

# ABATE of Colorado



## State Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Date: May 12, 2007  
Durango, CO District 8

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The ABATE State Board of Directors consists of: 16 District Representatives, 4 Regional Representatives & 3 State Officers (State Coordinator, State Treasurer & State Recorder)

### Meeting called to order at: 1:32 pm

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Any Districts with concerns requiring discussion, tell me now so I can fit you in the agenda.
- We follow Robert's Rules of Order

Thank you District 8 for hosting the meeting!

### Attendance:

**Absent with excuse: District 5, District 22 & Treasurer**

**Absent without excuse: District 13 & District 21**

### Minutes of March 17, 2007

**Motion by Bruce Downs, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Steve Turner to accept the minutes as posted on the web.**

**Vote unanimous - Motion passed**

### Treasurer's Report: presented by Terry Howard

State Checking Account:	\$	4,913.13
State Savings Account:	\$	6,047.88
Rider Education Checking Account:	\$	77,491.26
Rider Education Savings Account:	\$	112,208.78
Bingo Account:	\$	7.75
Legal Defense Fund:	\$	1,908.00

Budget discussion followed:

We needed to order new membership cards; they were not in the budget, so we have an extra expense.

Bruce Downs questioned several items in the budget.

- We are over budget for advertising for Rider Ed, reason is that we put an ad in the Yellow Pages which should have been billed last year but was not billed until this year. That explains \$4,000, Terry will find out about the remaining \$3,700.
- Credit card fees were budgeted for but nothing shows up, reason is that the Rider Ed account has not been reconciled.
- Labor charges are not budgeted and nothing is spent. There should be something spent. Some categories have nothing in them, Quickbooks repeats some items but there are not entries.
- Motorcycles have been bought, why are there no charges yet? We don't pay for them until after we've had them for a year.

### **Rider Ed Report: presented by Ben Hochberg**

- The new CDOT rules are on the website.
- There are problems with the M.O.S.T. program: the budget remains the same every year. Why, with increasing motorcycle registration every year, does the budget stay the same?
- There is no quality assurance within the M.O.S.T. program.
- Sanctions against training company which violated standards of the contract. The Attorney General was on the side of the company and the sanctions were dropped.
- Refusal to evaluate Team Oregon Training program. They don't own the program, it was publicly funded.
- Rick Davis is no longer the M.O.S.T. program director. Glenn Davis is doing a great job filling in for Rick.
- Glenn Davis requested NHITSA to evaluate the program. An outside panel came in to do the assessment. This was done last month. Terry and Ben gave a presentation to the assessment team along with other motorcycle organizations, also highway patrol, highway engineers etc. A set of recommendations were sent to the state in reference to rider education. The government is not beholden to follow any of these recommendations. Not all recommendations are about the M.O.S.T. program. A universal helmet law was recommended even though no one during the interview process recommended that. It is part of NHITSA's agenda nationwide. Ben explained a lot of the recommendations in the assessment report.
- Stop talking about MSF Course and start talking about Rider Ed Course or Colorado Rider Ed Course or Colorado Motorcycle Safety Training Course. We should get rid of the MSF completion card and start using the State completion card.

## **Break 2:53pm – 3:09pm**

- Rider Ed business on par with last year. We had a really bad winter; a lot of classes were postponed, including the courses we schedule for Iron Buffalo Training. We are ahead by about 100 students. We are getting \$45 per student that we register for Iron Buffalo. This is advantageous for both sides. We are ahead by 100 students because of Iron Buffalo.
- A Colorado Springs training company went out of business. This raises the question if the company was able to pay back all the students for their tuition. If we were in that position we would have enough money to do that. This was not the case when Ben first took over Rider Ed. It was his goal to make sure we have enough money in the bank; there would even be money left in savings after we pay back the students. The question was raised if we could cut the students from the C/S training company a little slack financially if they were to take the course with us.

**Motion by Bruce Downs, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Karl Long to have the Rider Education Office determine the amount of rebate they feel we can afford to offer students registered with the closed company. A discount for registering with ABATE Rider Ed. If they got reimbursed by the closed company they should then pay the full amount to ABATE.**

Discussion followed if we can afford it, depending on amount of students registering with ABATE.

Possibly have CDOT put out a public announcement and/or maybe go to motorcycle dealers and announce it there. The students would have to prove that they actually paid the closed company.

We need to make sure that the company really closed. We have heard it from students, the office called the phone numbers; there is a disconnect message. We need to go and check to see if there is an eviction notice on the door.

**4 opposed, 1 abstain, rest in favor – Motion passed**

- Ben wants to improve on his knowledge on 3-wheel programs. He wants to check out existing programs and possibly get a license. According to Steve Turner there is a tremendous need for 3-wheel classes.

**Motion by Lorenzo Perez, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Miles France for Ben to pursue educational opportunities for trike classes and certification to teach.**

**Vote unanimous – Motion passed**

- We are getting evicted from the Pueblo training site. New options are Chemical Depot and Penrose School. They are interested but no final word yet.
- New site administrators in Colorado Springs are doing a great job in Colorado Springs. They are working out the remaining problems from last year.
- There are 4 site administrators per year, 2 of which are mandatory. So far Ben has conducted 2.
- Lorenzo visited with the people at the airport for classes in La Junta. They are ok with it unless there is something going on at the airport.
- Ben wants everyone on the board to know what an exceptional job the office personnel are doing.
- Terry has too much on her plate. She is dealing with grant money, sitting on panels etc. Her job is to handle memberships; she is not the LAO, but doing that as well. She needs a life outside of ABATE.
- \$22,000 received from TEA-LU funds for another mobile program. This includes 4 motorcycles and a trailer. The trailer will be ours after 3 years. Not all funds have been put in place yet. As long as the amount we charge against the funds is under \$5,000 we don't need a contract, we can do a purchase order. We are breaking bills down into small amounts and Terry can start claiming money starting next Tuesday. The contract has not been signed yet.
- Brad asked if the recording equipment has been returned. Karl had called and was told he can come by anytime and get it. Ron had also called and was told that the equipment was left in one of the trailers at one of the sites. Nothing was found on Fort Carson or at PPCC. Karl will try calling again. We should get the equipment back, we paid for it.
- Question was posed if the current recording system is in compliance with the by-laws and yes, it is. We need to record the meetings which we do. Possibly consider getting another more up-to-date recorder.

## **Legislative Report: presented by Terry Howard**

### **SB-042 MOST statute change**

SB07-042 passed and will become law July 1, 2007  
(Correction to MOST statute so we can get reimbursed for military taking the course)

### **HB1117- Age based helmet bill**

The bill passed, we need to write letters to the governor now. He has until June 4<sup>th</sup> to sign or veto the bill. Give Ritter a chance to respond then go public

Lorenzo pointed out that this may be a violation of the Sunshine Law.

Primary seatbelt bill was defeated.

### **Housekeeping Items:**

- A. BOTW – each district can register at \$100 for a group (individuals will pay \$65). The banquet is extra. Whoever is interested in going need to make reservations. Maybe get a minivan to go up. Call Terry next week to let her know who is going.
- B. Motorcycle Advisory Panel – Labor Day weekend CDOT will do a motorcycle safety campaign
- C. We have applied for 2008 OSAL grant
- D. The DC trip was under budget, we did not get an appointment with Allard. We did see staffers of all the others. HIPHA and Right to Repair Act.
- E. Everyone understands how the grants are working since Terry sent out an e-mail with details
- F. OSAL grant is still not executed. Signature and amount of originals required issues
- G. MSF has declined to accept David Dress in the Chief School. E-mail to MSF requesting to get David in, Glenn Davis will send e-mail as well. No reason why we can't have 2 chiefs since we are the largest training organization in the state.
- H. RFTW is asking if we can donate to the dinner this year. Lorenzo will give whatever he has left, won't be much though due to the gas prices. Due to ABATE's funds shortage Bruce suggested to go to the districts for contributions.

**Motion by Bruce Downs, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Red Brown for the state not to contribute money this year but ask the districts to contribute**

**Vote unanimous – Motion passed**

### **MRF Report: presented by Miles France**

- MRF has 340 members in the State of Colorado
- Bruce and Carol went to Beast of the East. They are trying to set up a 503c. It will be called "Motorcycle Safety Awareness and Education Inc." Deadline for submitting applications for the scholarship is July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2007
- We should try to get sports bike riders integrated into ABATE
- EPA – Jesse James was charged huge fines
- HIPHA issues will be around again next year
- Right to Repair Act: Small after market manufacturers are meeting June 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>. The big ships do not want this to pass
- E-Mail was read from Steve Farrell that bikes may have to carry on-board microchips which transmit the machine and owner's identity to police
- HR9-84 bill about keeping a database on people who lobby with their representatives. Contact representatives that we don't want this bill.

- Roadside Assistance Program: they cover \$200 per occurrence, if the towing is more; you are out of that money. This is the \$46 package. This program covers the individual not the vehicle.

## **Break 4:18 – 4:32pm**

### **Old business:**

- A. Raffle Update: Red will have the window at the next meeting in July. Terry recommended to make this a 2008 raffle instead of 2007

**Motion by Miles France, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Stump to make this a 2008 raffle instead of 2007.**

### **Vote unanimous - Motion passed**

- B. D8 – State sponsorship of Ignacio Bike Week

The president of the Chamber of Commerce addressed the board. Ignacio Bike Week will be set up pretty much like Sturgis, a lot of free events, you pay as you go. All ABATE people helping with event will be covered under their insurance. We can set up a booth free of charge. All monies realized will go back to the community or some charity.

Discussion followed: if we can have a booth we may get some funding through TEA-LU. We wouldn't have any money until the middle of June. D8 will be sending out schedules with events and times to get people to commit to some time to helping out.

ABATE of Colorado will lend their endorsement to this event. We will decide at the July SBOD meeting if we can donate some money.

**Action Item**

- C. Fundraising - tabled from last meeting. Tabled until the July SBOD meeting. **Action Item**

- D. Steering Committee – Code of Ethics

Discussion on the version of Code of Ethics e-mailed to everyone. Changes, additions, corrections etc should be discussed in person or

E. Jim Bishop Award

Discussion on the requirements and rules of the award. Point of disagreement is Point F

**Motion by Tim O, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Brad to strike the words “be a past or” and for the point to read “nominee can not e a present ABATE of Colorado board member”**

**1 opposed, 2 abstain, rest in favor – Motion passed**

**Motion by Red Brown, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tim O’Connor to approve the new wording of the Jim Bishop award.**

**Vote unanimous – Motion passed**

F. FBMR

We still need help at the rally. Stump will do Casino night. Tickets are available for the trailer that will be raffled off at the rally. Terry has the tickets. (Enclosed 6x10 feet enclosed trailer). The tickets are \$10, drawing will be Sunday night, do not need to be present. Bruce asked if we have located a dunk tank. Rental places in Pueblo have them, so does Ft. Caron. We will check into that.

We have CDOT’s endorsement at the rally, this might give us some credence with the younger riders and help with getting new members.

G. Membership

D1: 80 (+11)	D2: 62 (-6)	D5: 285 (-88)	D7: 32 (+4)	D8: 91 (+9)
D10: 159 (-49)	D11: 135 (+29)	D13: 119 (-17)	D14: 70 (+1)	D15: 55 (-3)
D16: 67 (-10)	D17: 81 (-10)	D18: 35 (-1)	D19: 15 (n/c)	D21: 13 (-1)
D22: 57 (n/c)	00/99:0/41			

**Total Membership: 05/11/2007 1434 (-187)**

Steve will write up a new letter to send to new members who have only been a member for 1 year.

**Dinner break 5:33 to 6:21 pm**

**New Business:**

- A. All ABATE campout 2008 budgets. Red may submit a budget for the campout for next year.

**Motion made by Miles France, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Stump to table the vote for the 2008 budget until July board meeting.**

**Vote unanimous – Motion passed**

**Action Item**

- B. D14 would like to have all attendees to the SBOD meetings to pay \$25 to help with the food and facility rental. Costs have gone up.

**Motion by Brad Lehmkuhl, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Miles France to pay \$25 at board meetings effective July board meeting.**

**1 abstain, rest in favor – Motion passed**

- C. D2 is asking to borrow \$2,000 to put on the Pike's Peak Biker Run.

**Motion by Red Brown, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dave Cawley to loan D2 \$2,000 to put on the event.**

Discussion followed. We might set up a Rider Safety booth at the end stop to get some state funding, since ABATE is low on funds.

**2 abstain, rest in favor – Motion passed**

- D. MRF is paying for Carol to go to the SMSMA conference. A day before the conference there is a session for rider coaches that she would like to attend. Ben offered for Rider Ed to pay for her hotel stay.

- E. Steve Turner brought up that we have a policy for anyone who brings in money for ABATE that they will get 20%. Terry got all the grants. We should pay her.

Bruce questioned the legality of this. When the policy was written, the legality of it was already checked out. We had an attorney look into this. Any member who promotes ABATE and brings in money is

entitled to this percentage.

Discussion followed to include where the money would come from to pay her.

Terry has issues with accepting this money because she did this for ABATE not her personal gain.

**Motion by Lorenzo Perez, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dave Cawley to establish a compensation committee whose responsibility it is to review the compensation provided to the person who is writing, preparing and submitting grants.**

**3 opposed, 1 abstain, rest in favor – Motion passed**

**Motion by Red Brown, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Betty Mays to pay Terry 10% out of the FBMR profits and add 15% into future grants**

Discussion followed

**7 opposed, 3 abstain, 7 in favor  
Tie vote, Terry will not break tie vote, vote recall**

**Amended motion:**

**Pay Terry 10% for the 2007 grants that Terry wrote out of the proceeds of the FBMR, and add 15% into any future grants**

**8 opposed, 8 in favor, 1 abstain**

**Roll call vote:**

**In favor: Dave, Lou, Betty, Red, Tim, Karl, Miles, Andrea  
Opposed: Gary, Steve, Lorenzo, Stump, Brad, Bruce, Dave, Bill, Pat**

**Motion did not carry**

Compensation Committee:

Bruce Downs, Dave Cawley, Alan Nowlin, Stump, Andrea Mathews, Terry Howard

- F. Dave Stewart would like the board to reconsider the wording of the Red River Boycott in the Spokesman. He would like for it to say that we are only boycotting the rally and Taos County, not the entire State of New Mexico.

Discussion followed.

ABATE of Colorado is willing to work with ABATE of New Mexico.

**District Concerns:**

D1: The poker run was a big success and there are flyers on the table for the campout.

D2: none

D5: none

D7: none

D8: none

D10: none

D11: gives away scholarship fund, gave away \$2,000 this year. They have tickets for quilt; drawing will be at the Christmas party

D13: none

D14: none

D15: none

D16: none

D17: Smoke if you got 'em Poker Run June 23<sup>rd</sup>.

D18: see you at Run for the Wall

D19: submitted design for their district for approval by the board

**Motion by Miles France, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tim O'Connor to accept the submitted design for District 9**

**1 opposed, rest in favor – Motion passed**

D21: none

D22: none

## **Regional concerns**

NE: none  
SE: none  
MTN: none  
SW: none

## **Action Items for Future Meetings**

Budget for 2008 Campout

Donations for Ignacio Bike Week

Code of Ethics

Fundraising

**MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:50 PM**