



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Date: July 12, 2020

Location: On-Line Teleconference

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	Susan Grimmer-Potter (Proxy)	<u>Present</u> / Absent
Yavapai	Deborah Butitta	<u>Present</u> / Absent
Yuma	Frank White	<u>Present</u> / Absent

President Shirley Bizub **Present** / Absent

Treasurer: Tara Rudometkin **Present** / **Absent**

(Tara was away for family emergency)

Committee Chairs:

Audit - David McLaren **Present** / **Absent**

Legislative - Mike Infanzon (Authorized Lobbyist) **Present** / Absent

By-Laws Committee & Communications – Susan Grimmer-Potter **Present** / Absent

Guests: Eric Hampton, Darla Hampton, Harley Pettit, Lisi Cloud Walking

Agenda:

I. Call to Order

Time: 12:05 pm

I. Pledge of Allegiance – “Woody” Phillips led the Pledge & Moment of Silence for 1st Responders, Downed Bikers and men and women in uniform.

II. 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 Nolan Steed, seconded by Tom Aydt.*

III. Chairman Comments – Woody Phillips encouraged board members to talk to their chapters and remind everyone the budgets are due no later than October 1 as they must be approved by the BOD at its October meeting. The AMSAF Riding for the Long-Haul dinner on October 17 is still going to happen. It will still be held at Rustler’s Roost and be held from 5:30 – 9:30 pm. There are seats



available for all board members and Mike Infanzon and Shirley Bizub. Please let Woody know if you CANNOT attend this function as he can then offer your seat to someone else. The Motorcycle Riders Foundation has been doing a great job representing motorcycle rights at the Federal level. Attendance at this year's Meeting of the Minds may be down due to the COVID19 issues. Woody asked that each board member ask their chapters to be a sustaining (\$100) member of MRF. Later in the agenda the board will discuss this year's contribution to MRF from ABATE of Arizona.

IV. Reports.

- A. President:** Shirley Bizub reported that the new membership application is ready for printing and will be available shortly. At the recent ACMC meeting it was requested that all members refrain from scheduling events the same weekend at the Riot on the River, November 6-8. Board members were asked to relay that back to their chapters. In addition, ABATE volunteered to help the Templar Crusaders sell 50/50 tickets. ABATE of AZ is also going to put a silent auction basket together and asked each chapter to donate a shot glass, either for representing the chapter or perhaps a local bar or site of interest. Shirley is organizing an overnight seminar officer training for state ABATE and Chapter Abate Officers.
- B. Treasurer:** Tara Rudometkin was not available but provided a written update. Woody Phillips gave the report. A member of the Yavapai chapter made a very large donation. Mike Infanzon reported that MMA has not yet paid ABATE for its portion of the Day of the Dome expenses. This is now overdue by months. They have been informed and their treasurer was supposed to have put a check in the mail. Woody will follow up with the MMA. Woody asked whether anyone from Too Broke has not yet been paid back. There was discussion about who could sign checks when Tara was not available. ***A motion was made by Deborah Butitta and seconded by Robb Felder that Darla Hampton, VP of ABATE of AZ, be given authority to sign checks when the treasurer is not available and to also be added to the state checking account. This was unanimously approved by roll call vote.***
- C. Audit Committee:** No report. No meetings have been held for a number of reasons. David McLaren discussed with Woody that he has had family issues that have made organizing the committee meetings a challenge. ***A motion was made by Deborah Butitta and seconded by Judi Miller that the Audit committee be dissolved. This was unanimously approved.*** Woody led the discussion. New ideas on how to carry out these audits needs to be made. It was agreed that Woody will craft an ad to be put into the newsletter and sent to all chapters asking for a volunteer accountant to help with the audits. This would be pro bono work. The volunteer does not have to be a member of ABATE of Arizona. Woody will send out the proposed ad to the BOD for input.
- D. Legislative Report:** Mike Infanzon gave the report. Mike has visited all



chapters. He received feedback that the membership doesn't get consistent feedback about his activities and he asked board members to please share any information he provides at board meetings with the membership. The legislative session was difficult this year due to COVID19 and other issues. ABATE tracked over 500 bills and was involved in helping with the language for several bills of most interest to the motorcycle community, lane filtering, motorcycle safety fund, etc. Mike and his team actively worked on over 100 bills. They were successful in getting two bills killed. One would have brought the Arizona vehicle emission requirements in sync with California, meaning that motorcycles would have fallen under the emissions rules. The other was a bill that would have required a license for motorcycle funeral escorts and even for group rides. This was also killed early. Mike also worked with several city councils to help stop some local legislation that would have impacted motorcycling. Apache Junction was going to require that no motorcycle organizations could hold meetings in the town. This would have not only impacted the Motorcycle clubs in Apache Junction, but also the Superstition Chapter of ABATE of Arizona. This was resolved with one meeting with the city leadership. Mike distributed the Legislative Agenda Survey. This survey helps ABATE decide what issues are of most importance to its membership and helps Mike determine where to focus attention. They received fewer than 200 ABATE member responses, though did receive 1600 responses overall. There was discussion about how the survey is done and how ABATE can better alert members that it is available for completion. It was suggested that the survey be sent to the chapter PAC officers ahead of time so they can alert membership that it will be available and to encourage participation. Mike will put the results of the survey in the Masterlink and on social media. He is next working on a voter guide to be available after the primary elections. The legislative team has helped register 750 voters over the last three years. The Day at the Dome was a success this year and Mike was able to reduce cost \$1000. Overall, he has been successful doing more, while reducing overall Legislative section expenses. His next goal is to work on helping set up key bill language by December 1, in time for the new legislative session. The ACMC at its last meeting expressed appreciation for all of the work of the ABATE Legislative team.

V. Old Business:

A. Tax Filing: Woody Phillips reported that verification of the 2018 and 2019 filings needs to be done but he will personally follow up on this with Tara Rudometkin.

VII. New Business Agenda Items

A. MRF Contribution, 2020: Woody Phillips led the discussion. *Upon a motion by Nolan Steed, seconded by Judi Miller, then amended by Nolan Steed and seconded by Robb Felder, the board unanimously*



approved by roll call vote ABATE of Arizona making a \$1500 contribution to the MRF in 2020. There was also discussion that it will

be helpful for both Shirley Bizub (funds already approved) and Mike Infanzon (expenses already budgeted) attend the Meeting of the Minds as there are many break-out sessions to be covered and this can only be done with more than one person representing ABATE of Arizona.

B. Bylaws: Susan Grimmer-Potter gave the report. The committee has made a lot of progress. Most of the Bylaws work is complete, with two areas still needing work. The back up to the treasurer and Section 12.0.2, the Corporation Seal language. The original seal cannot be found so it was agreed that a new seal will be purchased. The state officers will see that this is done. A seal is not a legal requirement of a corporation but will be nice to have. This can then be used for letters of appreciation and so on. The seal language need not be changed. The committee is also reviewing the Policies and Procedures. The work is also almost complete. Recommendations for the updates will be ready soon.

C. New Kingman Chapter: The Kingman Plan of Action and a document addressing concerns that have been raised about the proposed new chapter was distributed to the BOD before the meeting. Woody Phillips asked for any final comments prior to the vote. There was discussion. **A motion to approve The Kingman Chapter as a new ABATE of Arizona chapter was made by Deborah Butitta and seconded by Susan Grimmer-Potter. There was discussion. The motion was voted down 4-3 by roll call vote.** Woody Phillips said he was very disappointed in the result of the vote but that was all he would say at this time.

D. Annual Safety / Rights Conference: Mike Infanzon discussed an idea that Harley Pettit made to start an Annual Safety rights Conference or "Social Hour" at the Arizona Bike Week. A similar program is done at Sturgis each year by ABATE of South Dakota and has been popular. Attendees from Arizona and other states would be encouraged. It would be a short seminar of a couple of hours with a speaker or two discussing motorcycle rights issue, similar to a small MOTM. This would be a way to possibly increase membership but to also increase public awareness of motorcycle rights issues. After discussion it was felt this is a great idea and should move forward but that a board appointed committee is not needed to implement this idea and it was agreed that Mike and Shirley would discuss next steps and organize a group to work on the details. This should also include the State events Coordinator, Duane "Disco" Tone, State Safety Officer, Paul Whaley and Jim Silk and Mike Infanzon, Legislative Director. An update will be available by the next Board meeting.

VI. Open Floor:

A. Harley Pettit expressed disappointment with the vote for a new chapter



and said they will continue to try again at a later date to get a Kingman Chapter approved. The membership in Kingman will probably remain members at large. Lisi Cloud Walking asked about the Kingman members ABATE membership status. It was clarified by Woody that some other ABATE members also do not belong to specific chapter. One does not have to have a chapter affiliation to be members of ABATE. These members will now receive their ABATE membership cards, which will show member at large unless they want to join another chapter. The cards were not distributed previously awaiting the vote so that if Kingman had been approved that chapter would have been listed on their cards. Deborah Butitta said she was disappointed with the vote because she felt that Kingman had met the requirements of a new chapter.

VII. Next Meetings/Events (2020):

ABATE of Arizona BOD Meeting in Phoenix, at the Italian American Club,
Saturday, October 3, 2020 at 1 pm

I. Adjourned 1:45 pm

Motion made to adjourn by Nolan Steed, Seconded by Robb Felder.
Unanimously approved.

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

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