



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Date: October 18, 2020

Location: State Office - 7509 N 12th St, Phoenix, AZ 85020

Description: Regular

Quorum Attendance:

At Large	Nolan Steed	<u>Present</u> / Absent
High Country	“Woody” Phillips [Chair]	<u>Present</u> / Absent
Mohave	Tom Aydt	<u>Present</u> / Absent
Phoenix-SM	Robb Felder	<u>Present</u> / Absent
Southern Arizona	Judi Miller (Also BOD Secretary)	<u>Present</u> / Absent
Superstition	Marc Schultz	<u>Present</u> / Absent
Yavapai	Deborah Butitta	<u>Present</u> / Absent
Yuma	Frank White	<u>Present</u> / Absent
President	Shirley Bizub	<u>Present</u> / Absent
Treasurer:	Tara Rudometkin	Present / <u>Absent</u>

Committee Chairs:

Legislative - Mike Infanzon (Authorized Lobbyist) Present/ Absent

Guests: Lisi Cloud Walking, Harley Petit, Susan Grimmer-Potter

Agenda:

I. Call to Order **Time: 12:02 pm**

Pledge of Allegiance – “Woody” Phillips led the Pledge & Moment of Silence .

I. Prior Meeting Minutes (Waive or Read) –*Waiving of the reading of the minutes & approval of the minutes of April 24, 2020 was approved on a motion by Robb Felder, seconded by Frank White.*

II. Chairman Comments – Woody Phillips remarked it has been an honor to be Chairperson of the ABATE of Arizona BOD for the last two years. Today is probably his last meeting. He will be retiring from work and plans to do some traveling and won’t be available for meetings in 2021 so has decided to not run for a BOD position. He also recognized Deborah Butitta’s Motorcycle Rider’s Foundation Lifetime Achievement Award. In addition, Christopher Beals, one of ABATE of AZ’s authorized lobbyists was awarded 2020 Young Activists scholarship award from the MRF Awareness and Education. This is the second



time that an Arizona ABATE member has received the Young Activist Scholarship.

III. Reports

- A. **President:** Shirley Bizub reported that work has begun on implementing improvements to the ABATE of AZ website, which needs to be improved. This will also help make it easier to process email address changes. The goal is to make it easier and cheaper to make changes as the needs arise. The specifications for the website are completed and will shortly be sent out for bid. Once the quote is received the BOD will be need to approve the expenditure. She thought MRF MOTM was fantastic and she learned a lot. She also thanked everyone for their hard work in 2020. This has been a learning year and she looks forward to 2021.
- B. **Treasurer:** Tara Rudometkin gave the report. Current state account has \$29,944.10 and the Too Broke account has \$24,594.30. All received bills have been paid and are up to date. Most of the chapters have around \$1000 in their accounts. A reminder is that there is a \$2500 limit for chapter accounts after which money is sent to the state account. A reminder too that all of the accounts are ABATE of Arizona's funds. There is no separate fund being kept at the state level for Chapters. The grand total in all accounts is currently \$83,131.49. ***A motion was made by Frank White and seconded by Tom Aydt to accept the Treasurers Report. The motion carried by a roll vote.***

Legislative Report: Mike Infanzon gave the report. A lot was done in 2020. However due to the COVID19 pandemic the Legislature shut down and no ABATE supported bills moved forward. However, when Apache Junction was going to require that no motorcycle organizations could hold meetings in the town this was quickly dealt with at a meeting with the Apache Junction mayor, Police Chief and Traffic Director. The requirement was immediately repealed and since then there have been really good relations between ABATE, the motorcycle community and Apache Junction political leadership. Work on resolving the town of Mesa profiling issue has not gone as well. Mike is trying to reschedule a meeting with the mayor and police leadership there. ABATE has been successful in getting HB 2630, the MC Safety Funding bill, designated as an essential bill. The ABATE of AZ Voters Guide has been published on the ABATE of AZ Web site and for the fourth year a candidate scorecard has also been published. An Arizona Motorcycle PAC was formed and has supported four candidates due to their support of motorcyclist rights. The two top topics on the 2021 Legislative Agenda are Lane Filtering and increasing penalties when certain driving violations result in a motorcyclist's fatality. The Federal Legislative Agenda was approved at the Motorcycle Rider's Foundation Meeting of the Minds in September. The top two topics on that agenda are profiling and renewable fuels. The entire list will be published in the next American Bikers' Journal. Mike asked that chapters please be encouraged to be sustaining members of the MRF. January 11 is the opening day of the Arizona Legislature. The Day of the Dome will be on April 12. Mike brought up a request for the board to approve Will Cleveland, Southern AZ Chapter to become an "authorized



lobbyist” for ABATE of Arizona. He has an excellent background and was active in ABATE of Texas and ABATE of Virginia. A motion was made by Judi Miller and seconded by Nolan Steed to approve naming Will Cleveland an Authorized Lobbyist for ABATE of Arizona, ***This was carried by roll vote.***

IV. Old Business:

- A. **Tax Filing:** Tara Rudometkin reported that the tax filings are now with an outside accounting firm and will be completed very soon. She will make sure the next filing is completed on time.
- B. **Annual Safety Rights Conference:** Mike Infanzon reported that the conference was not done at Arizona Bike Week because there had not been sufficient time to prepare for it. The idea is a one-day regional Meeting of the Minds or a Safety Rights Conference similar to what is done at Sturgis. Ideas are having it as a cocktail hour with speakers. There is now plenty of time to plan it for Bike Week 2021 and there is \$500 funding for the event in the proposed Legislative budget. He also plans to have sponsors for the event to keep the costs to ABATE as low as possible.

VII. New Business Agenda Items

- A. **COVID19 Position Statement:** Woody Phillips led the discussion. The idea for having a statement that ABATE supports and will abide by recommendations from health authorities regarding COVID19 mitigation strategies. This can also be a liability issue should someone contract covid19 at an ABATE event and it is found the organization had not addressed ways to reduce potential spread of the virus at events. There was discussion. ***Upon a motion by Nolan Steed, seconded by Judi Miller the board approved the COVID19 Position statement as presented.***
- B. **Chapter Budgets:** Woody Philips led the discussion and board representatives from each chapter discussed each budget at a high level. Tara Rudometkin wanted to remind everyone that the bank fees should not apply if a chapter account is greater than \$1500. Upon a motion by Tom Aydt, seconded by **Robb Felder** the board approved the 2021 **Chapter budgets** as presented.
- C. **Lobbyist/Legislative Budget:** Woody Phillips led the discussion and Mike Infanzon answered questions. Upon a motion by **Deborah Butitta** , seconded by Frank White the board approved the 2021 Legislative Budget as presented. ***On October 22, the Board of Directors, via an email vote, approved an amendment to the Lobbyist budget, adding an additional \$200.00 to cover the increased price of the MRF's CQ Engage Software.***
- D. **Too Broke for Sturgis Budget:** Woody Phillips led the discussion. It was noted that the budget is greater than current TBFS funds, but several major expenses are not paid until after the event and after income from the event has been collected. ***Upon a motion by Deborah Butitta*** ,



seconded by Robb Felder that the board approved the 2021 TBFS budget with a reminder to the Too Broke committee to be frugal, the board approved the 2021 Too Broke for Sturgis budget as presented, with Nolan Steed abstaining because he is a member of the TBFS committee.

E. State Budget: Woody Phillips led discussion and Tara Rudometkin discussed the budget and answered questions. ***Upon a motion by Robb Felder, seconded by Nolan Steed, the board approved the 2021 State Budget as presented.***

F. Auditor: Woody Phillips reported that two people had stepped forward and volunteered to complete the remaining audits. One is Eileen Mateyka, who is an experienced accountant, not an ABATE member, but who is a friend of a member. She is qualified and looking to do this as a volunteer. The other person is Robb Felder, who will not be running for an ABATE office for 2021. He has a breadth of knowledge about ABATE and also has a good business background. Since only some of the audits were completed in 2020 the process will start over with a goal that all chapters be audited. There was discussion. ***Upon a motion by Frank White, seconded by Deborah Butitta, the board approved naming Robb Felder to complete the audits of chapter accounts.***

V. Open Floor:

- A. Mike Infanzon asked all chapter board representatives to please encourage your chapters to become sustaining members of the Motorcycle Riders Foundation (MRF).
- B. Mike was asked by Will Cleveland if he had permission to add an Arizona ABATE designation (an eagle patch) to the Patriots Guard patch he now has on his cut. There was discussion. The consensus was to defer this and ask that if Will wishes to have an ABATE patch on his back to add the official ABATE of AZ patch to his cut.
- C. Lisi Cloud Walking and Harley Petit, members at large, were in attendance and asked the board to reconsider its decision to not approve a Kingman Chapter of ABATE of Arizona. The board went into executive session to discuss. The board tabled a motion by Deb Butitta, seconded by Frank White, to accept the chapter until the next meeting and the Chairman agreed to place it on the agenda for the January meeting.

VI. Next Meetings/Events (2020):

ABATE of Arizona BOD Meeting in Phoenix, at the Italian American Club, Saturday, January 9, 2021 at 1 pm

I. Adjourned 3:17 pm

Motion made to adjourn by Frank White, Seconded by Nolan Steed. Unanimously

DEDICATED TO FREEDOM OF THE ROAD



ABATE OF ARIZONA

approved.

American **B**rotherhood **A**imed **T**owards **E**ducation of **A**rizona

7000 N. 16th St, Suite 120 #434

Phoenix, AZ 85020

ABATEofAZ.org

Signed: "Woody" Phillips, Chair _____ *Woody Phillips* _____

Judi Miller, Secretary for the Board: _____ *Judi Miller* _____