



A Union of Motorcyclists

www.abate.org

Board Meeting MINUTES ----- October 26, 2014 ----- Sacramento/Nena's

Call meeting to orderTom Lubbers/Board Chairman

Time: 10:30am

Pledge of Allegiance - Tom Lubbers

Board Member roll callNick Benson Sr., Board Secretary

Board Member	Present	Absent	Excused Absence
Nick Benson Sr.	X		
Mark "Dogman" Castillero	X		
Dave Hastings	X		
Tom Lubbers	X		
Ed "Iceman" Mathis			X
Gill Mellen			X
Lee "Sporty" Milligan	X		
Lil' David Morena	X		
Ed Rogers	X		
Jim Schlachter			Resigned

- **BOD appointed Sarge Matthews to complete Greg Coppe's term and to be a BOD member for the 2015 / 2016 term. See attached Motion #1**

Local Roll CallTom Lubbers/Board Chairman

(PRESENT 52% - 00, 1, 3/13, 11, 17, 20, 23, 24, 25, 31, 44, 47, 52 ABSENT 48% - 2, 6, 8, 9, 19, 22, 27, 29, 33, 38, 40, 63)

Regional Representatives - Roll CallDave H/Executive Director

(PRESENT 63% - 2, 6, 7, 8, 9 ABSENT 37% - 11, 12, 13)

Accept Meeting Agenda as writtenTom Lubbers

Motion to accept made by Dave Morena
2nd by Mark Castillero Vote: Pass unanimous

Read/Review last meetings Minutes (July 26)Nick Benson

Motion to waive reading of July 26, 2014 meeting
Motion Made by Dave Moreno 2nd by Sporty Milligan

And Motion to accept as written Made by _____ N/A
2nd by _____ Vote: _____

Interim Business conducted Between 7/26 and present?.....Tom Lubbers

- Accepted Jim Schlachter's resignation from BOD

Moment of silenceTom Lubbers

Debbie Caballero (L#17); Brian "Creeper" Gabel (L#8 & 20); Jim Jungwirth (L#9);

State Treasurer's reportLil' David/Treas.

- Dave Morena reported that from Jan thru Oct 12 we have lost \$3129.00 but we should make that up in the final quarter of the year.
- Mark Castillero will take over retiring Dave Morena's treasurer position.
- Dave Morena reported that our merchandise sales do make money.
- We need to check into advertising on the ABATE website as a means of raising more money for ABATE.
- Nick Benson will check into the latest version of "Cloud / Online" Quick Books so that treasurer will not have to travel to main office for access to financial records.

Motion to accept made by <u>Dave Hastings</u> 2 nd by <u>Nick Benson</u> Vote: <u>Pass unanimous</u>
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State Director reportDave Hastings/Executive Dir.

- Dave Hastings reported that he would like to see ABATE "reinvent" itself over the next two years. This would be done in part by:
 - Working together
 - Asking M/Cs for monetary help and to ask them for their input on what they want from us.
 - Modernize the way ABATE does things.
 - Get more young people involved with ABATE.
- Dave Hastings sees a strong and productive future for ABATE.

Motion to accept made by <u>Mark Castillero</u> 2 nd by <u>Sporty Milligan</u> Vote: <u>Pass unanimous</u>
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Reports:

DiscussionDave Walsh/Moderator

- Dave Walsh left early, no report given.

ABATE/MMA LiaisonRuby Weber

- Ruby Weber reported that MMA did not support the Uni-Rally monetarily.
- Mentioned was the fact that others do not like ABATE, but we have done more for changing laws and biker's rights than any other group or MRO.
- Sarge Matthews stated that he felt there was no "unification" of any kind among the MRO's, clubs, or people at this rally. Sarge also stated that groups like BOLT are ineffective because their lawsuits are not binding anywhere, only that they may beat some helmet tickets, but nothing more.
- Ruby stated that BOLT does a lot and that more credit should be given to them.
- Ruby said that the biggest problem getting bikers to unify is trying to get them passed their egos.

- Bobby Tabaldo thanked ABATE for their support of the Uni-rally and agrees with Sarge that no real unifying took place. Bobby went on to say that unification belongs to us all, not just some.
- Mark Castellero suggested getting the leaders from all of the clubs, MRO's, groups, COC's, etc together to meet and find a common ground where real unification can happen.
- Sarge Matthews felt that Mark's idea was good, but that egos were too strong to overcome and that he felt that the idea would not come to fruition.
- Tom Lubbers feels we should work with the EasyRiders Bike Show to get that event to coincide with the Uni-rally so that people would be here for that and maybe support the rally at the same time.
- Motion #2 made by Mark Castellero to form a committee to get the heads or spokesperson of COCs and MROs to have a meeting to define the goals of an anti-profiling bill and name one or more spox to present a unified proposal to the legislature on the a bill. Ruby Weber will contact MMA, Sarge will contact COCs, and ABATE will contact MROs.

Bailing Wire NewsletterMilky/ Tina, or Nick Sr.

- Carol Cromwell reminded everyone that the deadline for submissions to the B/W is the 15th of the month.
- Nick Benson said he still wants ABATE to work at getting the B/W into the hands of the members each month as was done in the past. He feels that this would ensure better communication between all factions of ABATE.
- Sarge Matthews asked the cost of mailing the B/W to the members. Nick estimated about \$600.00 per mailing, but would forward last year's reports to the new board members when he got back to Barstow.
- Ed Rogers suggested a professional to do the B/W in the event of Milky's retirement or maybe even before. Ed feels that a professional that he knows would be better at taking advantage B/W advertising. Ed will bring his professional to the January 2015 BOD meeting.

CommunicationsGill Mellen

- Gill Mellen was absent, no report given.
- Comment from Mark Loudermilk indicated that members felt that they did not know what was going on.
 - Sarge suggested that they should come to the meetings.
 - Suggestions made to call, ask, or write, if they want more info.
 - Nick Benson suggested that the new BOD email addresses would make it much easier for members to email the BOD.

InsuranceRusty Russell/Advisor

- Rusty was not in attendance, no report given..

Legislative DirectorChuck Pedersen

- Chuck Pedersen reported that voters guides will be ready soon.
- All other legislative information was discussed at the PAC meeting prior to this meeting.

Membership ChairmanSporty

- Sporty Milligan reported that we need more members.

- Sporty suggested that all Presidents should do as he does and send renewal notices to their members when their membership was expiring. Sporty issued an example of his renewal letter to everyone.
- Sporty also mentioned that all Presidents should attend ABATE events and inform their members when ABATE events were scheduled.
- The BOD decided that each Local would be allowed to give 10 free associate memberships to individuals as a means of getting some of them to purchase full memberships. See Motion #4

MRF meeting update Sept meetingLil' David

- Dave Morena reported that since Jim Schlachter resigned from the BOD, it would seem that we would need to replace him as the MRF liaison also.
- Dave Morena explained that MRF is an MRO on the Federal level. Our membership with them is important because they keep us informed about Federal issues that concern us.

Safety OfficerNorm Newiger

- Norm Newiger was not in attendance. No report given.

State MerchandiseTina Sanders

- Tina Sanders was not in attendance. No report given.

OLD Business:

Southern Regional Rally (Mother's Day 2014)recap

- Southern Regional Rally netted \$2180.57

ABATE State Run 2014Tina Sanders/Iceman

- Frandy Campground is penciled in for next year Sept 11th thru 13th.
- Nick Benson gave a report on the possibility of Notorious Entertainment taking over the State Run as Tina Sanders will not be able to do it in 2015.
 - Nick Benson to follow up with Notorious Entertainment for more information and report back to the BOD.

Off RoadNick & Dave

- Nick Benson gave a recap of AB 1835 and AB 988.

Unification Rallyrecap

- Discussed what, if anything was accomplished.

ABATE Associate Membership offerDave Hastings

- Board approved motion #4 by Nick Benson to start a pilot program that allows each Local to give 10 free associate memberships to prospective members beginning in 2015 and ending at the end of 2015.
- Carol Cromwell will update 'associate member' description and send all presidents a copy of same.

Russ Brown's AssistanceDave Hastings

- Dave Hastings presented Russ Brown's request to assist us financially.
- Bobby Tabaldo stated that Brown will not allow colors at his events.

- Sarge Matthews made a motion (#5) to allow representative from Russ Brown's office to address the Board with Brown's proposition at the January 2015 meeting. Motion passed.

NEW Business:

Fundraising proposal (Motorsports discount card)Sporty

- This proposal was tabled.

Large expendituresEd Rogers

- Ed Rogers suggested a "cooling off" period for large expenditures to avoid "2nd thoughts" like the ones after the \$3000.00 contribution to the unification rally by some members.
- Tom Lubbers is against a cooling off period.
- Sarge stated that ABATE protocols are already in place to "table" votes if a member is uncertain.
- No action was taken on the Ed Roger's suggestion.

Scheduling of Board Meetings at EventsDogman/Mark Castillero

- Mark Castillero suggested we start scheduling the 2 of our Board meeting to coincide with the Regional and State Rallies.
- Sarge suggested maybe before or after the rallies, but not during the rally.
- We will look at trying to schedule one on a trial basis.

ABATE By Laws & P & P Manual Review Cmte 2015Dave Hastings

- Dave Hastings tabled this idea as the bylaws were just recently reviewed.

Raising Money dedicated to mailing Members the Bailing WireSporty

- Sporty wanted to get money raised to start mailing the B/W to the members again.
- Nick Benson told the Board that it would take approximately \$600.00 per mailing to do this. Nick will re-forward his report on "bulk" mailing to Board members.

Candidate Statements 2015-2016 Board termDave Hastings

- Motion #6 by Dave Hastings authorizes appointment of Dan Buse and Mark Loudermilk to 2015 – 2016 Board term because we did not get enough candidates for this term.
- Motion passed unanimously.

Nominations for 2014 Freedom Fighter of the YearNick

- Nick Benson stated that Local 40 had nominated "Godfather" for Freedom Fighter of the year.
- Tom Lubbers nominated Jim Lombardo.
- As others started making random nominations Nick Benson asked that we have everyone put their nominations in writing and send them to Carol Cromwell.
- Nick stated that he would eNews everyone to let them know to send in their nominations.
- Carol Cromwell stated that nominations must be in by November 15th and that voting would begin shortly after that when the ballots are ready.

2015 State Run proposalNick Benson

- This was covered earlier when Nick said he would arrange a meeting with Notorious Entertainment to discuss details of the proposal.
- Due to time constraints, Nick will contact the Board about the proposal before the January meeting.

ABATE Training & Retention CmteDave Hastings

- Dave Hasting, Sporty Milligan, Nick Benson, and Carol Hastings volunteered to be on a committee to explore a training and retention programs for officers and staff that leave through attrition.

Schedule for Next Board Meetings:

	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
1 st Quarterly	January 17, 2015	L#20/Cypress – American Legion
2 nd Quarterly	May _____	_____
3 rd Quarterly	July _____	_____
4 th Quarterly	October _____	_____

Meeting adjourned

Time: 1:38pm

Thank you to all for Attending!!!!

Things to think about – **State Officer positions for 2015** – appointed in January.
Interested in filling a position? Contact a Board Member between now and January.

- Chuck Pederson mentioned that he will be watching a new app for smartphones that alerts the driver of automobiles that a motorcycle is approaching. The motorcyclist must also have the app turned on on his smart phone for it to work.

*“Our destiny is determined by our character, but our character is not determined by destiny.”
Author unknown*