



A.B.A.T.E. of Montana
American Bikers Aiming Toward Education

STATE MEETING MINUTES

Saturday December 3, 2016
VFW Post 1634
Billings, MT

State Meeting Opening: Call to order by Deputy Coordinator, **Gary Schiller** at: 1:20 PM

Chapter Roll Call: Chapters either present or represented by proxy were: **Houndstooth** – Present, **Lower Yellowstone** – Present, **Prairie Riders** – Present, **State** – Present.

Officers' Roll Call: Present: **State Deputy Coordinator** – Gary Schiller, **State Treasurer** – Rod Comer, **State Membership Secretary** – CJ Erhardt, and **State Secretary** – Jean Schiller.

Quorum Present

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, followed by a moment of silence for our lost and downed brothers and sisters

Introduction of Officers and Audience: **Gary Schiller**, Deputy Coordinator, **Rod Comer**, State Treasurer, **CJ Erhardt**, State Membership Secretary, **Jean Schiller**, State Secretary. Chapter Representatives: **Houndstooth:** Rich Mundt; **Lower Yellowstone:** Scott Swanson, Eric Oster, Earl Goddard & Cori Goddard; **Prairie Riders:** David Fisher.

Secretary's Report: The September 17, 2016 minutes were accepted as is with no corrections. Motion made to accept by **Rod Comer**, second by **CJ Erhardt**. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: **Rod Comer** gave the following information as of December 2, 2016:

General Fund: **Balance of \$11,916.49 + Savings of \$26.84**

Education Fund: **Balance of \$2,754.94**

Note: Black Eagle folded, but as of this date, State has not received funds from the closure of their bank accounts. Upon receipt, funds will be deposited into the Education Fund.

Motion made to accept by **Gary Schiller**; second by **CJ Erhardt**. Motion passed.

Membership Report: Given by **CJ Erhardt**, State Membership Secretary. We have 297 **current members** as of 12/3/2016. Current Chapter Memberships are:

Hi-Line: 4 Members

Houndstooth: 20 Members

Lower Yellowstone: 247 Members

Middle of Montana: 15 Members

Prairie Riders: 5 Members

State: 6 Members

CJ wanted to remind Chapters to please be sure to submit the forms as soon as possible as once again there is a lag time on receipt of the forms, sometimes up to six (6) months. Motion made to accept by **Rod Comer**, second by **Scott Swanson**. Motion passed.

Newsletter Report: No Report – Reminder: Face book page: ABATE of Montanan is up and running and has been for quite some time. Be sure to check it out.

MMSAC Report: No Report – **Gary** will do some additional research since there are two (2) openings. Gary will also try to find out what is going on with all the funds that are paid with a portion of the Motorcycle registration fees...is there a budget and if so what is on the budget reports for the last years and the upcoming year.

Products Report: **CJ** reported there is \$949.96 in the products account. Total of \$37.50 in year-to-date sales for 2016. No new products at this time, although **CJ** will order the “slap on” cozies after the first of the year. **CJ** is still looking into it but most likely will not order additional regular cozies since the ones we have are outdated and will be written off the books. He has been giving the old cozies away. **Rich** was wondering if the State carries a personal name rocker. We don’t but **CJ** will check with Vickie on a price and if/when she can make them.

State Events Report: No Report. If you have ideas on a run or event, please e-mail to a State Officer.

Safety & Awareness Report: No Report

Committee Reports: None

Correspondence & Communication: None

Short Break: 2:00-2:20

OLD BUSINESS

Education Fund: **Yendor** made a motion to “approve the Education Fund as written and incorporated into the State By-Laws and Articles of Incorporation, Section V.” Second by **Gary**. Motion passed. **Yendor** will make copies to send to the Officers and Chapters for their records.

State Safety & Awareness Coordinator position: **Yendor** made a motion to “approve the State Safety & Awareness Coordinator position description, as written, in the State By-Laws”. Second by **Gary**. Motion passed.

Newsletter Editor: We are still in search of a volunteer(s) to take over as Newsletter Editor.

Membership Cards: Discussion continued on the purchase of a machine to make the membership cards. After hearing the comments and concerns, **Scott** made the following motion: “The State will purchase the membership card machine, with a cap of \$1500 for start-up purposes only, to cover the price of the machine and supplies. Scott added the caveat that Kim Rhodes will perform the duties of making the cards.” It was also noted that

said machine will be designated as ABATE of MT property. Second by **David**. Motion passed.

Reminder: Scott or Yendor will check out postage costs and see if we can do bulk mailing. Also, the overall process of receiving the membership payment through the receipt of the card by said member should be a **max of 60 days**.

IRS Request: The IRS finally "accepted" the write-up that **Yendor** submitted in regards to our "terminated" status on the Education fund. Everything is in order and we are once again legal.

NEW BUSINESS

YE Tax Reminder: Rod, wanted to remind folks that it is that time of year again. He will need each Chapter to complete their YE information for the General Fund and Education Fund and return to him **by the end of January, no exceptions**. Since it makes things simpler for the accountant, and they are working for the Chapters, **Rod** asks that you complete on the Micro-Soft Word document that he has sent in the past and will send again if you need a copy.

Nomination of Officers: The following members were nominated for office and accepted: State Coordinator: **Gary Schiller**; Deputy State Coordinator: **Scott Swanson** and State Secretary: **Jean Schiller**. "Congratulation's" **Gary, Scott** and **Jean** and "Thank You" for your dedication to ABATE of Montana.

CHAPTER UPDATES

Hi-Line: No Report

Lower Yellowstone Chapter: Scott and **CJ** reported the 2016 Toy Run will be held December 3, 2016. January 20, 2017 is the annual Birthday Party. This year it will be in Glendive at the Legion. The party includes food, auction, 50/50 and meeting. The 50/50 pool tournament will take place on March 4, 2017 and April 15, 2017 is the tentative date for the Bike Show. The 27th Annual Membership Drive-Poker Run & Hog Roast will be held June 17, 2017. Also around May the 2-wheel dinner rides on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month will start.

Houndstooth: Rich reported the 32nd Annual Road Dog Toy Run will be held on December 4, 2016. Friday, the 3rd was the kick off with Jam Night at the Elks Club including a live band, auction and food specials.

Middle of Montana: No Report

Prairie Riders: No report for Prairie Riders but **David** reported the B4 Chapter of the B.A.S.T.A.R.D.S. Riding Club will be holding the Miles City Bike Show April 22, 2017. They are still working on the details, but funds raised will go to the Erin Hope Project.

Calendar of Events: No updates at this.

Next State Meeting Location & Time: Tentative dates of either March 25, 2017 or first week of April, 2017 at 1:00 p.m. in Billings at the VFW on State Avenue.

50/50 Drawing: \$11 total – David Fischer won and donated his share back to the Education fund.

Meeting Adjournment: **Scott** made a motion to adjourn the meeting, 2nd by **Jean**
Meeting adjourned at 3:05 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

Jean Schiller, State Secretary

E-mail version of the meeting minutes do NOT contain all of the handouts that were distributed during the meeting.