

ABATE of Colorado



State Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Date: July 21, 2007
Copper Mountain, CO District 14

The ABATE State Board of Directors consists of: 17 District Representatives, 4 Regional Representatives & 3 State Officers (State Coordinator, State Treasurer & State Recorder)

Meeting called to order at: 1:47 pm

- Pledge of Allegiance
- We follow Robert's Rules of Order
- Announcements

Thank you District 14 for hosting the meeting!

Attendance:

Absent with excuse: District 18

Absent without excuse:

Minutes of May 12, 2007

Motion by Miles France, 2nd by Tim O'Connor to accept the minutes as posted on the web.

Vote unanimous - Motion passed

Treasurer's Report: presented by Sheri Rediess

State Checking Account:	\$	4,799.54
State Savings Account:	\$	6,048.17
Rider Education Checking Account:	\$	146,757.48
Rider Education Savings Account:	\$	112,208.78
Bingo Account:	\$	7.75
Legal Defense Fund:	\$	1,758.00

We actually have 1,980.00 in the Legal Defense Fund. We need to figure out why the program is decreasing the amount when we deposit money. This will be checked into.

Terry Howard read a portion out of the IRS policy what is required to change from our current status as 501C3 to a 501H. If we were to do that we can hire a lobbyist. We can file a simple form now to change the status rather than filing several forms if we keep our current status.

Discussion followed.

Motion by Ron Hall, 2nd by Skip Fleming to file the 501H election form.
Vote unanimous - Motion passed
ABATE's 501C3 status will NOT change.

Housekeeping Items:

- A. New District – Lyons
Assistant District Representative David Isenburg addressed the board and requested to be recognized as a new district (District 24) located in Lyons, Colorado.

Motion by Miles France, 2nd by Tim O'Connor to accept the new District 24

Vote unanimous - Motion passed

Welcome District 24

- B. Nominations for 2008 Officers will be due at the September State Board Meeting. We need someone to step up for Legislative Affairs Officer. The State Coordinator CAN NOT run legislative issues next year.

Discussion about upcoming helmet bill

- C. Motorcycle Advisory Panel

We have not heard anything from them. CDOT received money from the TEA-LU funds and hired a company to plan a Motorcycle Awareness campaign which will be launched in September 2007. The panel has held 1 meeting so far but nothing else has been done. This is something that has to be done otherwise we will not be able to get TEA-LU funds for next year. Terry will keep everyone informed via e-mail.

- D. Terry has applied for 2 MSF grants, one for Accident Scene Management classes and one for ASL (American Sign Language)

Less than \$10,000 are available for the grants. Accident Scene Management is along the lines of Slider Gilmore's presentation. We are trying to get instructors to attend these classes. We're trying to get a grant so we can put on more motorcycle classes for the deaf.

- E. MOTM is in September and everyone is encouraged to attend. The room rate is \$270 for the weekend. We have budgeted \$2,500 for MOTM. Terry is asking the State to pay for Kathy Banning and Dawn Grow to attend the meeting. Terry presented the cost to attend MOTM for Kathy and Dawn, the remainder of the money can be used to help pay some of the expenses for members of the SBOD. Terry will collect the names of board members who are interested in attending MOTM.

Motion by Miles France, 2nd by Stump to send Kathy Banning and Dawn Grow to MOTM with all expenses paid by the State.

1 abstain, rest in favor – Motion passed

- F. Former D6 members wish to address the SBOD about the food bank money

D6 members not present, skipped

- G. Membership renewals

We have about 4000 renewal forms left. These forms have the perforation on the top which gets cut off in the mail process. On the renewals for July a piece of tape was put over the perforation and so far none have been returned. We will continue to do that until the forms are used up.

- H. Games manager – We need a games manager for 2008 if we plan on having a raffle, once the license is expired, it is difficult to get back.

Anne from District 12 is our current games manager. We need someone to go to a bingo/raffles class. The next class is scheduled on August 25, 2007 in Aurora at the REMA (Retired Enlisted Men Association). The class is from 9am until 11am, the cost is \$10. We don't need to attend the bingo portion. We can not legally run a raffle without a games manager; they have to be present at the drawing. Terry will e-mail information to all interested.

Break 2:30 pm – 2:44 pm

I. District 2 member would like to address the SBOD

Don Creamer informed the SBOD that you only have to remove 5 words from the State Constitution in order for all of us to have to wear helmets. Your signature and vote can permanently restore your rights. We can change the State Constitution by putting this on the ballot. Recommended wording: "There shall be no law or regulation concerning the wearing or other use of a helmet while operating or riding as a passenger on a motorcycle or motorized bicycle."

We need to collect 80,000 signatures in order for this to be put on the ballot. Then we have to get people to vote for this. We will not argue this as a safety issue but as a Freedom of Choice issue. One argument: "A woman can decide what she wants to do with a pregnancy without the interference of the State, however she is too stupid to decide if she should wear a helmet or not."

Bruce Downs stated that we need to get other sports (recreational activities) involved that are in danger of mandated protective head gear laws (i.e. horse back riders, ATV riders, bicyclists, skiers etc.). The more people we get behind this the more successful this will be.

Terry will get in touch with Maggott to get some help with the wording of this ballot initiative from our friendlies at the capitol.

We need to take this back to the districts and get some feedback on this suggestion. **Action Item**

This will not be cheap because we need to work the campaign, it is time consuming and expensive. We need to give this some thought.

Contact: doncreamers@earthlink.net

Don Creamer volunteered to become the Legislative Affairs Officer for 2008.

Thank you Don!

Rider Ed Report: presented by Ben Hochberg

- We have trained 2,539 novice students and 348 experienced students so far this year
- We have set up Site Administrator (SA) meetings. There are 4 scheduled per year, 2 of which are mandatory. It was suggested for an SA to attend a SBOD meeting if they miss an SA meeting in order to make up for the missed meeting.
- Ben and Erik Erickson conducted another Rider Coach prep course. We now have 7 more instructors, 4 will be working on the Front Range.

Another course is planned for the fall. We need people who are interested to contact Ben.

- The MOST program is fading into oblivion. MOST needs a new program manager. There is a problem trying to figure out where the money goes that we get for motorcycle registrations. MOST is running out of money, they are keeping some back for the next fiscal year. It appears that all contractors receive \$40,000 regardless of how many students they train. We train more students than the other contractors put together. The MOST funds should be distributed according to how many students get trained by a particular company. The way they are distributing the funds now is not equitable.
Where are the \$4 that we're supposed to get from each motorcycle registration? DOR says that the money CDOT has is all they received from the counties.
- The MOST program is not functioning successfully with the MSF either. They should be a liaison between trainers and MSF. Since they don't have a program manager that is not happening either. Because of all this we had to increase the prices for rider training. The new prices are solid, no matter whether we get money from MOST or not.
- Trike training: We will get a copy of the training curriculum from the Evergreen Training Company. We need some instructors to take these classes. We need a change in the licensing system, either a new test for 3-wheelers or take the regular test on a 3-wheeler. Ben is trying to get the people to come out and hold a training class here. We need to budget for that next year.

Motion by Ron Hall, 2nd by Ditto to recommend holding a trike instructor course here in the State of Colorado or sending people to a course.

4 abstain, rest in favor - Motion passed

- Rider Education is trying to implement a mentoring system for new rider coaches. Take the course and have a mentor at the first few classes. We need to find a way to pay them something. They could go to a range, set up cones and ride the exercises before teaching their first class. We need to put something in the budget for next year to be able to produce higher quality instructors.
- Steve Turner will be an apprentice to become next year's Site Administrator for Pike's Peak Community College. We're thinking about starting another site at Colorado Springs for civilians.
- The AMA is ignoring the lawsuit between MSF and Team Oregon. This is a State's rights issue. Team Oregon curriculum is now being taught in Iowa and Illinois is thinking about adopting it.
- It is now required that something will be said in training courses about ABATE of Colorado. There is a new DVD. Terry will review it on Monday. The instructors should be playing the DVD as students are entering the classroom on Friday nights.

- We're thinking about a mobile program in Salida. The man (Jim) who runs the rodeo grounds does not want us to paint the parking lot. We need to find another parking lot. If anyone knows of one please contact Perry.

Break 4:00pm – 4:16 pm

- Steve Turner will remain on the Steering Committee and Ron Hall is stepping up to OSAL director.

Legislative Report: presented by Terry Howard

Terry suggested that the members get involved in their respective Legislator's events (town meetings etc.). Meet them face to face, talk to them. When you call on them during legislative session, they will remember who you are. We need to test the waters.

Terry will put together some information to help argue a helmet bill.

MRF Report: presented by Miles France

- MRF has 355 members in the State of Colorado. 17 of them signed up in Salida
- Miles did a lot of networking at the BOTW. He minded the store and 2 people from Nevada and 2 from Washington volunteered to be co-reps.
- August 1st, 2007 is the deadline for grant funding. Terry is taking care of that. There are \$4 million in grants across the country, no matching required.
- Miles presented highlights from the MRF leaders reports from the past couple of months.
- Right to Repair Act: Call your representative in Washington DC and ask them to support this bill
- HIPPHA: there are 45 co-sponsors in the house and 4 in the senate. Idaho, Montana and Colorado are the only states that have their own laws.

Old Business:

- A. District 8 – State sponsorship of Ignacio Bike Week

Dave Stewart reported that all insurance issues have been resolved.

Motion by Ron Hall, 2nd by Tim O'Connor to give \$1,000 to Ignacio Bike Week

Discussion followed.

1 abstain, rest in favor - Motion passed

- B. Fundraising - tabled from last meeting

Item dismissed

- C. Committee Reports

Steering Committee:

We need clarification. The State Coordinator was put in charge of the office staff. The State Coordinator should have the right to determine when and if a review and a raise is due and be allowed flexibility of the amount within the confines of the approved budget, is this correct?

Discussion followed

Suggestions to change the procedure for reviews, Terry was never reviewed by the steering committee, Terry needs to know if she has the authority to decide what percentage of raises she can give the office personnel within the restrictions of the budget.

Motion by Ron Hall, 2nd Tim O'Connor that the State coordinator is responsible for the raises for the office personnel according to budget restrictions.

Discussion followed

2 opposed, 1 abstain, 19 in favor – motion passed

Motion by Skip, 2nd by Ron Hall to amend above motion to read as follows: The state coordinator shall have the authority and the responsibility for the review and the determination of the amount and awarding of raises for the office staff , based on budget guidelines

All in favor – Motion passed

Dinner break 5:28 pm – 6:22 pm

Budget Committee:

We need to start discussing the budget. The office staff will put together the figures, the committee needs to review them before they go to the SBOD in November.

Compensation Committee:

Terry excused herself from this portion and appointed Sheri Rediess as Chairperson.

Bruce checked with a couple of grant writers, they write for a professional fee, the fee is included in the grant.

CDOT's position is that this is pre-grant work and therefore not reimbursable.

According to our policy we owe 20% of all grant monies received.

Committee recommends that we pay Terry out of the administrative cost from the grant money.

Some grant compensation money will come out of State fund, others will come out of Rider Ed fund, depending on where the grants were awarded. The treasurer will research who pays what portion.

We only owe on monies actually received, not the total grant money awarded.

Skip made motion, 2nd by David to pay Terry 20% of the money received through the grants.

4 abstain, rest in favor - Motion passed

Dave Stewart suggested that the districts will pay their share to cover this expense.

The district reps need to go back to their districts and discuss it and report back at the September SBOD.

Recommendation to take back to the districts that we pay Terry the 20% for the monies already received and also 20% on all monies to be received for the requested and awarded grants that Terry has already worked on.

Motion by Ron Hall, 2nd by Skip, ABATE will pay a commission of up to 20% of the amount received from a grant provided it is included in the grant and awarded as procurement or administrative fees.

4 abstain, rest in favor - Motion passed

Miles France was absent during above motion and vote.

Motion by Ron Hall, 2nd by Stump to rescind the policy of May 2005 guidelines for payment of commissions

All in favor – Motion passed

Motion by Bruce Downs, 2nd Dave Cawley to have the Steering Committee meet within 30 days to review State Manager's job performance for 2006.

All in favor – Motion passed

Alan was absent during motion and vote.

Break 7:19 pm – 7:30 pm

D. Code of Conduct

Ron did not receive any comments on the Code of Conduct, as requested at the last meeting. We discovered today how important wording is so we'd like to go over it again. Ron wants to have changes submitted within the next 2 weeks. **Action Item**

Put changes in parenthesis so they are obvious.

Motion by Skip, 2nd Dave Cawley to send the changes to the Code of Conduct to the Steering Committee and the changes need to be highlighted in some form.

All in favor – Motion passed

E. Update on All ABATE Campout 2007

The only concern are the trophies, everything else is in place

F. All ABATE Campout 2008

D1 has an interest in doing it again in 2008 but has no budget.

D1 will submit a budget by September SBOD 2007 for 2008

G. FBMR

We didn't make any money. Elaine still owes money. We lived up to our end of it. Grant money is still coming in. We did not lose any money. Late advertising last year, we've already started advertising for next year.

Changes for next year's rally were discussed. It is requested that this is to be taken back to the districts and they in turn e-mail their ideas for next year's rally to Terry. Terry would like some feedback before the next SBOD.

H. Membership

D1: 76 (-4)	D2: 64 (+2)	D5: 265 (-20)	D7: 36 (+4)	D8: 87 (-4)
D10: 154 (-5)	D11: 125 (-10)	D13: 117 (-2)	D14: 72 (+2)	D15: 50 (-5)
D16: 65 (-2)	D17: 83 (+2)	D18: 32 (-3)	D19: 14 (-1)	D21: 19 (-6)
D22: 49 (-8)	00/99:0/67 (n/c/+8)			

Total Membership: 07/20/2007 1383 (-51)

New Business:

A. ABATE – state of affairs – what direction are we headed in?

Stump went to Fairplay's Ladies Run, he ran into a lot of apathy, people just are not interested in ABATE. Walked around in campgrounds, more of total apathy. They don't care, people think ABATE should do something for them.

What is ABATE going to look like in 10 years? We are changing into nothing but a Rider Ed organization. We need input from everyone what we can do about this. We need to find a new direction to go in. Legislatively we're not as strong as we used to be. We need to find a common ground with the young people on their sport bikes. The young people did not grow up with the freedom that we grew up with, so they're not missing it. We have to change in order to continue to exist.

We should try to visit some of the other groups so that they know about us and get to know us.

Ron offered to bring a sport bike rider to the next meeting, so we can see what their world looks like. We have to change how we do things. Take this back to the districts and see if they can come up with any ideas. **Action Item**

District Concerns:

D1: none

D2: Ron presented the T-Shirts for the Pike's Peak Biker Run and invited everyone to the run on July 28th, 2007

D5: The district wants to know if there is any way we can get together for a class on how to fight the helmet bill. Terry will try to organize something for the fall to take to different town.
Suggestion to possibly give out a 3 months subscription to the Spokesman after taking a class so students have some more information on ABATE. It should help that the coaches are now playing the ABATE DVD at the classes. Maybe some of this will sink in.

D7: none

D8: If you would like to volunteer to work at the Ignacio Bike week, log onto ignaciobikeweek.com and fill out one of the volunteer sheets online.

D10: none

D11: Trying to get sponsor for IMB radio, \$150 to put a flyer or whatever you on there. It will stay posted for one year. Raffle for the quilt still ongoing, tickets are \$2 each or 3 for \$5. District 11 has a get together in Cripple Creek August 17 through August 19, 2007.

D13: none

D14: Next run is the 7 peaks Poker Run next weekend, starting in Keystone at 9am.

D15: none

D16: none

D17: We lost our member Richard Bell in Michigan. He was hit by a deer. If you want a T-Shirt, Karl has them.

D18: none

D19: Still trying to find fundraisers and such

D21: none

D22: This district may not exist in a couple of months. Only 3 people have stepped up to be officers. Maybe someone else will step up but it doesn't look real hopeful.

D24: They are still trying to get their membership up since they are new. They have a lot of ideas and will get to work on them.

Regional concerns

NE: thank you to District 24 and he misses D6

SE: none

MTN: we can now lay the food bank money issue to rest

SW: D8 weekend fun run 4th and 5th of August in Moab, Utah. Meeting at the VFW in Durango at 9am, everyone is welcome

Action Items for Future Meetings

Code of Conduct to be done by e-mail

Petition to Constitution change

Ideas for FBMR 2008

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm