland
Backroads	Mid-State
Big River	Old River
Blackhawk	Open Roads
Central Illinois	Pathfinders (came in at 1:50)
Chicago	Peo-Taz
Crossroads	Piasa-Gateway
Dukane	Prairieland
Eastern Illinois	River Valley
Flatlanders	Salt Creek
Freebird	Shoal Creek
Freedom By Choice	Southern Dupage
Freedom Valley	Southern Freedom
Freeport	Southern Illinois
Great River	Spoon River Riders
Heart Of Illinois	St. Clair County
Heritage Trail	Starved Rock
Kaskaskia Valley	Ten Mile Creek
Kishwaukee Valley	Twin Rivers
Lamoine Valley	Will County
Liberty	Windy City (came in 1:34)

**Chapters absent:**

Black Diamond	Northern Illinois
Crawford County	Richland County
Embarras Valley	Shawnee Hills
Franklin County	South Suburban
Freedom Riders	State Line Riders
Heartland	Thunder Rock
Hubbard Trail	Tri-County
Iron Riders	Union Jack

**Executive board present:**

State Coordinator-Ryan Hubbard	Legislative Coordinator-Dan Harper
Assistant State Coordinator-Jim "Legs" Korte	Safety & Ed. Coordinator- Mike Brush
Secretary-Cathy Brush	Public Relations Coordinator-Shirley "Swirl" Lacock
Treasurer-Julie Bacon	Products Coordinator-Tracey Eddington
Office Manager-Paula "Pauli" Ward	
Activities Coordinators-Dennis Byron absent Mark Werries present	

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Northeast Region Coordinator-Dawn Winterfeldt  
Northwest Region Coordinator-Sandy Murrell  
East Central Region Coordinator-Scott Carter  
East Central Region Coordinator-Brian Pratt  
South East Region Coordinator-Mick Eddington  
South East Region Coordinator-Bob Stout arrived 11:16 a.m.  
Southwest Region Coordinator- Wayne Cornick

**Executive board absent:**

Bike Raffle Coordinator-Howard Nation (excused)  
Newsletter Coordinator-Carla Enburg (excused)  
West Central Region Coordinator-Don Boland (excused)

**Guests present:**

Gus Miller	Heart of Illinois
Bill "Howdy" Mills	Eastern Illinois
Terry Baker	Eastern Illinois
Cindy Jones	Backroads
Kurt Husen	Kishwaukee Valley
Cynthia Fancher	Crossroads
Nora Kleckner	Starved Rock
Bonnie Bailey	Big River
Chris Zimmerman	Freeport
Rob McHugh	Heart Of Illinois
Kathy Wellman	Great River
Kevin Smith	Open Roads
Bob Myers	Piasa-Gateway
Danny Griffiths	Lamoine Valley
George Tinkham	Lincolnland

Meeting being recorded for accuracy  
Turn off cell phones

Ryan Hubbard started the meeting off with the Pledge of Allegiance followed with a moment of silence at 1:05pm.

**Motion to accept the secretary notes with corrections on page 5 added opposed to #2 Membership Coordinator By-law proposal and under New Business #2 Kishwaukee spelled wrong made by Piasa-Gateway, Starved Rock 2<sup>nd</sup>, no further discussion, motion passed. None opposed.**

**Officer Reports:**

**State Coordinator: - Ryan Hubbard** - Received a letter back from Sturgis Motorcycle Museum and Hall of Fame sent to A.B.A.T.E. of Minnesota, they stated we understand your position and our desire for fair representation. They explained that 25 Freedom Fighters we recognized 2003-2016. Sent a donation and

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raffle ticket sheet. Bob Myers did have questions and Ryan had him talk with 'Jiggs' with A.B.A.T.E. of South Dakota State Coordinator. If you have any questions let me know.

Would like to thank Rich and Barb for all their help at Biker's in the Beltway they hit all representatives and senators of the state. A lot of work, time and money put into that.

Talked with Terry Redman at IDOT, there are a lot of concerns happening right now. A couple of jobs not been filled that we hoped would happen. They need the positions filled to go to the ranges and talk and dictate the training of the instructors and talk to sites and keep the program running. Not a lot of feedback from upper management at IDOT. They are holding off on all printing. It seems they are trying to let program die out. Ryan is going to talk to Mike Unes who is the rep in his area #2 on the transportation committee in the House, to help push IDOT to keep this going and gets things moving. Large number of fatalities all vehicles over 30 motorcycle fatality by March, nothing being talked about to address what is going on and help try to stop this. Budget is affecting the program receive letter that if we do not have a budget there will be no classes after June 30th, as the money must have appropriations to use and without a budget there cannot be appropriations. We must address how the program is not being run as we would like.

Mentioned email that some received that said was from Ryan Hubbard from email address, @abate-il.org which we do not have any emails with this, was not from him and was a phishing email. If you received please change passwords and do not open or forward to anyone.

**Assistant State Coordinator: - Jim "Legs" Korte-** Seminar will January 19 – 21<sup>st</sup>, 2018. Will be signing and returning contract to Ramada 50 rooms \$86/night must be booked by January 5, 2018. Question asked Freedom By Choice when can you start reserving rooms and the is December 1<sup>st</sup> at midnight.

**Secretary: - Cathy Brush** - Be mindful that we are recording and to all speak at once, when we talk over each other it is hard to determine what is said.

**Treasurer: - Julie Bacon** No reports from Windy City but they have not had anything going on to report.

**Legislative Coordinator: - Dan Harper** - No written report as computer was hacked, word processing gone. All bills we had from previous are for the most part dead, re-referred to rules for House bills, Senate bill is referred to assignments. Can be brought up again next year. HB2402 sound bill amended 3 times, is now ambulances in municipalities over millions of people owned by local Fire department. Illinois State Police helped as they did not want to buy all those decibel meters and how it would be a burden. They are considering the Red and Blue accent lights on bikes **cannot** be flashing lights. Will get that back in the next legislative session. Waiting on the Cycle Rider Program to talk with the State Treasurer Mike Frerichs, according to the law the Cycle Rider Trainer funds is supposed to be put in a Trust outside the general fund with a trustee appointed. Talk to him about doing this and putting this all-in place. That would help protect our funds and can be used without a budget. Secretary of State talking about Road Guard bill the local authority is supposed to issues these permits. Rockford does not want to do it as no one is teaching a class, we went to IDOT to see if we can teach a class, Terry really does not want to get involved wants Secretary of State to dictate this. Poker Run bill, Wayne Cornick had a gambling person try to shut down the Marble Run Party, due to some words that are flip flopped,

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county should issue permit to organization to the county that the key location in, then it says that the key location should issue permit. Rich said due to games in places no poker runs are allowed what he was told they would issue the permits. Will be working on this wording clarified. Johnson City has a police force stopping bikes with people that have a patch on their back, Mick Eddington been running point has been working to getting all information. Ryan mentioned get all information to Dan or do the Motorcycle Profiling project website there is a link to fill our survey to use this information to show what is really going on. Bills in Washington and Maryland on this. It is getting out of hand and we need information. Resolution in both Senate and House right now, not a law, police should work with motorcyclists on safety, SR154 & HR318 they can't tell the State Police what they can and cannot do. Talks about doing on the Federal side to stop the CIA, FBI and others federal agencies. 2018 agenda go back to your chapters come back with ideas and I will write ideas down and bring to me. Not just about helmets anymore they want to take your bikes. Off-road riding park and as soon as budget passed park with open. AMA and A.B.A.T.E will design the track and have the park.

**Office Manager - Paula "Pauli" Ward** – Reminder as of July 1<sup>st</sup> \$2.00 extra charge for using credit cards. Question asked if you have old application with that not stated on it, how can we charge that? Need to tell them and write the amount to be charged. Freeport advised members to throw old ones away and replaced with new ones and should be the responsibility of the chapters to do this. We are still over 8,000 and we are going up and down each month. Lincolnland asked how membership stored, per Pauli to Access to print reports, not using any outside sources only the state computer at office.

**Safety & Education - Mike Brush** – Had proclamation signed by Governor and gave to Shirley. Brought request forms with for those that need them, must be turned in Monday before BOD meeting along with the classroom numbers. Last year compared to this year is only about a ¼ done this year. Has videos for those that need them. Accidents due to hydration on a bike, drinking alcohol and being dehydrated does not go together. Watch for deer when out there riding. Read of the people that had supplies at the meeting to pick up. New locks will be placed on storage units and only 4 keys made.

**Products - Tracey Eddington** – State Party shirts ready.

**Newsletter - Carla Enburg** – **absent**. Carla sent message from hospital bed regarding deadline is July 8<sup>th</sup>. This will be last year for newsletter for her, due to health. Please keep her in your prayers. Penny West from Blackhawk that they need our support now. Ryan provided address for the hospital and Penny gave her address if people wanted to send to one location and will get them to Carla.

**Public Relations - Shirley "Swirl" Lacock** - Radio advertising for Springfield Races. Race is in Peoria will advertise. Springfield Miles calendar complete and Howard has handed them all out. Was contacted by Route 66 historic highway for a billboard has been going back and forth with gentlemen. Salt Creek mentioned who he is and will talk to him and get him in contact with Shirley.

**Bike Raffle - Howard Nation** – **absent** - Bike schedule on line and will be all over this next month.

**Activities - Dennis not present. Mark Werries making presentation.** – State Party set need a few to fill in at front during the weekend. Ryan brought up that the trikes and sling-shots need to be at the back or all the way in the front when on runs due to lane usage for safety purposes.

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Closing of officer's reports.  
15-minute break @ 2:02 p.m.

Ryan stated meeting with talking about: American Income Life had a call that sent in card and wrote on bottom do not call they are not looking at that, if you provide your name and phone number they will call you. You have \$3000 accidental death and dismemberment by paying your dues, you do not have to call anyone. If you want a beneficiary you must fill out card otherwise it goes to your estate. Per Pauli new mailing will be sent in July to everyone that has not filled out a card.

Provided address for the hospital Carla was in and Jerry and Penny West provided their address for those that wanted to send to them and have them deliver.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- 1. Legal Services Review:** Jim "LEGS" Korte – In packet you will find the report from Jan 2016 – Dec 2016.
- 2. 2<sup>nd</sup> Round of nomination for State Secretary – closed with no further nominations.**
- 3. Election of State Secretary:**

**Motion made by Open Roads to accept nomination for Cathy Brush as State Secretary, Flatlanders 2nd, no further discussion motion passed. None opposed. BOD2017-23**

**Motion made by Kishwaukee Valley to change one locker to only Safety and Ed with only 3 keys made, River Valley 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mike Brush mentioned that there are more keys out there. Suggested changing locks out with new keys as we will not have enough space to split them up. Motion rescinded by Kishwaukee Valley. Will be taken care of under day to day business.**

**Motion made to close old business made by Heart of Illinois, Piasa-Gateway 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion passed. None opposed.**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- 1. Historian – Paul Burden:** George Tinkham approached Ryan about creating a history of A.B.A.T.E. George introduced Paul Burden from Will County chapter and is a retired librarian. Paul was not part of the original process of the organization and can provide a third-party observation. Paul stated he is a published author. Paul talked about how he wishes to collect information on the story of A.B.A.T.E. and talk to people regarding events of how we started and what has happened with the organization. Only facts will be collected. He asked for A.B.A.T.E of Illinois official support to validate this work, this will help him get access to information. He requested a letter on letterhead that states he can review records and collect information for creating this story of A.B.A.T.E. Organization will see the information before anything is given to the public for us to review and approve. Ryan stated he is offering this at no expense to us. Email address is [paul@willcoabate.org](mailto:paul@willcoabate.org) if you wish to send anything.

**Motion made by Heart of Illinois to accept Paul Burden's proposal to begin work on the A.B.A.T.E. history, Dukane 2nd, no further discussion. None opposed. BOD2017-24.**

- 2. Member Letter:** Ryan wanted to talk about the letter that was sent to chapters from a very disgruntled member. I am not going to read whole letter, but will highlight 6 issues of the letter that need to be addressed. We have no way to contact person to discuss further and get some clarity on some issues.

**Issue 1:** Membership is down and no one including those that should care, so why no membership coordinator. BOD voted this down to provide membership roster, most comments were to support this position but when this came out the motion was opposed. We all agree that we chapter member should be actively recruiting when out and about. Membership coordinator manual on website or by contacting the office.

**Issue 2:** How are memberships processed. Membership dues all go to office in Galesburg, office manager updates member roster gathers items to send the packet to member. Mails and deposits all money into the bank account.

**Issue 3 & 4:** State does not have membership person like chapters do and I also combined this with duties of office manager. **Bylaws Article 4 OFFICERS OF THE CORPORATION Section 18. State Office Manager.** *The State Office Manager shall be responsible for the membership duties and shall also be responsible for all office duties that may be deemed necessary by the Board of Page 12 of 17 Directors and the Executive Board. This position is an employment position appointed by the Board of Directors. So yes, the state office manager is responsible for membership. Regarding the comment regarding treasurer position.* **Bylaws Article 4 OFFICERS OF THE CORPORATION Section 10. State Treasurer Duties.** *The State Treasurer, acting as corporate Treasurer, shall oversee all financial activities of the corporation. Those activities include, but not limited to: maintaining an expense system to be used to authorize all expenditures of the corporation, shall act as the liaison to any certified public accountant hired by the corporation to insure the timely filing of state and federal income tax forms, shall make sure the chapters have the necessary information needed for them to provide us their 990 information and shall mail a draft of the proposed budget for the following budget year to the Board of Director meetings within one week following the September E-Board meeting. The State Treasurer shall also oversee the State Office Manager's financial duties as described in the Office Manager's job description and perform any other financial duties as directed by the Board of Directors. The State Treasurer must be bondable. The Office Manager and Treasurer due work together when it pertains to money coming into organization*

**Issue 5:** People running are taking our voice away. **Bylaw Article 3 Section 3. General Power.** *The daily affairs of the Corporation shall be conducted by the officers of the corporation. No officer shall spend more than five hundred dollars (\$500) on a single item without the consent of at least three (3) other officers. The Executive Board shall not spend more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000) on a single item without approval of the Board of Directors. Nothing in this*

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*section shall prevent any officer from making expenditures in accordance with a budget approved by the Board of Directors.*

The Board of Directors elects Executive Board every December it can be overturned.

**Issue 6:** A lot wrong with A.B.A.T.E. and changes need to be made. Would love to have contact information to get more information. Letter stated no response however we cannot respond as we do not have any contact information. The Board of Directors run this organization.

Kishwaukee Valley stated she believes membership is down due to negativity, in fighting and dismissiveness. Ryan stated we don't have to all agree all the time, but we need to work together.

This letter leads us to believe there is a lot of miss communication on how organization is run and we need to better provide information. All Bylaws, Operations Manual and Policies and Procedures are online and can be sent if office manager contacted.

We have become a victim of our own success.

Wayne Cornick stated what he admires about this person they did not put on Facebook or email, took the time to write, making multiple copies and mailed to everyone. Ryan has done a great job at addressing the questions in the letter. This person is not informed this falls on us that we are not effectively communicating to our members.

Kishwaukee Valley stated she thought that the membership position is still being worked on, but Ryan stated he has not seen anything yet.

**Motion to close New Business made by Freedom Valley, Old River 2<sup>nd</sup>, no further discussion. Freedom by Choice opposed. Motion passed.**

#### **PANEL REPORTS**

**AMA.DIST. 17- absent.** Ryan Hubbard gave report. On hold until money released.

**MRF - Jim "LEGS" Korte** – Federal level ethanol S517 and HR1311 amend clear air act ethanol waiver, if it passes only sell during summer monthE15 June 1 - Sept 15. RFS is broken and needs to be addressed, bill will have opposition from committee leadership we need to impress to support these bills. Profiling HR318 & SR154 MRF sent out to help co-sponsor these bills. If you go to MRF website and go to the take action link and send it. The motorcycle caucus asked MRF to speak at open event.

#### **PAC REPORTS**

ABATE PAC report in the board packets. Bob Myers thank those that sent money and said keep it coming.

FEDPAC report in the board packets.

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**REGION REPORTS – (was hard to hear)**

**NE REGION** - Dawn Winterfeldt listed the chapter events in the region.

**NW REGION**-Sandy Murrell listed chapter events in the region. Keep Mike and Sylvia Koester in our thoughts and prayers.

**WC REGION**-Don Boland - absent.

**EC REGION**-Scott Carter – Thanked Brian Pratt for all his hard work and that he will be greatly missed. Talked about region events.

**SE REGION**- Bob Stout – Jasper County chapter decided to fold, they 2 members did become members of another chapter. Talked about region events. Mick Eddington - We all need to start getting along, be civil to each other and work together and if we don't state will do what they want to us. We are still on mission and need to stay that way.

**SW REGION**-Wayne Cornick – talked about region events.

Talked about the Governor's ride and need more information on this, not sure of all the details. September 23<sup>rd</sup>, we believe the date will discuss more in August meeting.

**Motion made to adjourn the meeting made by Piasa-Gateway, Freebird 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion passed. Freedom by Choice opposed.**

**Adjourned at 3:40 pm.**

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Brush  
Secretary